Using the pinning method to track intra-seasonal growth in
Toona ciliata (Australian Red Cedar)

Christmas Greetings from Australia!

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In Australia Toona ciliata (Meliaceae) occurs in rainforests along the east coast between Cape York Peninsula and Sydney. It is one of a few Australian deciduous tree species with semi ring- to ring-porous growth patterns (type 11A in Carlquist 1988).

A growth experiment on 60 trees, as part of a dendroclimatological study, was conducted involving different treatments (Coster 1928) and the pinning method (Wolter 1968; Mariaux 1969). While many cross sections for light microscopy were produced using Heady’s (1997) easy cutting technique, only one emerged as a “Christmas tree” (see Figure). Vessel diameters and numbers were recorded, and the distance between cambium and wound tissue (Kuroda & Shimaji 1984) was measured at four cardinal radii. Results will be published soon.

References