



ANDIROBA

Family

Meliaceae

Other Names

Andiroba branca, Andirobeira, Carapa, Masabalo, Cedro bateo, Cedro macho, Figueroa, Tangare, Crabwood, Bastard mahogany, Krappa, Crappo

Scientific Names

Carapa guianensis, Carapa procera*

*Carapa procera may be found in Africa.

Source

South and Central America

Wood Appearance

The colour of the heartwood is red brown, with a nice golden lustre. It resembles mahogany.

Compression failure appears more often. The sapwood is not clearly demarcated. The grain is mainly straight, sometimes irregular or interlocked. The texture is medium fine. Buoyancy is variable: Andiroba branca (varzea) floats, Andiroba vermelha (terra firme) does not float. Density at 12 % moisture content: 0.67 g/cm³.

Working Properties

Machining goes well, with a smooth result. Resawing can be sometimes disappointing because of the deformation. Some difficulties in planning in presence of interlocked grain. Pre-drilling is recommended. Tends to split in nailing. Finishing and gluing are reported to be good. Drying goes slowly with fewer problems. Low temperature and high humidity are recommended during drying.

Durability

Andiroba is moderately to poorly durable in ground contact.

Uses

The mahogany like timber can be used for furniture and flooring, stairs, mouldings, carpentry, interior window frames and veneer. Exterior application of the timber is restricted by the lower durability. Generally used as substitute for Mahogany (Swietenia spp.).

References

- Research and experiences of A. van den Berg / Precious Woods Europe BV
- CIRAD Forestry Department