

# Tiama

## Atibt

Tiama; NEN-EN 13556: gedu nohor (GB), tiama (F), Tiama (D), Code ENAN

## Andere namen

Livuité, acuminata (Angola), edoussie, timbi (Kameroen), kalungi, kiluka (Congo), abenbegne (Gabon), edinam (Ghana), dongomanguila (Guinee), gedu lohor, gedu noha, gedu-nohor (Nigeria), mukusu (Oeganda), lifaki, m'vovo (Democratische Republiek Congo).

## Botanische naam

*Entandrophragma angolense* (Welw.) C. DC..

## Familie

Meliaceae.

## Groeigebied

Tropical East-Africa.



### Tree description

Height 40-50 m. The 15-30 m long, straight cylindrical branchless trunk has a diameter of 0.7-1.2(-2) m. The trunk has very wide flared rootlets.

### Supply

Roundwood (veneer) and sawn (edged) wood.

### Wood description

The heartwood is pink-brown to even red, darkening to dark red-brown. The sapwood, up to 100 mm wide, is greyish white to pale pink, sometimes with a layer of transitional wood to the heartwood. Tiama, like kosipo, is somewhat gum-laced.

### Timber recognition

Reddish-brown in colour, on end face marginal parenchyma bands and short bands on the barrels, on the quarter face some striation by cross-hatching. Tiama is the softest of the African mahogany species (khaya, kosipo, sapeli, sipo, tiama) but otherwise difficult to distinguish from these. Khaya lacks the short parenchyma bands in addition to the marginal bands, while sipo and sapeli have continuous parenchyma bands. Khaya and kosipo lack the stripe pattern on the quarter plane.

### Thread

Cross grain.

### Nerf

Moderately coarse.

### Volumetric mass

(520-)560(-650) kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 12% moisture content, fresh 800-900 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (moisture content about 70%).



<b>Shrinkage</b>	Radial 2.8% and tangential 4.6%.
<b>Drying</b>	Moderately fast. Dry carefully, as tiama has a strong tendency to deform. Accelerated drying should be done carefully, otherwise significant loss of quality may occur due to deformation. A calibration line is available for making electrical wood moisture measurements.
<b>Hardness</b>	Longitudinal plane 2400 N.
<b>Machinability</b>	Good both with hand tools and machines. Due to the presence of a lot of gum, it can stick to the saws, which has a dulling effect. Due to the presence of cross-thread, a cutting angle of 20° is recommended.
<b>Nailing and screwing</b>	Good.
<b>Glueing</b>	Good.
<b>Bending</b>	Bad.
<b>Surface finishing</b>	Good.
<b>Impregnability</b>	Heartwood 4, sapwood 3 (according to NEN-EN 350).
<b>Details</b>	The wood from Ghana is said to provide the most even wood with a regular stripe pattern.
<b>Applications</b>	Furniture, panelling, stairs, parquet, yacht and shipbuilding, plywood, decorative veneer and further as a substitute for sipo and sapeli. However, tiama is softer, less stable and more difficult to obtain in large flaw-free qualities than sipo or sapeli.
<b>Strength Class</b>	Classified in D18 depending on origin and quality (see table D).

## Durability

### Relative resistance to fungi

Heartwood class 3 (NEN-EN 350: practical experience and field research).

### Relative resistance to animal organisms

Heartwood: drywood borers D, termites S and marine borers S (NEN-EN 350).