



TIMBER NSW

North Coast Hardwood Timber Production Facts

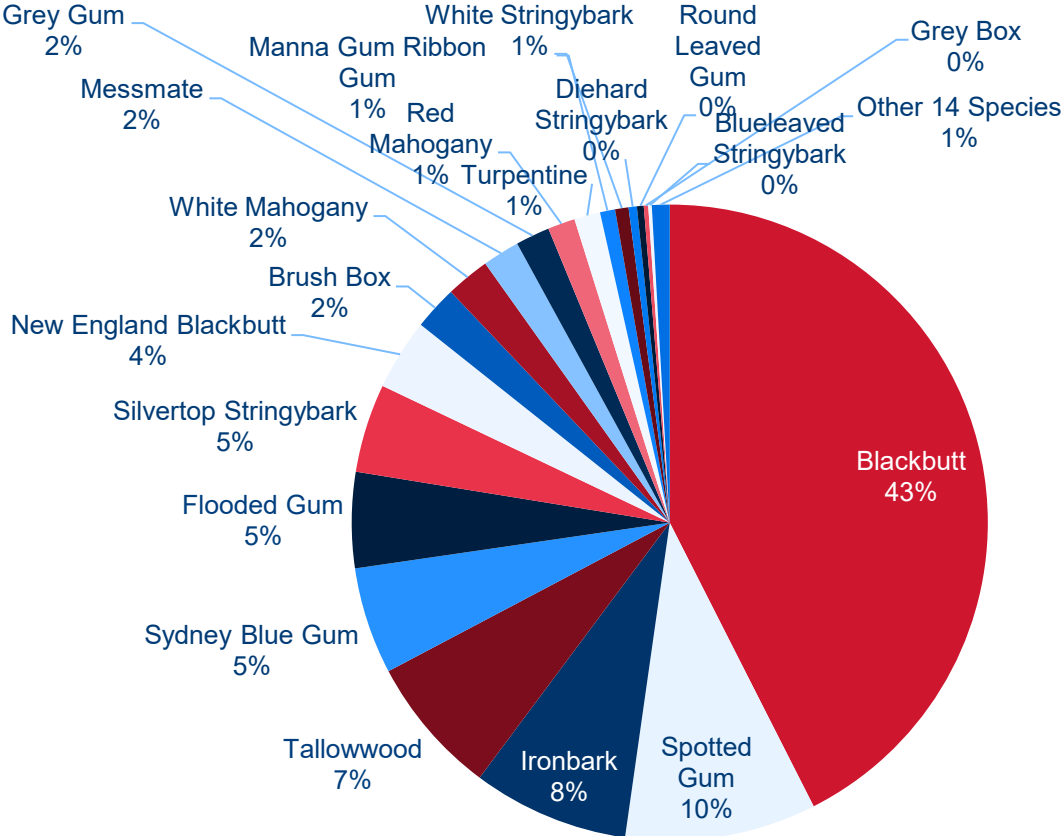
August 2023

North Coast Hardwood Industry Production

- On the north coast around 800,000 m³ of hardwood timber (logs) is produced each year from State forests and private land.
- State forests managed by the Forestry Corporation of NSW account for around 70% of production (+ or – 10% depending on the market) with the balance coming from private property.
- On State forests around 85% of hardwood timber usually comes from native regrowth forests with the balance from plantations.
- Around 3,500 landholders contribute to the supply of hardwood timber on private land. Over 90% of this timber comes from native regrowth forests with the balance from plantations.
- In NSW, 88% of public native forests are already protected in National Parks and conservation reserves. 12% of the State Forest estate is available for harvesting of which 0.3% is harvested annually.

