

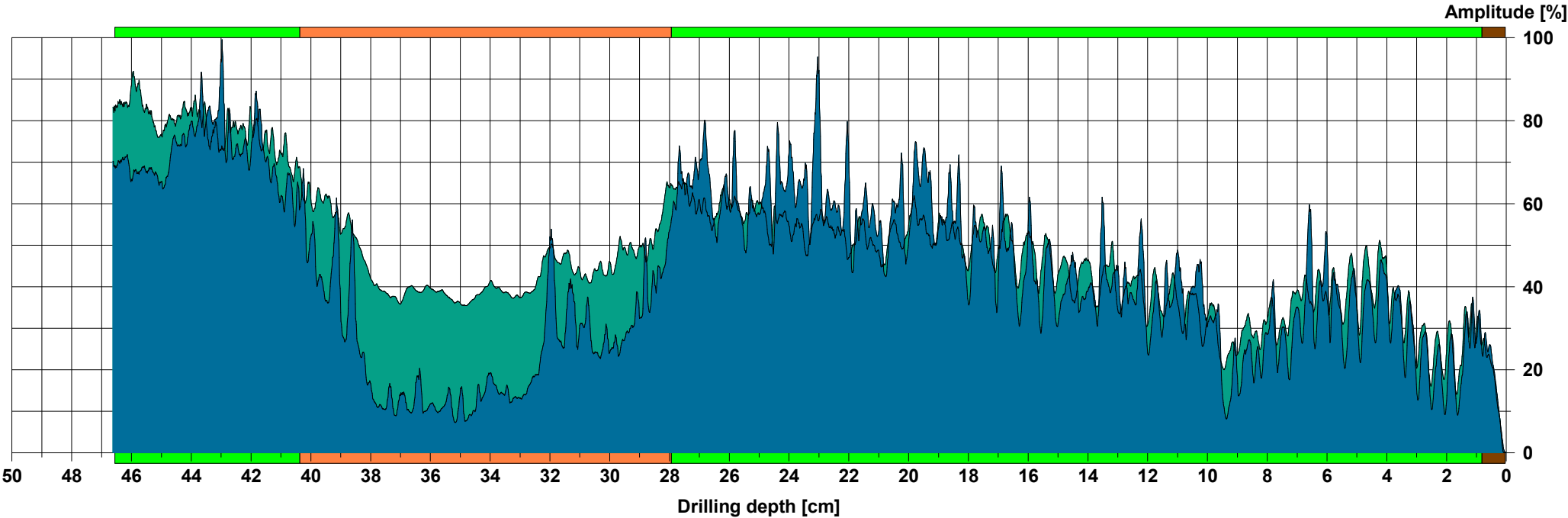


Decay Investigation Basic Report

Surveyors Name	Ian Lightfoot		Date	23/09/25
Site Address	Tollgate, Lindfield, Haywards Heath RH16 2AD		Tree Location	Side of 11-12
Tree Species	ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)		Tree Number	T14
Height approx.	10-12m		DBH	96cm
Spread approx.	North 5m	East 5m	South 5m	West 5m
Summary				
The subject tree is a mature specimen, previously reduced to a high pollard framework at approximately 9-10m above ground level, with a crown showing fair vitality, categorised as stage 1 of ash dieback. On the northern side of the trunk is a significant bark wound. There is extensive basal decay on the north-eastern aspect and a basal cavity measuring approximately 35cm (W) x 30cm (H) x 45cm (D). Rhizomorphs were found around the decayed area and beneath necrotic bark on the south-eastern aspect. Its significance lies in the fact that it is characteristic of honey fungus colonisation, which is a white rot decay-causing organism that primarily degrades roots and, in advanced stages, can affect structural roots and buttressing, compromising the tree's stability. Colonised trees may fail without recognisable wood decomposition visible at ground level (Mattheck 2014). The tree has a limited rooting area, with a change in soil level to the south and a building to the east. The resi-drill measurement did indicate internal stem decay, but the main concern will be subterranean decay caused by honey fungus. Given the tree's location in a high-target occupancy area and the fact that the fungus primarily affects the roots, which can result in fracture of the structural roots or windthrow, I recommend that the subject tree be felled and a replacement planted.				
Recommendation	Fell to ground level		Priority	3 months

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	1	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 1.5m agl approx
Drilling depth	: 46,62 cm	Tilt	: +1°	Direction:	North to South
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 100 / 256	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:15:16	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



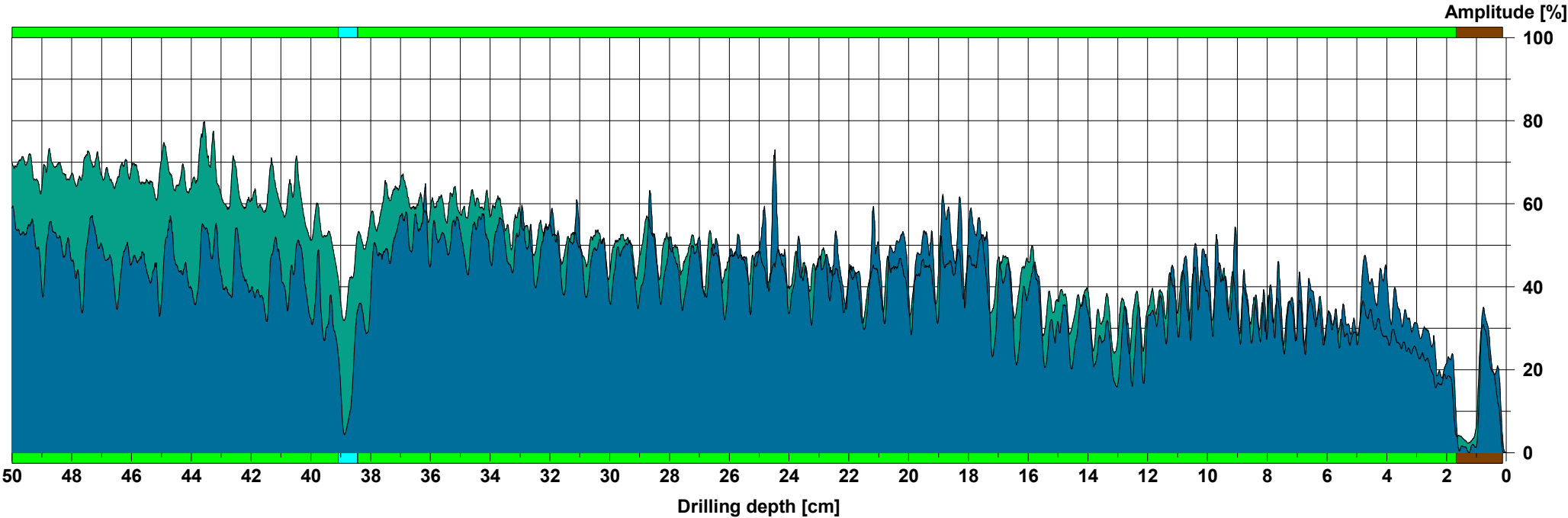
Assessment

From	0,04 cm	to	0,82 cm	:	Bark
From	0,82 cm	to	27,94 cm	:	Sound wood
From	27,94 cm	to	40,37 cm	:	Decay
From	40,37 cm	to	46,56 cm	:	Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	2	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 15cm agl approx
Drilling depth	: 50,44 cm	Tilt	: -1°	Direction:	North to South
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 93 / 257	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:16:54	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



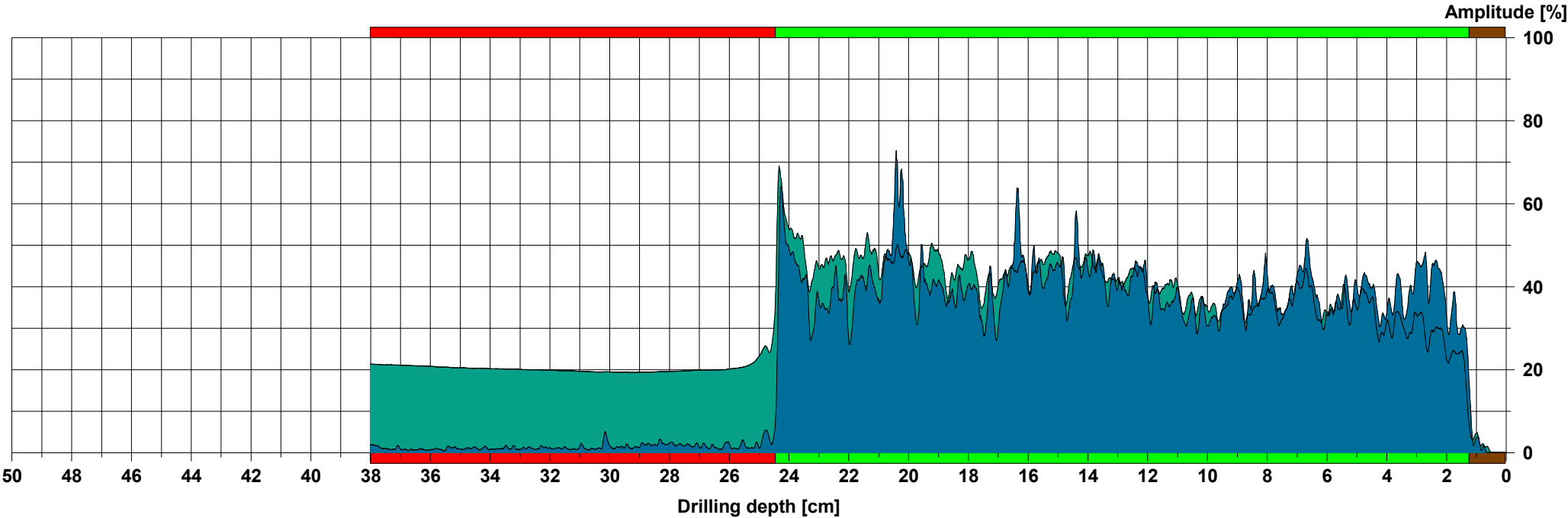
Assessment

From	0,13 cm	to	1,68 cm	:	Bark
From	1,68 cm	to	38,44 cm	:	Sound wood
From	38,44 cm	to	39,08 cm	:	Split
From	39,08 cm	to	50,00 cm	:	Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	3	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 15cm agl approx
Drilling depth	: 38,01 cm	Tilt	: -11°	Direction:	East to West
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 86 / 258	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:19:16	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



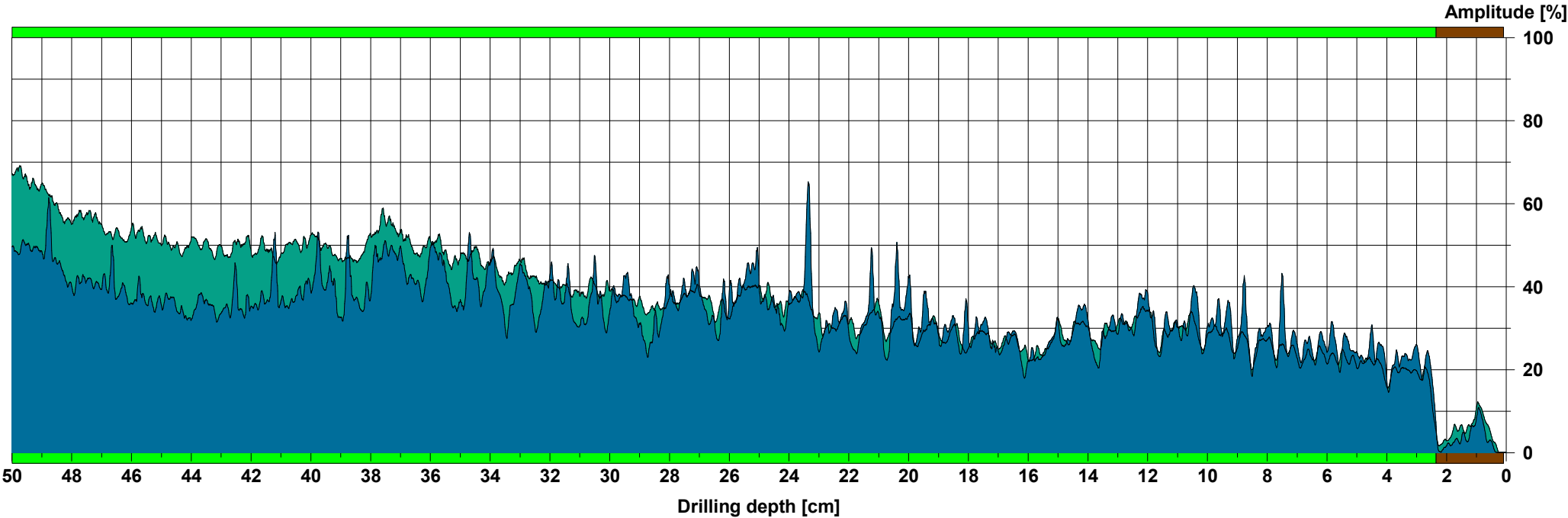
Assessment

From 0,04 cm to 1,25 cm	: Bark
From 1,25 cm to 24,46 cm	: Sound wood
From 24,46 cm to 38,01 cm	: Extensive decay

