**Walnut.**

Walnut considered the elite of the American hardwoods, walnut is the favourite of the darker woods for fine furniture, interiors and gunstocks. Walnut grows in widely scattered stands throughout the eastern half of the United States, primarily in the Midwest. Historically, the grading rules for walnut have been refined to encourage better use of this valuable species. Because of this, FAS Walnut grades allow for smaller boards, both in width and length. Natural characteristics are also admitted to a greater extent than the standard NHLA grade rules for other species.

**European Larch**

Top of Form



Bottom of Form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [European Larch (Larix decidua)](http://www.wood-database.com/wp-content/uploads/european-larch-s.jpg)  European Larch (Larix decidua) | [**Common Name(s):**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/common-name/) European Larch, Common Larch  [**Scientific Name:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/scientific-name/) Larix decidua  [**Distribution:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/distribution/) Central Europe  [**Tree Size:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/tree-size/) 85-150 ft (25-45 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1 m) trunk diameter  [**Average Dried Weight:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/average-dried-weight/) 36 lbs/ft3 (575 kg/m3)  [**Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC):**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/specific-gravity/) .45, .58  [**Janka Hardness:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/janka-hardness/) 740 lbf (3,290 N)  [**Modulus of Rupture:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/modulus-of-rupture/) 13,050 lbf/in2 (90.0 MPa)  [**Elastic Modulus:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/modulus-of-elasticity/) 1,711,000 lbf/in2 (11.80 GPa)  [**Crushing Strength:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/crushing-strength/) 7,540 lbf/in2 (52.0 MPa)  [**Shrinkage:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/dimensional-shrinkage/) Radial: 4.2%, Tangential: 8.2%, Volumetric: 12.5%, T/R Ratio: 2.0 |

[**Color/Appearance:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-color-appearance/) Heartwood ranges from yellow to a medium reddish brown. Narrow sapwood is nearly white and is clearly demarcated from the heartwood. Flatsawn sections can exhibit a lot of character and interesting patterns in the growth rings. Knots are common but are usually small.

[**Grain/Texture:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-grain-texture/) Grain is generally straight or spiraled. Texture is medium to fine with a greasy or oily feel.

[**Rot Resistance:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-durability/) Moderately durable regarding decay resistance.

[**Workability:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-workability/) Most hand and machine operations produce good results. However, natural resins in the wood have a tendency to gum up saw blades. Also, because of the disparity between the soft earlywood and the hard latewood, sanding can create dips and uneven surfaces.

[**Odor:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-odor/) European Larch can have a distinct resinous odor when being worked.

[**Allergies/Toxicity:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-allergies-and-toxicity/) Although severe reactions are quite uncommon, wood species in the [Larix genus](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-identification/by-scientific-name/#larix) have been reported to cause skin irritation, as well as hives and skin lesions. See the articles [Wood Allergies and Toxicity](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-allergies-and-toxicity/) and [Wood Dust Safety](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-dust-safety/) for more information.

[**Pricing/Availability:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/wood-pricing-availability/) European Larch is harvested for construction lumber; prices should be moderate within its local range.

[**Sustainability:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/restricted-and-endangered-wood-species/) This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, and is reported by the IUCN as being a species of least concern.

[**Common Uses:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/common-uses/) Veneer, utility poles, fence posts, flooring, boatbuilding, and construction lumber.

[**Comments:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/comments/) Even though European Larch is a conifer, it’s deciduous—it looses its leaves (needles) in the fall—and can have a pleasing growth form that somewhat resembles a branching gymnosperm. The trees are commonly planted as ornamental trees in Europe.

Ammonia fuming larch produces a darker colored wood surface; “fumed larch” veneer is sometimes used as a decorative veneer.

[**Related Species:**](http://www.wood-database.com/wood-articles/related-species/)

* [**Japanese Larch** (Larix kaempferi)](http://www.wood-database.com/lumber-identification/softwoods/japanese-larch/)
* [**Western Larch** (Larix occidentalis)](http://www.wood-database.com/lumber-identification/softwoods/western-larch/)

More information:

<http://www.wood-database.com/lumber-identification/softwoods/european-larch/>