

Introductory Session on Hardwood Tie Grading

Agenda

1. Sawing Solutions for Cutting Crossties
2. Tie Species Orientation
 - a. General overview
 - b. How species are aggregated/separated for treatment and why
 - c. Species that are not used and why
 - d. Treating plant set-up (important to get to defects and why some are present before and why others show up after treatment)
 - i. High level overview of why this material must be treated
 - ii. How ties are dried and end-plated and why
 - iii. How they are packaged & aggregated for treatment
 - ii. High level overview of how they are treated
2. Structural aspects of wood ties that drive defect analysis
 - a. Intro to defects the Rail Bearing Area (RBA)
 - b. What makes an IG vs. Cull vs. Grade tie
 - c. Hands-on training
3. What a tie grader does and how their view differs from lumber grading
4. Hands-on training in small groups to illustrate how each RR and grader may view defects