

Pre-Oiled

# MERBAU FENCE PICKETS

SELECT GRADE HARDWOOD-KILN DRIED-AS2796.2 2006



- Merbau hardwood from well-managed, FSC®-certified forests
- Pre-oiled for 360 degree protection, ready for topcoating with your chosen finish
- A highly stable timber species with low dimensional movement resulting in a reduced risk of splitting, cupping and twisting
- Durability class 1 (above ground) for a long life
- Select grade, kiln dried timber for added stability and a high quality, clean appearance
- Approved for use in bushfire-prone areas, compliant to BAL29
- Naturally resistant to fungi and insects like termites and dry wood borers













## **Installation Guidelines**

70 mm x 19 mm, available in various lengths.

Installation / Use
For use as fencing or screening. SpecRite Merbau Fence Pickets are not designed to be freestanding or used in a structural or load-bearing situation. It is the sole responsibility of the homeowner, contractor or installer to determine the specific requirements, suitability and safety in regard to application or use of this product.

**Fixings**Merbau Fence Pickets should be fixed using hot dipped galvanised or stainless steel screws. For the best possible finish and to avoid splitting the timber, pre-drill pilot holes and countersink. Avoid over-tightening.

Tungsten carbide tipped cutting tools and high quality drill bits are recommended for best results. Apply timber oil to cut ends to maximise the life of the timber. Ensure appropriate eye, ear and breathing protection is used when cutting timber.

**Ventilation**Allow a minimum gap of 5mm between screen slats and ensure adequate air ventilation is provided to minimise movement and moisture retention. If adjacent to a wall or a house, allow a minimum of 10mm clearance.

**Storage**SpecRite Merbau Fence Pickets should be stored flat, off the ground and protected from the weather prior to installation.

**Tannin Warning:** Merbau's superior strength and stability are attributable to its tannin-rich properties, resulting in low shrinkage and minimal surface and end splitting. Tannin is a naturally occurring substance in timber which will leach the first few times it is exposed to moisture, staining timber, paved areas and other nearby surfaces. Objects left on the timber surface will also draw tannin out, creating surface marks. A thorough and regular hose down during the first few days will assist in flushing excess tannin away and minimise subsequent staining.

## Pre-Oiled Information

This product has been primed with Feast Watson® Industrial Timber Oil. A single coat has been applied to all four sides and is designed to help seal and protect your timber from moisture and UV before final topcoating. To fully protect your pre-oiled timber, we recommend topcoating your fence pickets as soon as possible following installation.

**Topcoating**Your pre-oiled merbau can be topcoated with most water-based and oil-based finishes. When choosing a topcoat, the most suitable product is best determined by the preferred finish. To maintain or highlight the natural appearance of the timber, a transparent, lightly pigmented oil is recommended. For longer lasting protection, a high quality water-based finish can be used. To transform the colour of the timber, a semi-transparent stain will impart a deeper colour whilst allowing the timber grain to show through. Timber will naturally go grey if left unfinished.

To ensure you are completely satisfied with your chosen coating and colour, we recommend you first test the coating on a small inconspicuous area.

To prepare timber for topcoating, ensure the surface is clean. If required, thoroughly scrub with an oxalic acid-based timber cleaner. A high strength timber cleaner removes dirt, grease, tannin stains and other contaminants to optimise topcoat performance.

**Step 2** Allow the timber to dry and apply two coats of your chosen finish following label instructions.

## Maintenance

Refer to the topcoat label for product specific maintenance information. We recommend regularly monitoring the coated timber for signs of colour loss, dryness and weathering. Recoat the timber when it begins to show signs of dryness to help maintain its natural beauty and protection. When required, clean the surface using an oxalic acid-based timber cleaner, allow the surface to dry and recoat with one coat of your chosen finish, following label instructions. For a longer lasting finish, apply a second coat.

For further information on Feast Watson products contact Feast Watson Customer Service on 1800 252 502 or visit feastwatson.com.au.



