
**Bamboo structures — Engineered
bamboo products — Test methods
for determination of mechanical
properties using small size specimens**

*Structures en bambou — Produits en bambou reconstitués —
Méthodes d'essai pour la détermination des propriétés mécaniques à
partir d'éprouvettes de petites tailles*

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
1 Scope.....	1
2 Normative references.....	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Symbols.....	2
5 Reference population.....	4
6 Sampling.....	4
7 Conditioning of test specimens.....	4
8 Test conditions.....	5
9 Density and moisture content.....	5
9.1 Density.....	5
9.2 Moisture content.....	5
10 Measurement of mechanical properties.....	5
10.1 Tensile properties parallel-to-fibre.....	6
10.1.1 Preparation of test specimens.....	6
10.1.2 Test procedure.....	6
10.1.3 Expression of results.....	7
10.2 Compressive properties parallel-to-fibre.....	7
10.2.1 Preparation of test specimens.....	7
10.2.2 Test procedure.....	7
10.2.3 Expression of results.....	8
10.3 Shear strength and modulus.....	8
10.3.1 Preparation of test specimens.....	8
10.3.2 Test procedure.....	9
10.3.3 Expression of results.....	9
10.4 Tension properties perpendicular-to-fibre.....	10
10.4.1 Preparation of test specimens.....	10
10.4.2 Test procedures.....	11
10.4.3 Expression of results.....	12
10.5 Compression properties perpendicular-to-fibre.....	12
10.5.1 Preparation of test specimens.....	12
10.5.2 Test procedure.....	13
10.5.3 Expression of results.....	13
11 Test report.....	13
Annex A (informative).....	15
Bibliography.....	18

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 165, *Timber structures*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Engineered bamboo products are processed bamboo-based composites designed for structural applications, including bamboo scrimber and glued laminated bamboo. For each type of engineered bamboo product, it is necessary to measure mechanical properties. This document is intended to provide manufacturers, regulatory agencies, and end-users with a means to evaluate the mechanical properties of engineered bamboo products intended for structural applications using small size specimens.

This document is an internationally agreed reference standard for the measurement of mechanical properties of engineered bamboo products as defined in [3.1](#) and [3.2](#). Other standards related to the measurement of material properties may be deemed to comply with this document, provided that the adjustments necessary to establish equivalency between this and other standards are applied appropriately.

Bamboo structures — Engineered bamboo products — Test methods for determination of mechanical properties using small size specimens

1 Scope

This document specifies test methods, using small size specimens, suitable for determining the following mechanical properties of engineered bamboo products: tensile strength parallel-to-fibre; tensile modulus parallel-to-fibre; compressive strength parallel-to-fibre; tensile strength perpendicular-to-fibre; tensile modulus perpendicular-to-fibre; compressive strength perpendicular-to-fibre; compressive modulus perpendicular-to-fibre; shear strength parallel-to-fibre and shear modulus parallel-to-fibre.

NOTE This document provides an alternative test method to ISO 23478.

This document specifies test procedures for currently manufactured products as defined in [3.1](#) and [3.2](#) to evaluate material properties. The methods specified in this document are applicable to small size test specimens. The methods required to determine characteristic values, design values, or allowable values of the mechanical properties for a population are out of the scope of this document. Materials that do not conform to the definitions of bamboo scrimber or glued-laminated bamboo are beyond the scope of this specification.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 23478, *Bamboo structures — Engineered bamboo products — Test methods for determination of physical and mechanical properties*

ASTM D2915, *Sampling and data-analysis for structural wood and wood-based products*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

bamboo scrimber

panel or lumber made of compressed bamboo fibre bundle strips or compressed bamboo fibre bundle sheet which has three mutually perpendicular axes

Note 1 to entry: The three axes are shown in [Figure 1](#).

Note 2 to entry: Bamboo scrimber can be approximately deemed as orthotropic material; hence it has two mutually orthogonal minor axes in the plane perpendicular to the major axis. Unless otherwise stated, the properties of two minor axes can be ideally considered to have same properties because the differences between them are trivial for structural use.