

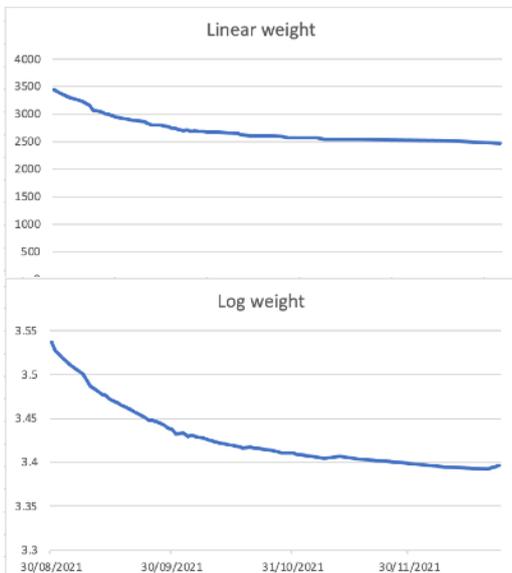
Burr Ash Bowl



Some working notes that may be helpful.

This bowl was made from an ash burr bought off the fallen tree. The burr used is rather smaller than the one shown here, say 2/3 diameter and the bowl used most of the available depth - ending as about 280mm diameter and 150mm deep.

The bowl was shaped on the green timber with walls around 22mm thickness and then dried in ambient indoors for about 3.5 months, with the weight being checked every few days.



See Log and linear graphs at left (Log just to make viewing easier). Although the weight continued to decline I decided to proceed anyway after the bowl had lost about 30% of its original weight.



The overall shape did not vary very much although there was considerable 'ripple' on some surfaces. Nevertheless trueing up the bowl did show significant out of round effects, as right (outer true, inner not).

The walls as cut green were about 22mm thick and the final wall (& base) thickness was <14mm. It could be thinner but this seemed visually best.

The finish is sealing coats of 'Danish' oil (allowed to harden) followed by wire wool smoothing and microcrystalline wax.

The green cuts were mostly done with a bowl gouge but the trueing and final finishing mostly with very sharp scrapers and (inside) with a carbide disk tool. This last works well but I found it hard to avoid some ripple on the surface. It was also hard with the burr timber to avoid a modest amount of torn surface grain - in practice removed using more sanding than I would normally want. This also removed the ripple from the carbide tool.



Bowl as cut after drying before re-shaping.

Will Stewart

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