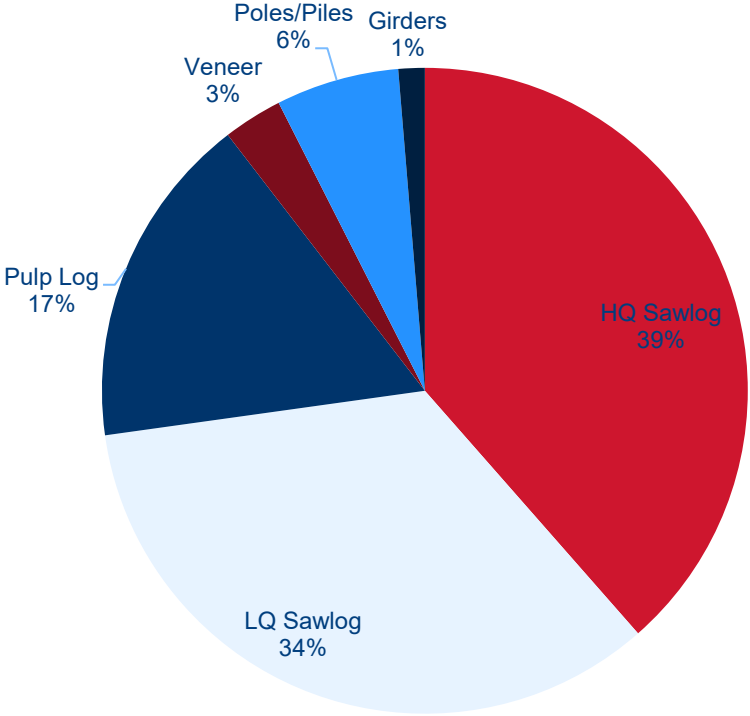
North Coast Native Eucalypt Species Mix

- Around fifty native eucalypt species are commercially harvested. Eight species however account for over 80% of the log volume mix (source: FCNSW).
- The major commercial species are Blackbutt, Spotted Gum, Ironbark, Tallowwood, Sydney Blue Gum, Flooded Gum, and Silvertop Stringybark.



