WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A measuring apparatus for measuring a flexural strength of a test piece, comprising:

a support unit having a first support member and a second support member that are spaced from each other, for supporting a lower surface of the test piece;

a presser for pressing the test piece, the presser being disposed in a position above the support unit in alignment with an area between the first support member and the second support member;

a moving mechanism for relatively moving the presser toward and away from the test piece supported by the support unit;

a load measuring unit for measuring a load applied to the presser when the presser presses the test piece supported by the support unit;

a controller having a calculating section for calculating the flexural strength of the test piece on a basis of a thickness and a width of the test piece, a spacing between the first support member and the second support member, and a maximum value of the load measured by the load measuring unit; and

an image capturing unit for capturing an image of the test piece,

wherein the controller further includes a detecting section for detecting the thickness and the width of the test piece on

a basis of the image of the test piece captured by the image capturing unit.

2. The measuring apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a support member moving mechanism for moving the first support member and the second support member toward and away from each other to adjust the spacing between the first support member and the second support member.

3. A measuring apparatus for measuring a flexural strength of a test piece, comprising:

a support member having a support surface for supporting a lower surface of the test piece and an opening defined therein that is exposed on the support surface;

a ball presser disposed in a position above the support member in alignment with the opening in the support member, the ball presser being insertable into the opening;

a moving mechanism for relatively moving the ball presser toward and away from the test piece supported by the support member;

a load measuring unit for measuring a load applied to the ball presser when the ball presser presses the test piece supported by the support member;

a controller having a calculating section for calculating the flexural strength of the test piece on a basis of a size of the test piece, a size of the opening, a size of the ball presser, and a maximum value of the load measured by the load measuring unit; and

an image capturing unit for capturing an image of the test piece,

wherein the controller further includes a detecting section for detecting the thickness and the width of the test piece on a basis of the image of the test piece captured by the image capturing unit.