

EAST AFR. PROT.

N<sup>o</sup>. 17480

C.O.  
17480

REC<sup>d</sup>  
REL 16 MAY 07

No.  
165

(Subject.)

1907

Rate charged for Forest produce.

Apr 27

Previous Paper.

To copy letter from Asst Conservator of Forests proposing  
modification of - requests draft rules enclosed may be  
permitted.

(Minutes.)

Sentence the new rates.

at once.

H. J. R.

20/5

21995  
L.R.

Commissioner's Office,

Nairobi.

April 17th 1907.

C/O  
17480  
REC<sup>d</sup>  
REC<sup>d</sup> 16 MAY 07

Director,  
Kenya  
(Incl. 3.)  
My Lord,

Director of  
Kenya  
No. 563

With reference to Your Lordship's despatch

No. 119 of March 8th 1906 and previous correspondence.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the Acting Conservator of Forests to the Commissioner for Lands, containing proposals for the modification of the rates charged for forest produce as laid down in the Official Gazette of October 18th 1906.

Mr. Salliscombe, whose proposals have been made after consultation with Mr. Hutchins and the Commissioner for Lands, writes on this subject in the following terms: "I think that they are rather altogether fair, and suggests an alteration both in

the

Principal Secretary of State

of the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

the system of measurement and in the rates themselves.

I trust that Your Lordship will sanction

the enforcement of the draft rules enclosed herewith.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



Acting Commissioner.

No. 5/07

Forest Office,

Nairobi,

February 28th 1907.

17480

Recd  
Regd 16 MAY 07

SIR,

I have the honour to bring to your notice the fact that the system of selling timber by this Department is a bad one.

At present the trees are sold by circumference measurement only e.g. Rupee 1 per foot of girth, but under this system no timber has any fixed market value; a tree of large circumference which may be hollow would be sold at a high price while another smaller tree which may be sound throughout would be sold at a lower price, but at the same time be the more valuable tree of the two.

In every country timber is sold by the cubic foot, I have the honour to propose that this standard may be adopted in this country.

According to the present quoted rates many kinds of timber are being sold at a rate much below their value, and I propose that the prices for these trees should be slightly increased.

Commissioner for Lands,

Nairobi.

It is impossible to compare the present rates fixed for timber with those for a cubic foot as a standard as the height of a tree is not taken in to account at all.

In the subjoined table I have shown average sized trees with the present prices charged for them and the rate at which these prices work out per cubic foot, it will be seen that the prices per cubic foot are exceedingly variable, and the price of a tree is dependent solely on its circumference and no account is taken of the amount of wood contained in a tree.

	Girth.	Height.	C.Ft.	Quantity.	Rate per C.Ft.
Podocarpus	48"	54	56	5-0	1.65
"	60"	58	98	5-5	.95
"	48"	42	32	4-0	1.10
"	48"	18	25	4-0	2.50
"	42"	22	22	5-0	1.01
Juniper	120"	42	222	15-0	.71
"	60"	42	112	5-0	.78
"	120"	34	244	10-12	.81
"	100"	32	228	5-0	.85
"	110"	30	222	5-5	.88
Maharaja	30"	20	10	2-5	4.00
"	42"	26	37	2-5	2.07
"	48"	40	52	4-0	1.16
"	48"	30	32	5-5	1.75
"	56"		22	5-0	1.54

I have the honor to bring to your notice the fact that the rates of selling timber in this Department is a bad one.

As present the trees are sold by circumferential measurements only i.e. those 1 per foot of girth but this system is not fair and the rates charged for a tree of a certain girth which may be better would be sold at a high price while another smaller tree which may be sold throughout would be sold at a lower price, but as the trees are sold by the more variable girth of the tree.

In every country timber is sold by the cubic foot and it is not fair to charge for this timber by the girth and height of the tree.

According to the present method of selling timber and the fact that a tree with a girth of 4 feet and a height of 20 feet would be sold at a higher price than a tree with a girth of 6 feet and a height of 30 feet.

It is impossible to compare the present value of the land with that of a year ago as the value of the land has increased so much since the war. I have shown you the present value of the land and you will see that it is much higher than it was a year ago. I have also shown you the present value of the land and you will see that it is much higher than it was a year ago.

Year	Area	Value	Price	Notes
1910	100	100	1.00	
1911	100	100	1.00	
1912	100	100	1.00	
1913	100	100	1.00	
1914	100	100	1.00	
1915	100	100	1.00	
1916	100	100	1.00	
1917	100	100	1.00	
1918	100	100	1.00	
1919	100	100	1.00	
1920	100	100	1.00	

Species	Girth	Height	C.F.T.	Quantity	Rate per C.F.T.
Muhugu	30"	50	80	5,000	1.10
"	18"	44	1004	10,000	.85
"	42"	50	40	5,000	1.20
"	60"	50	95	5,000	.95
"	60"	54	80	5,000	.87

I have the honour therefore to request that the following rates be introduced at an early date as possible after the Secretary of State for the Colonies has given his sanction to the alteration.

Trees within a 10 miles radius of Nairobi.

