



MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION

Sawmilling Operations and Timber Recovery

3 day course

Classroom, online or in-house

Course overview

A sawmill buys logs by volume and sells boards by volume, so the whole business sits in the difference, and a few millimetres of saw kerf or a poor opening cut is money converted into sawdust. This course concentrates on recovery. Delegates work through log quality, measurement and the grading that decides what a log should be cut for. Sawing patterns follow, including through and through, cant sawing and the opening face decision that determines grade recovery. Saw types are covered across bandsaw, circular and frame, with kerf, tooth geometry and the tensioning and maintenance that keep a saw cutting straight. Sawing variation and target size setting are addressed, since oversizing to be safe is the commonest recovery loss. Edging and trimming follow. Green grading and sorting are covered. Residue use through chips, sawdust and offcuts is addressed as revenue. Safety around saws and log handling is covered directly. The course closes on recovery measurement and on log yard management.

What you will learn

- Grade and measure logs to decide what each should be cut for
- Select sawing patterns and opening faces for grade recovery
- Compare bandsaw, circular and frame sawing on kerf and accuracy
- Maintain and tension saws so they cut straight
- Set target sizes without oversizing away recovery
- Edge, trim, grade and sort green timber
- Use residues as revenue and measure recovery honestly

Who should attend

- Sawmill supervisors and sawyers
- Saw doctors and maintenance staff
- Timber graders and yard staff
- Production managers at sawmills
- Buyers procuring sawn timber

Course outline

- 01 The business is in the difference
- 02 Log quality, measurement and grading
- 03 Sawing patterns and the opening face
- 04 Bandsaw, circular and frame sawing
- 05 Kerf, tooth geometry and tensioning
- 06 Sawing variation and target size
- 07 Edging, trimming and green grading
- 08 Residue revenue, saw safety and recovery measurement

Upcoming dates

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee per delegate
19 to 21 October 2026	Maputo, Mozambique	Classroom	USD 995
25 to 27 January 2027	Online	Online	R6,500
29 to 31 March 2027	Port Louis, Mauritius	Classroom	USD 995



Fees and how to register

This 3 day course is **R6,500** per delegate online, **R14,950** in the classroom in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Eswatini, and **USD 995** in the classroom elsewhere in Africa. In-house training is quotation on request. Book 2 or more delegates on this course and save 10%.

To register or request an in-house proposal, visit www.afrisciencegroup.com, email info@afri-science.co.za, or WhatsApp us on **+27 63 479 1136**.

AfriScience Group | +27 61 536 6531 | info@afri-science.co.za | Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa