



Eco-Smart, Inc.

Earth-friendly Flooring

TEAK WOOD

Botanical Information

PILON

NOTE: Similar to Walnut in color but 70% HARDER

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name: HYERONIMA ALCHORNEOIDES

Other Common Names: Curtidor (Honduras), Nancito (Nicaragua), Pantano (Panama), Carne asada, Trompillo (Venezuela), Cargamanto, Casaco (Colombia), Suradanni (Surinam), Sangu-de-boi, Urucurana (Brazil).

Distribution: Depending on the species, ranges from southern Mexico to southern Brazil including the Guianas, Peru, and Colombia, also throughout the West Indies. Varies from abundant in seasonal marshes to relic occurrences in old forests on heavy soils.

The Tree: Large straight trees with spreading rounded buttresses; reaching heights of 130 ft; with trunk diameters of 3 ft or more, but more commonly with diameters of 20 to 24 in. Stems are often clear to 70 ft.

General Characteristics: Heartwood is a light reddish brown, to chocolate brown, to dark red; sapwood is pinkish white and 1 to 2 in. wide. Luster is low; texture moderately coarse; grain is interlocked; without distinctive odor or taste; tangential surfaces have parabolic markings due to variations in color at the margins of seasonal growth increments.

Mechanical Properties: Janka side hardness 1,750 at 12% moisture content Forest Products Laboratory toughness average for green and dry material is 187 in.-lb. (5/8-in. specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: The wood air-seasons rapidly with only a moderate amount of warp and surface checking developing. No data on kiln drying schedules available. Shrinkage from green to oven-dry: radial 5.4%; tangential 11.7%; volumetric 17.0%.

Working Properties: The wood is reported to have good working properties in all operations except planing which is rated poor due to the characteristic roey grain.

Durability: The wood is rated moderately durable to very durable in ground contact based on laboratory pure culture evaluations as well as experience in railroad tracks. Resistant to moderately resistant to subterranean and dry-wood termites. Resistance to marine borers reported high for H. laxiflora.

Preservation: Both heartwood and sapwood are reported to treat moderately well using both open-tank and pressure-vacuum systems; test specimens had large end- grain exposure.

Uses: Heavy construction, railway crossties, marine work, furniture, cabinet work, decorative veneers, flooring, turnery, and joinery.



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