Water Absorption of New Wooden Pallets

• Pallets are the foundation of today’s packaging industry.
• From a recent survey, wooden pallets are used the most.
• Often these wooden pallets are left outdoors where they face the potential hazard of water damage to the products placed on them.

• A total of 36 specimens were cut from 12 pallets and placed in pan as they would be as part of the whole pallet.
• Water penetration heights were recorded at various times.
• The water heights were plotted against time. Average plots are charted below.

• From the study, water penetrates slightly higher and faster in hardwood than in softwood.
• Relatively, the heat treatment has very little effect on the water penetration.
• The problem could be minimized by having good drainage in the pallet storage area and/or using softwood wooden pallets.


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