

Control of Mold Growth on Kiln Dried Lumber

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Abstract

The South of United States has favorable climate to fungi proliferation. While drying the wood may control mold growth for a certain time, as soon as the lumber gets wet the risks of infestation are high. Sawmills in the humid areas of U.S have faced some issues with mold during storage or/and transportation of kiln dried timber. The objective of this study was to indicate available solutions that may prevent mold and stain infestation after dry kiln. The literature shows that biocides may lower the number of fungal spores, yet infestation may still occur. Some types of borates are effective against non-decay fungi and they can have a better performance if combined with biocides. Thermal modification may increase the durability of wood materials, however the effects on mechanical properties may restrict its use.