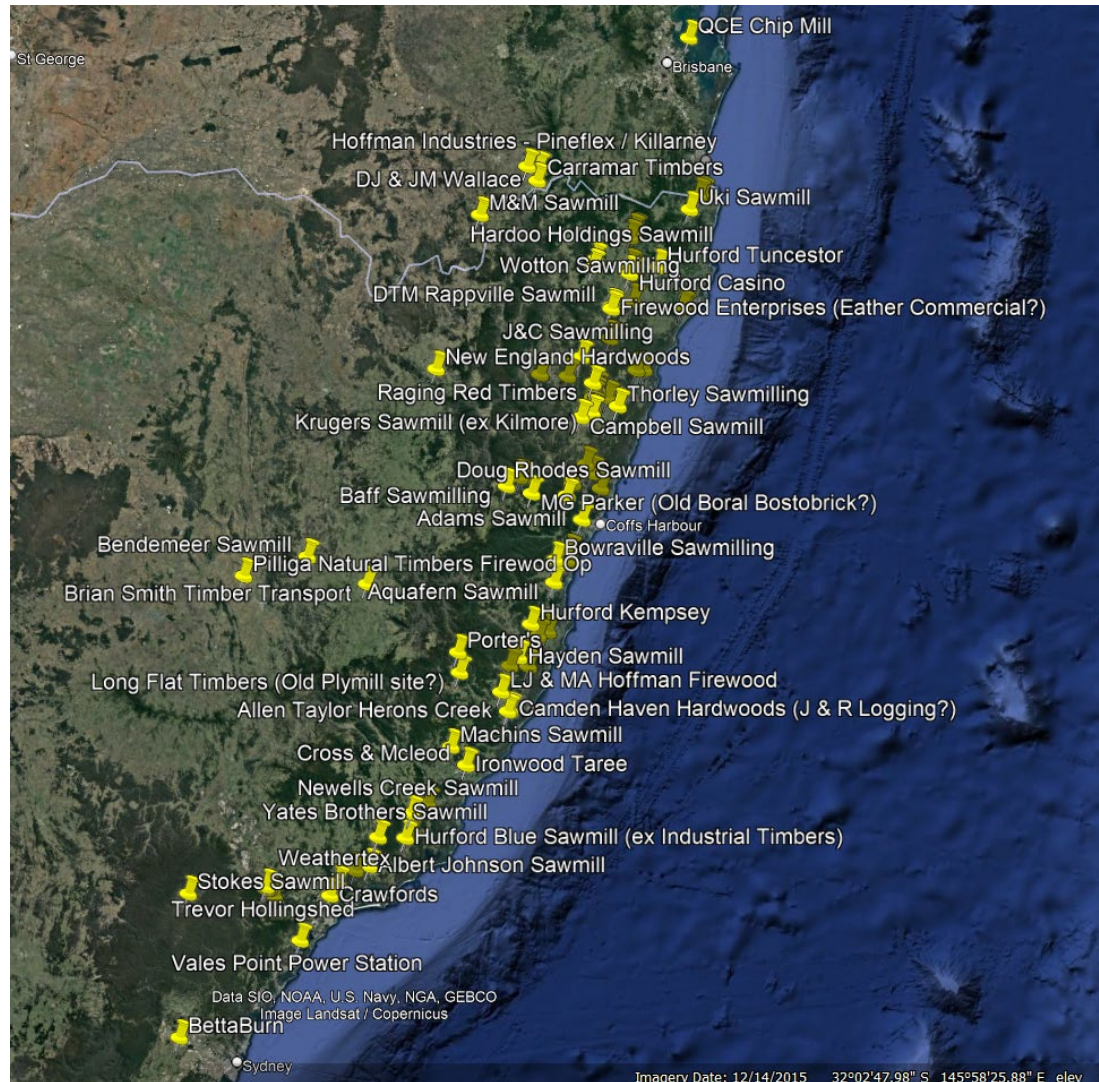
North Coast Hardwood Log Product Mix

- Eucalypt trees produce hardwood timber
- Harvested hardwood timber is graded into six different log products. Logs are graded according to their quality, size and wood properties.
- The chart below shows the indicative mix of log product grades by volume (source: FCNSW).



North Coast – Hardwood timber processors

- There are around 100 sites on the North Coast where hardwood logs are processed into timber products.



What is north coast native hardwood timber being used for?

- The common uses of hardwood timber on the NSW North Coast include:

- Power poles for electricity distribution
- Marine piles for bridges wharves, jettys, aquaculture
- Rural bridges
- Plywood and decorative flooring
- Kiln dried structural timber
- Staircases
- Flooring and Parquetry
- Decking
- Screening/Cladding
- Furniture
- Mining
- Fencing/Posts/Rails/Palings
- Pallet
- Green Structural
- Green Other
- Panel products
- Household heating
- Green energy

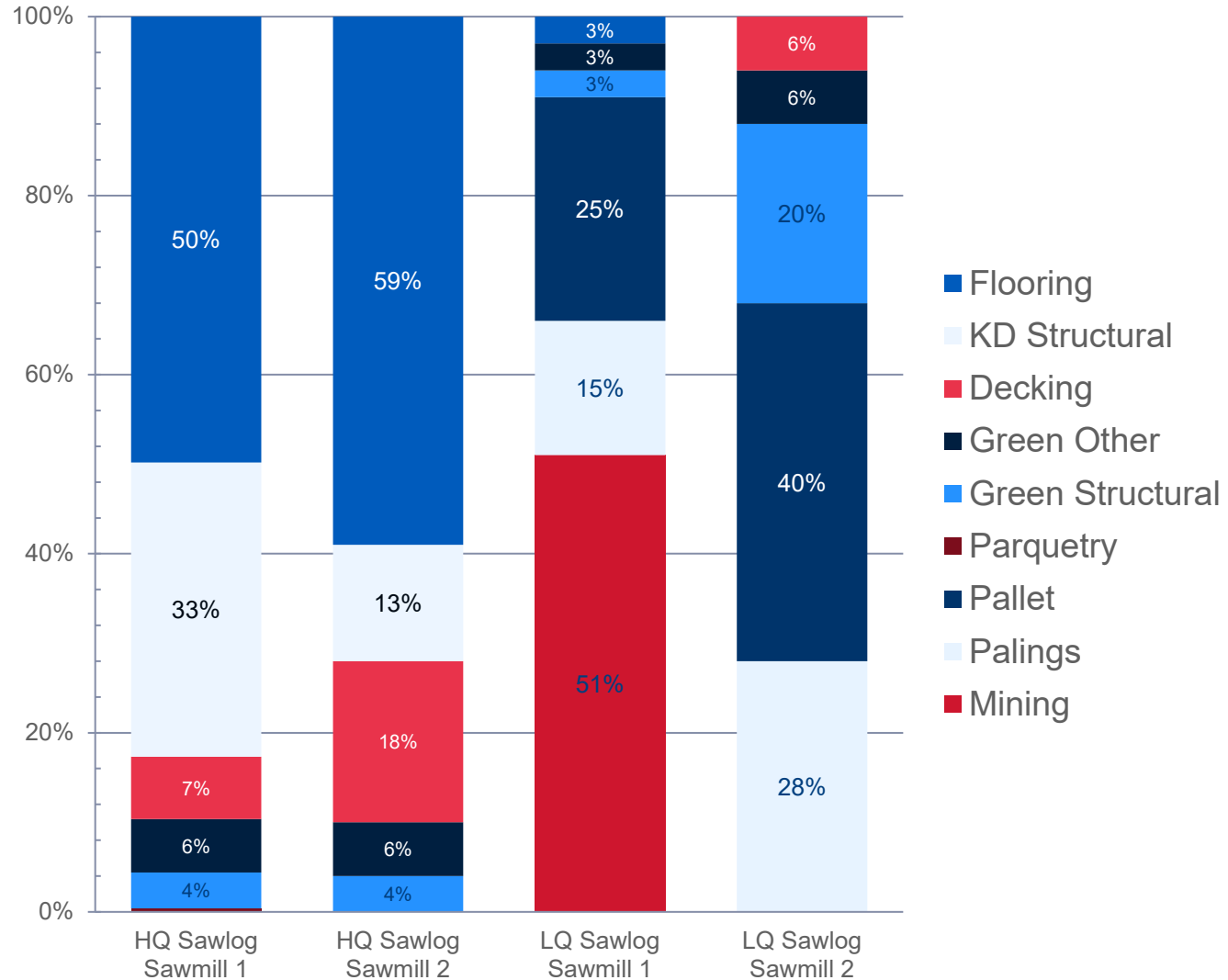
North Coast hardwood uses and attributes

