



Scouts BSA Archaeology Merit Badge  
 Dendrochronology (Tree Ring Dating)  
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Reading your tree core samples:

- The space between ring lines corresponds to one year of tree growth
- A growth ring is called a xylem
- Thicker rings indicate wetter years (good growing conditions)
- Thinner rings indicate drier years (not-so-good growing conditions)



**Your mission:** Archaeologists extracted core samples AA and XX from building timber in two different excavations in Egypt, and based on other artifacts they think the age of the sites probably lies between 1,000BC and 3,000BC. Using the local Egyptian dendrochronology xylem catalog below find the year of the last annual ring in both sample AA and sample XX.