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	4	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 15cm agl approx
Drilling depth	: 50,43 cm	Tilt	: 0°	Direction:	South to North
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 85 / 256	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:20:10	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



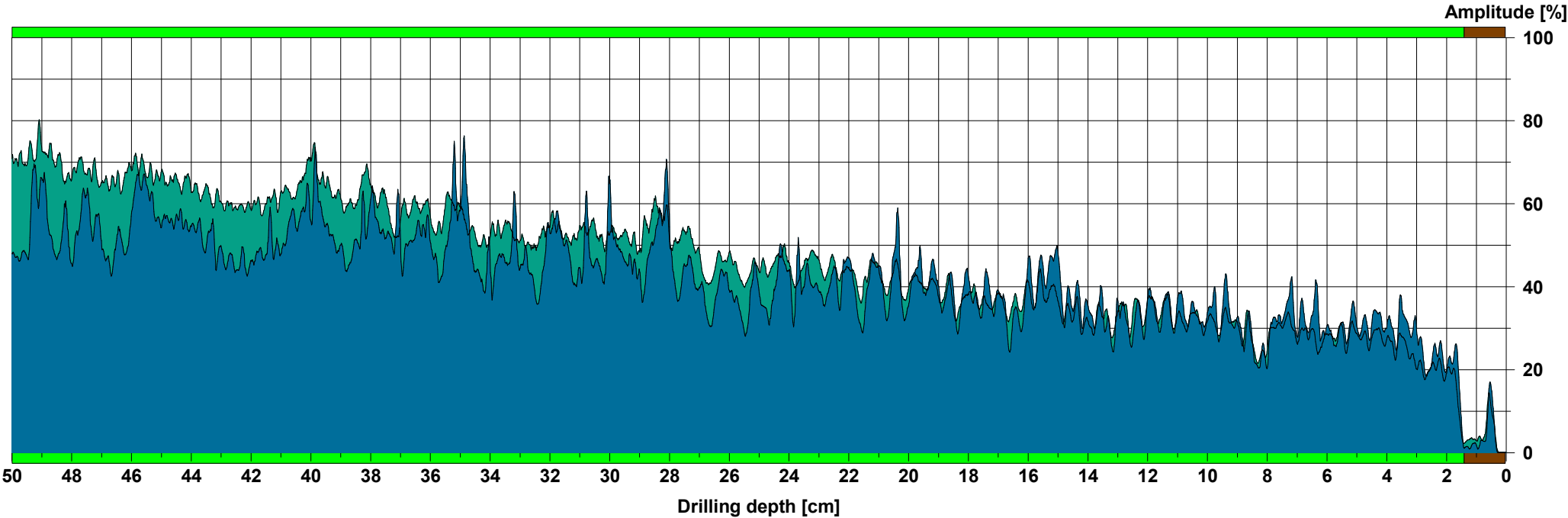
Assessment

From 0,09 cm to 2,36 cm : Bark
From 2,36 cm to 50,00 cm : Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	5	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 15cm agl approx
Drilling depth	: 50,43 cm	Tilt	: 0°	Direction:	West to East
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 85 / 257	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:21:07	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



