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Question:

Lesley Goodhew of Australia wrote:

We have many casuarina trees on our land, and as we have a slow combustion oven, would like to know if the tree is burnable in this application, and the properties of the timber as a fuel.



Photo by Tony Pernas

Answer:

Dear Lesley,

According to S.C. Wang, et al in "Qualitative evaluation of fuelwood in Florida - A Summary Report," Economic Botany 36(4): 381-388 (1982), "According to the early Australia literature (Swain, 1928), *C. equisetifolia* is primarily a fuelwood. The wood is heavy and dense, burns well, and gives great heat. . . One outstanding feature . . . is the very high value for wood density which is comparable with those of some heavier woods such as oaks." A table included with this article gives the heat of combustion (based on dry weight) as 18.620 kJ/kg, moisture content at 85%, and density (based on dry weight and green volume) at 0.63 g/cm³.

K. Brown, UF Center for Aquatic & Invasive Plants,
APIRS database, <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>



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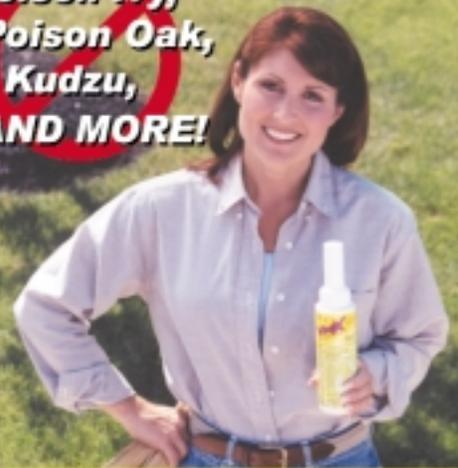


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