

Family: MYRISTICACEAE (angiosperm)

Scientific name(s): Pycnanthus angolensis

Pycnanthus kombo (synonymous)

Commercial restriction: no commercial restriction

## WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color: pinkish brown  
 Sapwood: not demarcated  
 Texture: coarse  
 Grain: straight  
 Interlocked grain: absent  
 Note: Possible presence of brittleheart. Strong tendency to shakes.  
 Wood pinkish brown to light brown.

## LOG DESCRIPTION

Diameter: from 60 to 80 cm  
 Thickness of sapwood:  
 Floats: yes  
 Log durability: low (must be treated)

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std dev.</u>
Specific gravity *:	0,49	0,08
Monnin hardness *:	1,4	0,5
Coeff. of volumetric shrinkage:	0,39 %	0,12 %
Total tangential shrinkage (TS):	8,6 %	1,3 %
Total radial shrinkage (RS):	4,6 %	0,7 %
TS/RS ratio:	1,9	
Fiber saturation point:	33 %	
Stability:	poorly stable	

## MECHANICAL AND ACOUSTIC PROPERTIES

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std dev.</u>
Crushing strength *:	38 MPa	8 MPa
Static bending strength *:	63 MPa	13 MPa
Modulus of elasticity *:	10130 MPa	2021 MPa

(\*: at 12% moisture content, with 1 MPa = 1 N/mm<sup>2</sup>)

Musical quality factor: 75,8 measured at 2926 Hz

## NATURAL DURABILITY AND TREATABILITY

Fungi and termite resistance refers to end-uses under temperate climate. Except for special comments on sapwood, natural durability is based on mature heartwood. Sapwood must always be considered as non-durable against wood degrading agents.

E.N. = Euro Norm

Funghi (according to E.N. standards): class 5 - not durable

Dry wood borers: susceptible - sapwood not or slightly demarcated (risk in all the wood)

Termites (according to E.N. standards): class S - susceptible

Treatability (according to E.N. standards): class 1 - easily permeable

Use class ensured by natural durability: class 1 - inside (no dampness)

Species covering the use class 5: No

Note: This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350-2.

## REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks: requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of risk of temporary humidification: requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of risk of permanent humidification: use not recommended

## DRYING

Drying rate: normal  
 Risk of distortion: high risk  
 Risk of casehardening: no  
 Risk of checking: high risk  
 Risk of collapse: yes

Possible drying schedule: 4

	M.C. (%)	Temperature (°C)		Air humidity (%)
		dry-bulb	wet-bulb	
Green		42	39	82
50		48	43	74
40		48	43	74
30		48	43	74
15		54	46	63

Note: Drying is difficult for thickness > 54 mm. Steaming strongly recommended before kiln drying (T = 95°C, Humidity = 100 %) during 48 hours.

This schedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness lower or equal to 38 mm. It must be used in compliance with the code of practice.  
 For thickness from 38 to 75 mm, the air relative humidity should be increased by 5 % at each step.  
 For thickness over 75 mm, a 10 % increase should be considered.

## SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect: normal  
 Sawteeth recommended: ordinary or alloy steel

Cutting tools: ordinary

Peeling: good

Slicing: not recommended or without interest

Note: Quartersawn recommended in order to reduce the risks of distortion during drying.

## ASSEMBLING

Nailing / screwing: poor

Gluing: correct

Note: Tends to split when nailing.

## COMMERCIAL GRADING

Appearance grading for sawn timbers: According to SATA grading rules (1996)  
 For the "General Purpose Market":  
 Possible grading for square edged timbers: choix I, choix II, choix III, choix IV  
 Possible grading for short length lumbers: choix I, choix II  
 Possible grading for short length rafters: choix I, choix II, choix III  
 For the "Special Market":  
 Possible grading for strips and small boards (ou battens): choix I, choix II, choix III  
 Possible grading for rafters: choix I, choix II, choix III

## FIRE SAFETY

Conventional French grading: Thickness > 14 mm : M.3 (moderately inflammable)  
 Thickness < 14 mm : M.4 (easily inflammable)

Euroclasses grading: D s2 d0

Default grading for solid wood, according to requirements of European standard EN 14081-1 annex C (April 2009). It concerns structural graded timber in vertical uses with mean density upper 0.35 and thickness upper 22 mm.

## END-USES

Veneer for interior of plywood  
 Blockboard  
 Interior panelling  
 Boxes and crates  
 Current furniture or furniture components  
 Pencils

Veneer for back or face of plywood  
 Moulding  
 Exterior panelling  
 Interior joinery  
 Rolling shutters

## MAIN LOCAL NAMES

<u>Country</u>	<u>Local name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Local name</u>
Angola	ILOMBA	Benin	JAJA
Cameroon	ETENG	Congo	ILOMBA
Ivory Coast	WALELE	Gabon	ETENG
Ghana	OTIE	Equatorial Guinea	CALABO
Nigeria	AKOMU	Central African Republic	GELE
Democratic Republic of the Congo	ILOMBA	Democratic Republic of the Congo	LIFONDO
Democratic Republic of the Congo	LOLAKO	Sierra Leone	KPOYEI
United Kingdom	PYCNANTUS		

