

Kotibé

Atibt

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Other names

Kissinhung (Angola), ovoé, ovoui (Cameroon), naouya (Central African Republic), aborbora (Gabon), abumana, akumaba, epro, danta (Ghana), kotibé (Ivory Coast), otutu (Nigeria), kondofindo (Zairo).

Botanic name

Nesogordonia papaverifera (A. chev.) R. Capuron (= *Cistanthera papaverifera* A. Chev.), *D. spec.*

Family

Sterculiaceae

Growth area

Tropical West Africa



Tree Description

Height 27-30m, maximum 40m. The branch-free straight cylindrical trunk is 12-24m long with a diameter of 0.6-0.8m. The trunk has rootlets of alternate sizes at the base, maximum 3.0m high.

Supply

Sawn, veneer and edged wood (sawtimber).

Wood Description

Danta heartwood is reddish brown, exposed to air this color becomes dark mahogany brown. There is a clear and sharply defined color difference between heartwood and sapwood. The 20-50mm thick sapwood is light brown with a reddish tinge. The wood is solid, has a relatively homogeneous structure and does not possess any pronounced markings. The appearance of the wood can sometimes be marred by small tassels.

Wood Recognition

Brownish red wood. There may be fine white streaks caused by contents in the barrels. The planed surface feels slightly oily and has a silky sheen. Danta from Angola has a higher density than the wood of other origins.



Grain	Cross-threaded, sometimes tangled thread.
Texture	Moderately coarse.
Voluminous mass	(640-)730(-880) kg/m ³ at 12% moisture content, fresh 850-1050 kg/m ³ .
Shrinkage	Radial 5,1% and tangential 7,5%.
Drying	Pretty slow.
Hardness	Not known
Machinability	Although danta is quite hard, machining, both with hand tools and machines, does not present any particular difficulties. The cross grain does affect machining, and a small chip angle is recommended for smooth planing of quartered wood. Danta does not splinter easily.
Nailing & Screwing	Moderate. Pre-drilling is recommended.
Adhesives	Good.
Bend	Moderate.
Surface finish	Moderate.
Impregnability	Heartwood 3-4, sapwood 1-2 (according to NEN-EN 350).
Applications	Body and wagon building and construction timber. For exterior joinery such as window and door frames, front doors and for interior joinery, parquet, stair treads, furniture, turned goods. Danta can also serve as a substitute for hickory and ash for tool handles, golf clubs and other sporting goods. However, it is less suitable for tool handles that have to absorb large shocks.

Sustainability

Relative resistance to mold

Heartwood class 3 (NEN-EN 350: practical experience and field research). Durability increases as the wood is heavier and darker.

Relative resistance to animal organisms

Heartwood: drywood borers D, termites MS (NEN-EN 350).