- The table below provides additional detail around how hardwood timber is meeting Australia's needs.

Log Product	Market Use	Attributes	Key 'Cost of Living' Influences
Poles	Power poles for electricity distribution	Durable, strong and environmentally superior and preferred product over steel, concrete and composite alternates	Yes - Energy Costs
Piles	Marine piles for bridges wharves, jettys, aquaculture	Durable, strong and environmentally superior and preferred product over steel, concrete and composite alternates	Yes - Post bushfires and Flooding impacts on rural communities
Girders	Rural bridges	Durable, strong and environmentally superior and preferred product over steel, concrete and composite alternates to address significant post flooding rural bridge replacement needs.	Yes - Post bushfires and Flooding impacts on rural communities
Veneer	Plywood and decorative flooring	Key product for multi residential building development and renovations	Yes - Contributes to medium and high density accomodation development needs
Sawlogs	KD Structural	Large structural sub-floor and structural beam members	
	Staircases	High value decorative appearance qualities	
	Flooring and Parquetry	High value decorative appearance qualities	
	Decking	High value decorative appearance qualities	
	Screening/Cladding	High value decorative appearance qualities	
	Furniture	High value decorative appearance qualities	
	Mining	Environmentally superior and preferred product over steel, concrete and composite alternates for underground mining needs	Yes - Vital to the production of electricity for consumers
	Fencing/Posts/Rails/Palings	Durable, strong and environmentally superior and preferred product over steel, concrete and composite alternates for rural fencing	Yes - Post bushfires and Flood recovery needs in rural communities
	Pallet	Environmentally superior and preferred product for transportation of goods and services throughout Australia	Yes - Vital to the transportation costs of all goods and services transported throughout Australia
		Green Structural	House roof truss and framing
	Green Other	General building construction needs	
Pulp Logs	Panel products	Cladding and specialty panel products. Environmentally superior to bricks and composite alternatives	Yes – a cheaper option than bricks
	Paper and Cardboard	Export fibre for production of imported paper and cardboard products. Note only produced from plantation timber.	
Firewood	Household heating	Environmentally sustainable household energy production	Yes - Low cost and environmentally sustainable household heating needs
Biomass/Residue	Green energy	Environmentally sustainable electricity production	Yes - Generator of green energy for consumers in the domestic energy market

What types of products do north coast sawmills produce?

- The chart below shows the different types of sawn hardwood products being produced from high-quality (HQ) and low-quality (LQ) sawlogs.



North Coast Hardwood Pulp log Production Facts

- Pulp logs are low quality logs unsuitable for processing into solid timber products due to their shape, size and defective timber (knots, rot, pipe, gum vein)
- On the North Coast less than 20% of harvested hardwood logs are sold as pulp logs
- On the North Coast more hardwood pulp logs are produced from plantations than they are from native forests.
- Pulplogs from **native forests**.
 - Native pulp logs are converted into high value panel products at Weathertex (Heatherbrae).
 - Pulp logs are also sold as firewood to around thirty different customers.
- Pulp logs from hardwood **plantations** are processed for:
 - High value panel products - Weathertex (Heatherbrae).
 - Renewable energy
 - Bioenergy – Cape Byron Power
 - Firewood – twenty-two customers
 - Export woodchips – QCE Brisbane