

Tree Growth Data Table

Round Tree Sample	Observations	Hardwood or Softwood (circle one)	Number of Annual Rings	Distance from Center to Last Ring (in cm)	Age of Tree's Best Growth
1		Hardwood or Softwood			
		If sample is hardwood, distance from center to edge of heartwood _____ cm			
2		Hardwood or Softwood			
		If sample is hardwood, distance from center to edge of heartwood _____ cm			
3		Hardwood or Softwood			
		If sample is hardwood, distance from center to edge of heartwood _____ cm			

Post-Lab Questions *(Use a separate sheet of paper to answer the following questions.)*

- Which of the tree round samples were hardwoods? Which were softwoods? How can you tell the difference?
- What causes the darker coloration of the heartwood in the hardwood tree samples?
- In the hardwood samples, which region was larger, the heartwood region or sapwood region?
- Compare and contrast the ages of the trees. If the tree round samples are of similar size, how do their ages differ? What does this tell you about the growth rate of different tree species?
- How does the ring during the tree's best year of growth (step 9 of the *Procedure*) compare to the rings of other years?
- What factors may be responsible for any differences in the widths of the growth rings?