

# Pith Tells Timber's Secrets

## Identifying Pith in Timber

**Corewood/Juvenile wood:** The first 7-10 growth rings contain up to 5 or more degrees of spiral grain. This reduces stability and corewood makes timber prone to distortion-twist, crook, bow & cup.

**Outerwood/Sapwood:** Contains the best structural timber characteristics. Spiral grain reduces to 1 degree or less in this region.

**Pith:** Dark spot in the centre that contains dead wood cells and is considered a structural defect.

**Growth rings:** In the corewood, growth rings are widely spaced indicating low density fibre. Low density means low stiffness and reduced strength which is not suitable for high quality structural timber production.



The Juvenile wood that formed early in the life of the log becomes corewood with widely spaced growth rings signifying low density. This area also contains a high degree of spiral grain. As a piece of kiln dried timber absorbs or releases moisture, the spiral grain causes the timber to twist in proportion to the amount of spiral grain in that piece. Consequently the timber cut from the very centre of a pinus radiata log will be highly prone to distortion.

**Corewood is not as stiff or as strong as outerwood and is highly prone to distortion when moisture levels vary. Pith is evidence that a piece of timber is cut from corewood, and that it has poor structural characteristics**

### Identifying Pith in Timber:



Pith = Major cause of distortion

Pith identifies framing cut from corewood

Pith on face of framing

**Red Stag Timber structural products do not contain pith.  
A clear sign that only the best part of the log is used in Red Stag Timber!**

# Superior Structural Timber

## The Red Stag Difference

**You will not see pith in Red Stag Structural Timber** or even our #2 Frame, Premium Fence rails, or in TGV retaining wall products - you are invited to go and visually check the quality of these products and our structural framing against any similar product in the market and confirm the quality for yourself!

**Merchants who stock Red Stag Timber have their customers very best interests at heart.**

**They stock a quality product sourced from the very best part of the log.** This will provide the builder and the home owner assurance of lower wastage and significantly less remedial work on site.

This means higher profits and a noticeably better outcome for you and your customer.



Builders who understand quality use  
**RED STAG TIMBER**