Muhugu	}	20 cents per c.ft.
Muzig		
Makindubi	}	15 " "
Mairobi		
All other trees		10 " "

Trees outside a 10 miles radius of Nairobi.

Cedar ( <i>Juniperus procera</i> )	25 cents per c.ft.	
Podocarpus	20 " "	
Muhugu	}	15 " "
Muzig		
Makindubi	}	15 " "
Mairobi		
Mora	}	15 " "
Muhugu		
Muzig	}	15 " "
Makindubi		
Mairobi	}	15 " "
Muzig		
Makindubi	}	15 " "
Mairobi		

All other trees at 10 cents per cubic foot.

All trees to be measured standing.

For trees within a 10 mile radius of Nairobi I propose a slightly higher rate than for those cut at a distance from Nairobi. Mungu is a most valuable wood and the demand almost exceeds the supply, Musiga is also a valuable wood, and is only poorly represented in the forests in the vicinity of Nairobi.

Makinduri and Mairothi have both a very large sale and slightly increased prices would help to keep the demand equal to the supply.

For Cedar (Juniper) wood I propose a price of 25 cents per cubic foot. I think this price is justified if the great value of this wood be taken into account, and the comparatively small amount within easy reach of the Railway.

For Podocarpus I propose a price of 20 cents per cubic foot. This timber has the largest demand of any, and is in danger of being exterminated.

For Musierendu, Mosa, Mungu and Musiga I propose a price of 15 cents per cubic foot; I don't think this price for these timbers is at all excessive, next after Juniper and Podocarpus they are the most useful timbers

Species	Volume	Price	Notes
Podocarpus	1000	20	
Mungu	500	25	
Musiga	500	15	
Makinduri	500	15	
Mairothi	500	15	

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the appropriate authorities for their consideration.

Yours faithfully,

W. G. ...

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of the forests.

For all other timber except Mutundu, Mkeo and Mestha for which I propose a cheaper rate, I have suggested 10 cents per cubic foot, this rate is nearly the same as the present rate for averaged sized trees.

I have shown this letter to Mr. Hutchinson and I am authorized by him to say that he concurs in the proposals.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*S. B. Atkinson*

Acting Conservator of Forests.

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DISTRICT OFFICE  
7th, 1907.

RULES

Made by His Majesty's Acting Commissioner for the East Africa Protectorate under the provisions of the East Africa Forestry Regulations 1902 Section 5, (a).

I. The following fees shall be payable for the purchase of timber and other forest produce in Forest Areas.

1. FOR POSTS AND POLES.

- (a) Up to 10 feet in length and 5 inches in diameter at the thick end, 15 cents per post.  
 (b) From 10 to 15 feet long and not exceeding 6 inches in diameter .... 30 cents per post.  
 (c) From 15 to 20 feet long and not exceeding 9 inches in diameter ... 30 cents per post.  
 (d) Poles of Matundu & Mbeo ... .. 5 cents per post.

2. Trees within a 10 miles radius of Nairobi.

- Muhutu & Mumiga ... .. 30 cents per cubic foot.  
 Makinduri & Nairobi ... .. 15 cents per cubic foot.  
 All other trees ... .. 10 cents per cubic foot.

3. Trees outside a 10 miles radius of Nairobi.

- Cedar (*Juniperus procera*) ... .. 25 cents per cubic foot.  
 Podocarpus ... .. 20 cents per cubic foot.  
 Musarandi, Koeri, Moma, Mubagu, Mumiga ... .. 15 cents per cubic foot.  
 All other trees at ... .. 10 cents per cubic foot.  
 Matundu, Mbeo & Muthia ... .. 5 cents per cubic foot.

4. FOR BAMBPOOS ... .. Rupee 1 per 100.
5. FOR BRUSHWOOD for wattling basket making etc. ... 8 cents per head load.
6. Firewood trucked from the Eschschere Forest except for Departmental use one rupee per 80 c.ft. stacked; Charcoal two rupees per ton.
7. De-fiscated firewood or other forest produce to be sold at rates fixed in each special case by the Conservator of Forests.

II. The cost of cutting and removal of timber and other forest produce shall be borne by the purchaser.

- III. Head Load if not more than 10 be taken at one time. 6 cents.
- Donkey Load -do- -do- 12 cents.
- Head Load 1 daily per month. Rupee 1
- Donkey " -do- Rupee 2
- Care load each 2 bullocks. Rupee 1
- do- each 4 bullocks. Rupee 2.

His Majesty's Acting Commissioner.

Corum SAP  
17480

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*Handwritten initials*  
22 May 1907  
Sir,

DRAFT.

SAP no. 280

I have the hon. to

*Copy*  
Lt. Col. J. Mayne Sadler  
CD

ack. the recd. of Lt. Jackson's despatch no. 165 of the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, and to inform you that I approve of the rules for the regulating the charges for forest produce in the E.A.P. a draft of which was enclosed in that despatch.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Bostromby 20/5
- Mr. Reed 20/7
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Andrews.
- Mr. Cur.
- Mr. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.