

TIMBER BRIDGE MAINTENANCE COSTS

Following our testing of timber bridges we are asked what are the costs to maintain timber bridges.

Well we give the following actual example



The bridge is a 50m long bridge made of rounded untreated timber subject to 100 vehicle movements per day of mixed type trucks, cars, school bus et cetera.

In 1992 the bridge had a major repair costing \$60,000.00

Since then \$180,000.00 has been spent on the bridge in repairs and servicing up to 2012.

The bridge is still in service and has been over topped twice due to floods since 1992. The bridge is in service with the next detailed inspection due in 2015.

In summary the cost of the bridge maintenance has been \$12,000.00 pa, or \$60.00 per meter of bridge per year.

This would compare with concrete structures where first major repair occurs after twenty years.