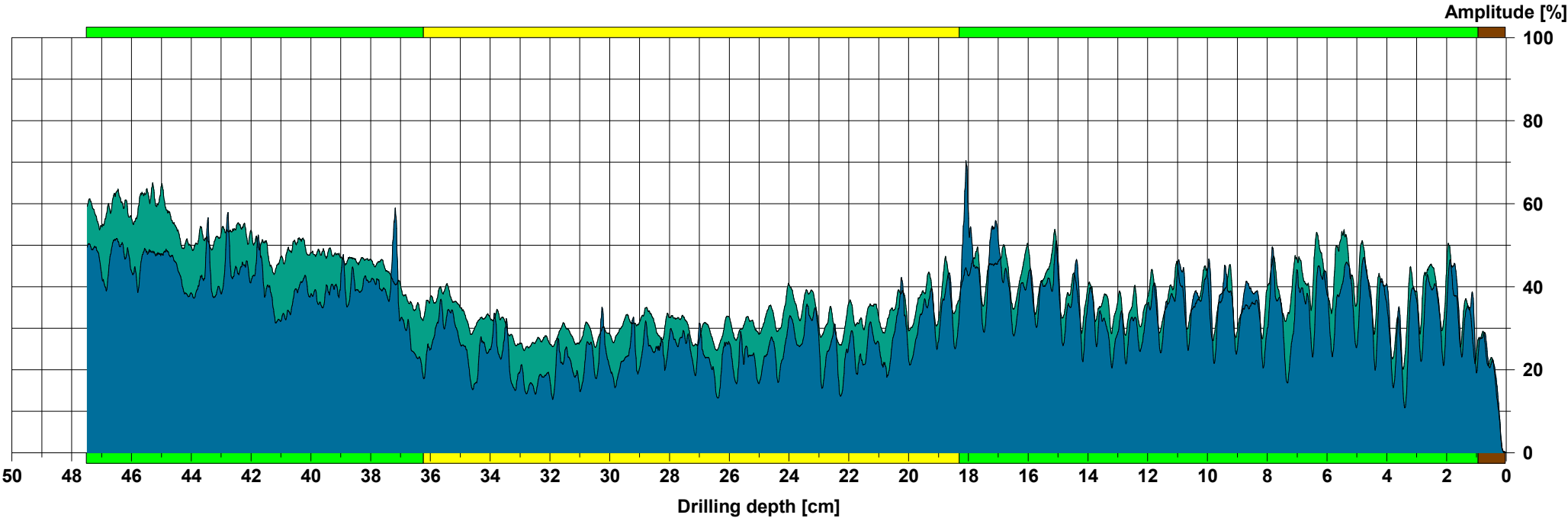
Assessment

- From 0,04 cm to 1,42 cm : Bark
- From 1,42 cm to 50,00 cm : Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	6	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 1.2m agl approx
Drilling depth	: 47,48 cm	Tilt	: -1°	Direction:	West to East
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 81 / 225	Species	: Ash
Time	: 10:22:53	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



