

**GROWTH RING TERMINOLOGY – SOME PROPOSALS**

by

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Following the call for contributions on the definition of terms used in wood anatomy in IAWA Bulletin n.s. 6: 83, we suggest the replacement of terms and definitions 155–161 in the Multilingual Glossary of 1964 by the following:

1. Ring, growth – In wood and bark, a growth layer as seen in cross section.
2. Ring boundary, growth – The outer limit of a growth ring marked by a difference in cell type or size from the beginning of the subsequent growth ring.
3. Ring, true growth – A growth ring produced regularly once or more times in a year.
4. Ring, true annual growth – In wood and bark, a growth layer formed during one year, ending in a ring boundary.
5. Ring, true multiple growth (double, triple, etc.) – In wood and bark, two or more growth layers produced regularly each year.
6. Ring, false (single or multiple) growth – In wood and bark, a growth ring produced irregularly within a true growth ring (caused by exogenous and endogenous factors such as frost, drought, fire, herbivores, heavy fruit-in, etc. The false ring is named after the causal factor, when known. In certain cases, when the ring contains irregularly shaped cells, it is called a traumatic ring).
7. Ring, discontinuous growth – A growth ring (annual, multiple or false) which is not present all around the circumference as seen in cross section. Sometimes, in a false ring, the ring boundaries do not unite with the adjacent ring boundaries but have blind endings.