

EarthSource Forest Products

from Plywood And Lumber Sales, Inc.

Tree of Knowledge....Our Story

TEAK

(Tectona grandis)

Where the tree grows: Naturally, in Southeast Asia
Plantations, in Africa, Central and South
America, and Southeast Asia.

EarthSource currently offers teak from all sources listed above.



For many years, our primary source of teak was Burma or Myanmar as it is known today. Teak lumber was Burma's principal industry and was highly regulated during the British colonial days. It continues to be regulated by the government of Myanmar today but internal corruption has diluted the effectiveness. The United States placed an embargo on the importation of Burmese teak in 2002 as a form of protest against human rights violations sponsored by the current regime. Many other countries followed suit. One of the results has been a marked increase in illegal logging and and smuggling by Burmese people as it has been their only source of income. Today most teak coming out of Southeast Asia is suspect. All of our Burmese teak is pre-embargo and not replenishable.

We also carry plantation teak from Africa and Central America. The African teak, mostly from Ghana, is the product of large trees and very similar to S. E. Asian teak. Since the grade available is not FEQ, there are more allowable character defects.

The Central American plantation teak is from much younger, smaller trees and contains a greater amount of sapwood. The sapwood in teak, unlike most woods, differs in color only and is suitable for marine applications. Unfortunately, most people want their teak to be teak colored. We sell most of this as flooring.