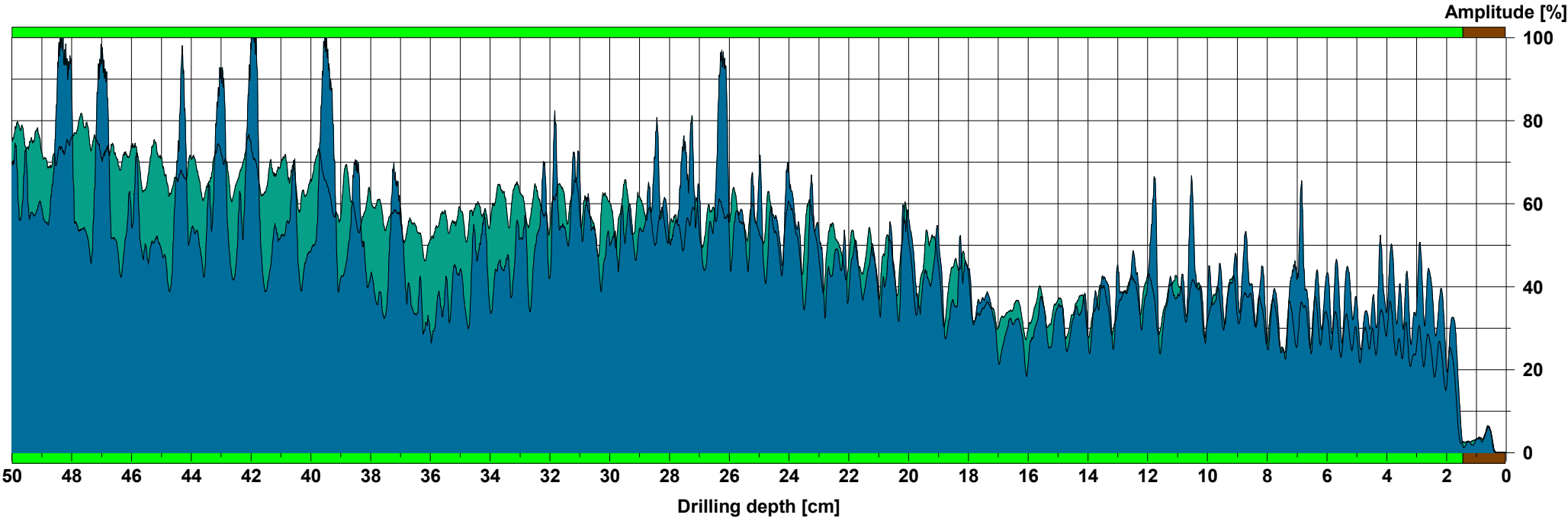
Assessment

	From	0,04 cm	to	0,95 cm	: Bark
	From	0,95 cm	to	18,31 cm	: Sound wood
	From	18,31 cm	to	36,24 cm	: Incipient decay
	From	36,24 cm	to	47,51 cm	: Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	7	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 1.2m agl approx
Drilling depth	: 50,42 cm	Tilt	: -4°	Direction:	South to North
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 80 / 274	Species	: ash
Time	: 10:23:53	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



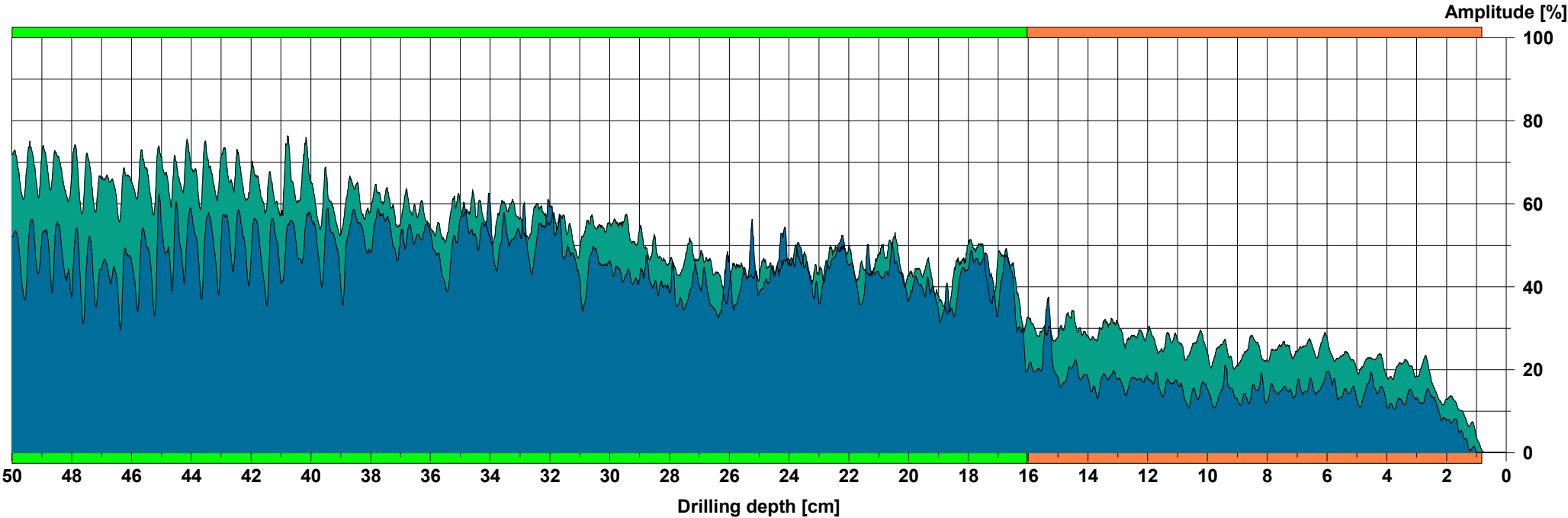
Assessment

From 0,04 cm to 1,46 cm : Bark
From 1,46 cm to 50,00 cm : Sound wood

Comment

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.:	8	Speed	: 2500 r/min	Diameter:	96,00 cm
ID number	: T14	Needle state:	---	Level	: 15cm agl approx
Drilling depth	: 50,44 cm	Tilt	: -7°	Direction:	East to West
Date	: 23.09.2025	Offset	: 71 / 224	Species	: ash
Time	: 10:28:47	Avg. curve	: off / off	Location	: Tollgate, Lindfield
Feed	: 100 cm/min	Name	:		



Assessment

- From 0,82 cm to 16,04 cm : Decay
- From 16,04 cm to 50,00 cm : Sound wood

Comment

Measurement taken within cavity













