

Common name:	AÇACU
Family:	EUPHORBIACEAE
Scientific name(s):	Hura crepitans

LOG DESCRIPTION		WOOD DESCRIPTION	
Diameter:	from 70 to 100 cm	Colour:	Creamy white
Thickness of sapwood:	from 15 to 25 cm	Sapwood:	Not clearly demarcated
Floats:	yes	Texture:	Coarse
Durability in forest :	Low (must be treated)	Grain:	Straight or interlocked
		Interlocked grain:	Slight
Note:	Bark contains a very irritant sap. Color varies from cream white to pinkish brown. Presence of tension wood.		

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES			MECHANICAL PROPERTIES		
Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.					
	mean	standard deviation		mean	standard deviation
Density *:	0.45 g/cm ³	0.08			
Monnin hardness*:	1.5	0.7	Crushing strength *:	31 MPa	7
Coef of volumetric shrinkage:	0.37 %	0.05	Static bending strength *:	56 MPa	9
Total tangential shrinkage:	4.7 %	0.3	Modulus of elasticity *:	9600 MPa	1288
Total radial shrinkage:	2.9 %	0.5			
Fibre saturation point:	27 %				
Stability:	stable		(* : at 12 % moisture content ; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm ²)		

NATURAL DURABILITY AND TREATABILITY

Fungi and termite resistance refers to end-uses under temperate climate.

Except for special comments on sapwood, natural durability is based on mature heartwood.

Sapwood must always be considered as non-durable against wood degrading agents.

Fungi:	Class 5 - not durable	* ensured by natural durability (according EN standards).
Dry wood borers:	Susceptible; sapwood not or slightly demarcated (risk in all the wood)	
Termites:	Class S - Susceptible	
Treatability:	1 - easily permeable	
Biological hazard class*:	1 - not in ground contact, under cover (no dampness)	
Note:	Very prone to blue stain.	

COUNTRIES - LOCAL NAMES

Countries	Local names
Bolivia	OCHOHO
Brazil	AÇACU
Brazil	ASSACU
Colombia	CEIBA LECHOSA
Ecuador	HABILLO
French Guiana	BOIS DU DIABLE
French Guiana	SABLIER
Guyana	SANDBOX
Peru	CATAHUA
Surinam	POSSENTRIE
Surinam	POSSUM
Surinam	URA WOOD
U.S.A.	POSSUMWOOD
Venezuela	CEIBA HABILLO
Venezuela	JABILLO

AÇACU

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks:	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
In case of temporary humidification risk:	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
In case of permanent humidification risk:	Use not recommended

DRYING

Possible drying schedule

		Temperature (°C)			Air humidity (%)
		M.C. (%)	dry-bulb	wet-bulb	
Drying rate:	Normal to slow				
Risk of distortion:	High risk				
Risk of casehardening:	No				
Risk of checking:	High risk	Green	60	56	81
Risk of collapse:	No	30	68	58	61
		20	74	60	51
		15	80	61	41

This shedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness < 38 mm.

It must be used in compliance with the code of practice.

For thickness from 38 to 75 mm , the air relative humidity should be increased by 5 % at each step.

For thickness over 75 mm , a 10 % increase should be considered.

Note: Slow drying is recommended (in that case, wood must be treated against blue stain) to reduce defects.

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect:	Fairly high
Sawteeth recommended:	Stellite-tipped
Cutting tools:	Tungsten carbide
Peeling:	Good
Slicing:	Not recommended or without interest
Note:	Log turning sawing recommended to avoid shakes (tension wood). Fuzzy surface. Silica content is variable according to the country of origin.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing / Screwing:	Poor
Gluing:	Correct

END-USES

Main known end-uses; they must to be implemented according to the code of practice.

Important remark: some end-uses are mentionned for information (traditional, regional or ancient end-uses).

Note: Possible substitute for OBEICHE (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*). A careful sanding and a filling are recommended to obtain a good finish.

Floats
Boxes and crates
Interior joinery
Formwork
Current furniture or furniture components
Blockboard
Veneer for interior of plywood
Fiber or particle boards
Matches
Model building
Wood-ware
