Afrormosia

Atibt

Afrormosia NEN-EN 13556: afrormosia (GB), afrormosia (F), Afrormosia (D), Code PKEL

Other names

Kokrodua, afrormosia (France, Britain), obang (Cameroon, Central African Republic), mohole, kokrodua (Ghana), assamela (Côte d'Ivoire), muwanga, (Mozambique), olé, bohele, moholé, wahala (Congo DR).

Botanic name

Pericopsis elata (Harms) Meeuwen, Pericopsis angolensis (Baker) Meeuwen.

Family

Leguminosae (Papilionaceae).

Growth area

West and Central Africa, mainly Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Mozambique and Congo DR.

Tree Description	Up to 50 m tall tree, usually 30-45 m tall, with a branchless, sometimes irregularly shaped, usually straight trunk of 15-20 m. Diameter 0.80-1.60 m. Depending on the growing area, rootlets up to 2.5 m high can occur.
Supply	Roundwood (veneer), veneer and sawnwood. CITES timber species (appendix II), allowing import only with special permits.
Wood Description	The heartwood is yellowish brown, darkening to dark brown. Its appearance is somewhat similar to that of teak. The sapwood is yellowish-white, 10-30 mm wide.
Wood Recognition	Light stripe markings on quarter plane and light flame markings on cut plane, on end plane many small vessels.
Grain	Straight to crosshairs.
Texture	Fine.
Voluminous mass	(640-)700(-800) kg/m3 at 12% moisture content, fresh about 1125 kg/m3 (moisture content about 80%).
Shrinkage	Radial 1.0% and tangential 2.3%.
Drying	Slow, with little risk of tearing and deformation.
Hardness	Longitudinal plane 7600 N.

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Machinability	Saw and plane well both with hand tools and by machine. The use of carbide tools is recommended. When planing cross-cut wood, indentation can occur, especially in the radial plane. It is therefore recommended not to increase the chip angle too much, e.g. 20°C. Sawdust, dust and splinters can cause inflammation of the skin and there are cases where inhalation of wood dust has led to stomach cramps and paralysis. Good extraction is therefore necessary during machining.
Nailing & Screwing	We recommend pre-drilling and the use of stainless steel fasteners in damp conditions.
Adhesives	Good
Bend	Moderate .
Surface finish	Can be stained well, polished with little filler and beautifully finished.
Impregnability	Heartwood 4, sapwood 1 (according to NEN-EN 350).
Details	Was widely used in the furniture industry as a substitute for teak, solid and as a veneer. Has high resistance to action by acids and other chemicals. Contains tannins that can cause corrosion in metals that come into contact with the wet wood. Oxalic acid can be used to remove corrosion stains.
Applications	As exterior application in doors, windows, window frames, cladding, shipbuilding (hides, decks), as interior applications for furniture, interior paneling, stair treads and railings, fine carpentry, yacht building, heavy-duty floor timbers, veneers, turned goods, carvings, moldings, knobs and handles.
Strength class	Classified as D40 & D50 depending on origin and quality (see Table D).

Sustainability

Relative resistance to mold

Heartwood class 1-2 (NEN-EN 350: practical experience and field research).

Relative resistance to animal organisms Heartwood: drywood borers and termites D and marine borers S-M (NEN-EN 350); sapwood: common woodworm D.

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