



Abachi - Ayous

Atibt

Obeche; NEN-EN 13556: obeche (GB), obeche (F), Abachi (D), Code TRSC

Other names

Ayous, ayus (Cameroon, Guinea), obeche, arere (Nigeria), sam, samba (Ivory Coast), wawa (Ghana), m'bado (Central African Republic).

Botanic name

Triplochiton scleroxylon K. Schum (=Samba scleroxylon)

Family

Malvaceae (was Sterculiaceae)

Growth area

Tropical West Africa. Main producing countries: Cameroon, Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Ghana



Tree Description

Large tree, height 45-55m. Narrow plank roots run up to 6m high against the trunk. The trunk is straight and cylindrical, up to 25m long. Diameter above the plank roots 0.9-1.5m.

Supply

Sawn wood, veneer and as sheet material. The somewhat heavier wood type onzabili is sometimes mixed through batches of abachi.

Wood Description

The heartwood is fresh whitish to creamy yellow, to golden yellow aftertone when exposed to light. There is no obvious difference between sapwood and heartwood. The color and quality of abachi can vary depending on its origin. In terms of weight, samba is relatively the heaviest, ayous is lighter, obeche even lighter and wawa relatively the lightest. In terms of color, ayous is whitest, then samba and obeche, and wawa is a bit more brownish-gray in color.

Wood Recognition

Light in weight, yellow in color, typical odor, on copse plane large single vessels, diffuse parenchyma and on the sessile plane etage building.

Grain

Straight to cross-hatched. Crosshairs give faint to fairly clear striation on the radial surface.

Texture

Moderately coarse to coarse

Voluminous mass

(370-)390(-450) kg/m³ at 12% moisture content, fresh about 560 kg/m³ (moisture content about 60%).

Shrinkage

Radial 1.1% and tangential 2.4%.

Drying

Quick and easy, with little risk of tearing and deformation.



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Hardness | Longitudinal plane 1900 N. |
| Machinability | Easy to work with both hand tools and machine tools. Very sharp tools are necessary to obtain a smooth surface. |
| Nailing & Screwing | Good, but these connectors hold up moderately. |
| Adhesives | Good. |
| Bend | Moderate . |
| Surface finish | Good. It is recommended to use a pore filler. |
| Impregnability | Heartwood 4, sapwood 1 (according to NEN-EN 350). |
| Applications | Commonly used for purposes where a light, easy-to-work wood is required and where there are no durability or strength requirements. |
| Strength class | Not known. |

Sustainability

Relative resistance to mold

Heartwood class 5 (4) and susceptible to blackening (NEN-EN 350: practical experience and field research).

Relative resistance to animal organisms

Heartwood: drywood borers and termites and marine borers all S; sapwood: sapwood beetle S (EN 350), common woodworm S.