



NORTHBEAM

A product range of Northpine

Northpine News

November 2021

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR BUILDERS, MERCHANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Structural timber continues to be in strong demand and wait times continue to increase. It appears these shortages are not going away in a hurry. Most mills are just servicing their “traditional” loyal customers as they have no additional stock for “casuals”; Northpine is no different. H1.2 and H3.2 KD are very scarce in all sizes and everything else is hand-to-mouth.

Northbeam products are not immune to this current economic environment.

Demand for H5 treated 50mm product has more than trebled, placing significant pressure on production resources; increases in the number and size of projects around the country using Northbeam mean that our supply chain has stretched out and stock is now ordered well before it is produced.



Northpine GM Bruce Larsen says orders need to be confirmed as early possible to minimise wait times.

Our advice to all merchants and all builders is to order as early as you can, as product is no longer available “off-the-shelf”. With Christmas approaching, the situation is likely to get worse.

Northpine is currently installing a steamer at the Waipu site which will assist with improving the availability of our square posts; but with Covid and other delays this will not be commissioned until Jan 2022. Our forecast is for continuing timber shortages well into the New Year.



Mulberry Forest Bridge Access, south of Tokoroa

They're using our timber here!

Some construction projects are more high-profile than others! But even in out-of-the-way places, such as forests and remote farmland, Northbeam is being used - to enable or improve access for heavy machinery and vehicles.

Award-winning Bay of Plenty firm Bridge It NZ chose Northbeam for a 'heavyweight timber deck on steel' at Hancock's Mulberry Forest bridge, south of Tokoroa. The timber deck provides good aesthetics for a natural environment and allows decks of irregular widths.



Mulberry Forest Bridge Access -underside view



Mangonui Waterfront is now under construction by United Civil

MANGONUI WATERFRONT, NORTHLAND

Construction began in October on redevelopment of the historic waterfront at tourist hotspot Mangonui in the Far North. The \$10M+ project including construction of a new 350m boardwalk, jetty, swim steps and pontoon, new carparking and footpath, is in the hands of Whangarei-based United Civil Construction.

UCC's Northland regional manager James Walsh says the piling is underway and Northbeam is being used for boardwalk bearers, joists and decking – this is also underway now, with a section hopefully to be completed by Christmas. Jetty and pontoon construction is scheduled for January 2022.



Poolhouse in Northland, designed by Clayton Architecture Ltd

Case Study: Northbeam for strength and the WOW factor!

Super-strong Northbeam showcases the strength and beauty of Northland-grown Radiata pine in the interlocking framework of this sheltered outdoor room.

When architectural designer Corry Clayton designed this poolhouse in Northland, he chose Northbeam by Northpine, a specialist sawmill in Waipu and one of the few New Zealand suppliers of engineering-grade SG10 pine. Having used Northbeam on previous projects, he knew specifying Northbeam SG10 gave him up to 30% extra span capability, so that posts could be set further apart for a more open and usable space, and to cut down on the number of post footings, leading to labour savings.

‘LVL laminated beams didn’t have the look I was after,’ says Corry. ‘I wanted solid chunks of timber with a long span and natural finish to suit the rural setting and tie in with the concrete block fireplace. Northpine was the only source I could trust for this

Bearers - 3 kPa floor loads

Maximum span of bearer continuous over 2 or more spans (m)	Loaded dimension* of bearer (m)		Bearer size (width x thickness) (mm x mm)	
	SG8	SG10	SG8	SG10
1.30	1.0	1.4	90 x 90	90 x 90
	1.9	2.8	140 x 70	140 x 70
	2.5	3.6	140 x 90	140 x 90
	3.6	5.1	190 x 70	190 x 70
1.65	1.2	1.7	140 x 70	140 x 70
	1.5	2.2	140 x 90	140 x 90
	2.2	3.2	190 x 70	190 x 70
2.00	1.0	1.5	140 x 90	140 x 90
	1.5	2.1	190 x 70	190 x 70

Refer NZS3604:2011 Tables A14.4 and A14.5
* For definition of loaded dimension see 1.3. NOTE - Members 90 mm thick may be substituted with built-up members sized and nailed in accordance with 2.4.4.7.

3 kPa Span Tables now available online

Northpine's new 3 kPa Span Tables, which combine and compare SG8/SG10 data from NZS3604:2011, are available free online.

While many designers and architects have no need to consider 3 kPa floor loads, some do – and generally they go straight to an engineer for help.

Architecture consultant Stuart Dale from Architectural Promotions explains:

“There are several situations where a building will require a 3kPa floor load. It is a minimum for commercial floors. Buildings such as schools and other public facilities generally require this load capacity or greater.

Timber framed commercial buildings are fast becoming the new design trend. The recent development of a six-level commercial timber building in Auckland has put this trend in the spotlight.

When designers see the advantages that SG10 offers over SG8 they realise they don't need to go to the more expensive 'engineered timber' option straight away.

SG10 is not always the best solution but, when it is, it certainly makes good economic sense. And with the current supply issues being experienced for some products Northpine's range of 'big timber' called Northbeam can solve some design problems.”

[Click here to see 3 kPa Span Tables](#)



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