

# Bilinga

## Atibt

Bilinga; NEN-EN 13556: opepe (GB), bilinga (F), Bilinga (D), Code NADD

## Other names

Gulu-maza, mokese (Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo), akondoc (Cameroon), bilinga (Gabon), kusia, kusiaba (Ghana), aloma (Guinea), badi (Ivory Coast) opepe (Nigeria), bundui (Sierra Leone).

## Botanic name

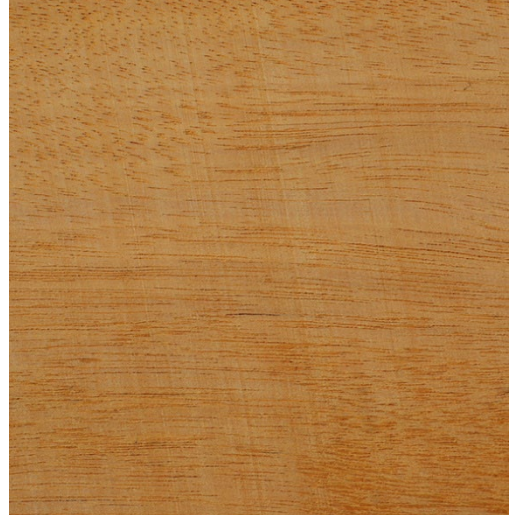
*Nauclea diderrichii* (De Wild.) Merr. (= *Nauclea trillesii*, *Sarcocephalus diderrichii*), *Nauclea gillettii* (De Wild.) Merr.

## Family

Rubiaceae

## Growth area

Tropical West Africa



<b>Tree Description</b>	Height 40-50m with a 20-30m long, cylindrical branch-free trunk. Diameter is 0.6-1.2m, maximum 1.5m. Old trees usually have low root attachments
<b>Supply</b>	Sawn wood
<b>Wood Description</b>	Fresh bilingakern wood is yellow to orange-yellow, approaching orange-red to golden brown. The clearly distinguishable 30-50 mm thick sapwood is pale yellow to white. Due to the cross grain, a striation can be seen on the sawn quarter face.
<b>Wood Recognition</b>	Orangeish wood, cross-grained, on the end face large single vessels. Fluoresces slightly yellow-green.
<b>Grain</b>	Cross thread, also called tangled or wavy thread.
<b>Texture</b>	Coarse
<b>Voluminous mass</b>	(660-)750(-900) kg/m <sup>3</sup> at 12% moisture content, fresh about 900-1150 kg/m <sup>3</sup> (moisture content about 55%).
<b>Shrinkage</b>	Radial 2.1% and tangential 4.2%.
<b>Drying</b>	Very slowly
<b>Hardness</b>	Longitudinal plan 7250 N.



<b>Machinability</b>	Despite its great hardness, bilinga can still be machined quite well. Machining dried bilinga has a marked dulling effect on saws and chisels.
<b>Nailing &amp; Screwing</b>	Pre-drilling required.
<b>Adhesives</b>	Good.
<b>Bend</b>	Bad.
<b>Surface finish</b>	Good. Bilinga can be polished very nicely if ample use is made of a pore filler.
<b>Impregnability</b>	Heartwood 2, sapwood 1 (according to NEN-EN 350).
<b>Details</b>	With many reaction woods, some length shrinkage must be considered.
<b>Applications</b>	Bilinga is widely used for building structures both indoors and outdoors.
<b>Strength class</b>	Classified as D24 and D50, depending on origin and quality.

### Sustainability

#### Relative resistance to mold

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

#### Relative resistance to animal organisms

Heartwood: drywood borers not known, termites D (S) and marine borers M-S (NEN-EN 350).