

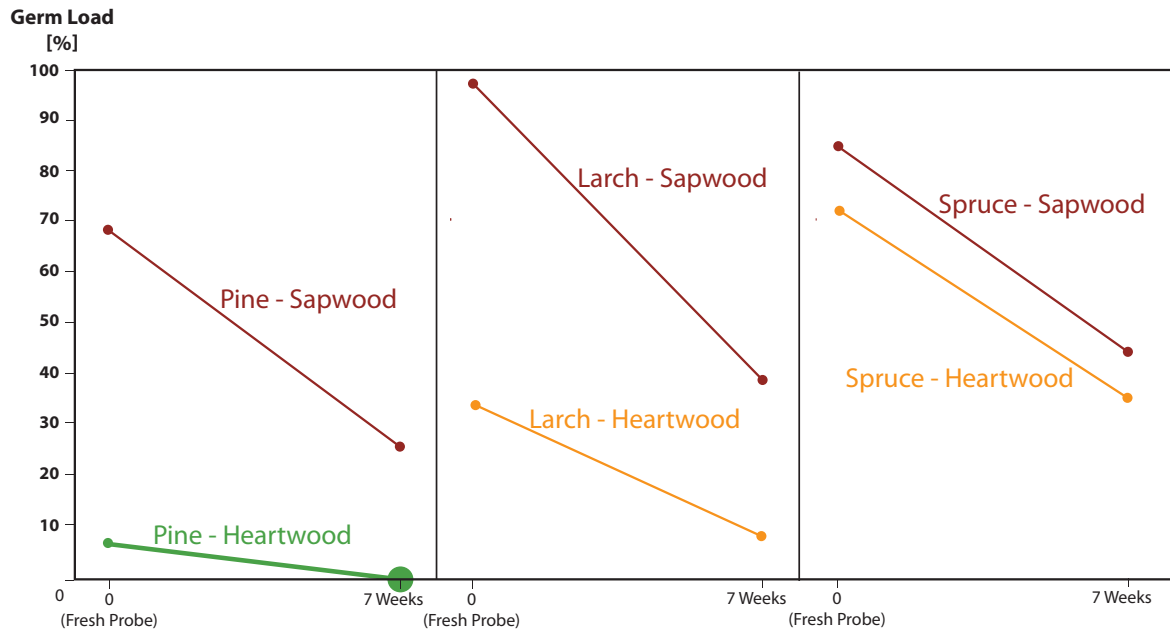
# Hygienic and phytosanitary properties of wood and wood products

## Objectives

Does wood have antibacterial properties? And if so, does the wood species and different factions make a difference?

## Approach

The test materials were  $1 \times 10^6$  cfu / cm<sup>2</sup> (total number of bacteria live per sq. cm) infected with the E.coli bacterium. The development of bacterial populations was during a 7-week storage period, and is seen in the graph shown below.



Germ load on different sapwoods and heartwoods\*

## Result

The results clearly show that when assessing the germ- and bacteria-killing effects of wood, the differentiation between not only the species of the tree is important, but which section of the tree is also crucial.

## Conclusion

Germs are most rapidly decreased and killed on pine heartwood.



## Implementation

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\* Data: Schönwälder, Annett (2000), S. 17; Graphical composition: Fa. Wilms GmbH

