Common name:	WACAPOU
Family:	CAESALPINIACEAE
Scientific name(s):	Vouacapoua americana

LOG DESCRIPTION

Diameter:	from 40 to 100 cm
Thickness of sapwood:	from 2 to 3 cm
Floats:	no
Durability in forest :	Good

WOOD DESCRIPTION

Colour:	Dark brown
Sapwood:	Clearly demarcated
Texture:	Medium
Grain:	Straight
Interlocked grain:	Absent

Note: Wood dark brown, with thin light brown lines, which produce an attractive aspect. Presence of internal stresses.

PHYSICAL 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
Density *:	0.92 g/cm3	0.05
Monnin hardness*:	6.9	1.5
Coef of volumetric shrinkage:	0.65 %	0.06
Total tangential shrinkage:	6.5 %	0.8
Total radial shrinkage:	4.2 %	0.5
Fibre saturation point:	22 %	
Stability:	Moderately stable	

MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

	mean	standard deviation
Crushing strength *:	82 MPa	5
Static bending strength *:	148 MPa	12
Modulus of elasticity *:	19780 MPa	1662

(* : at 12 % moisture content ; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm2)

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 1 - very durable
Dry wood borers:	Durable; sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)
Termites:	Class D - Durable
Treatability:	3 - poorly permeable
Biological hazard class*:	4 - in ground or fresh water contact or hight dampness
Note:	Due to its high specific gravity and its repulsive extracts content, this species naturally covers the biological hazard class 5 (end-uses in marine environment or in brackish water).

* ensured by natural durability (according EN standards).

COUNTRIES - LOCAL NAMES

Countries	Local names
Brazil (Amazon)	ACAPU
Brazil (Amazon)	RITANGUEIRA
French Guiana	BOIS PERDRIX
French Guiana	BOUNAATI
French Guiana	EPI DE BLE
French Guiana	WACAPOU
Guyana	SARA
Guyana	SARABEBEBALLI
Guyana	TATBU
Surinam	BRUINHART
Surinam	WACAPOE
United Kingdom	TATBU
U.S.A.	PARTRIDGEWOOD

WACAPOU

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks:	Does not require any preservative treatment
In case of temporary humidification risk:	Does not require any preservative treatment
In case of permanent humidification risk:	Does not require any preservative treatment

DRYING

Drying rate:	Normal to slow
Risk of distortion:	Slight risk
Risk of casehardening:	No
Risk of checking:	Slight risk
Risk of collapse:	No

Possible drying schedule

M.C. (%)	Temperature (°C) dry-bulb	wet-bulb	Air humidity (%)
30	42	41	94
25	42	39	82
20	48	43	74
15	48	43	74

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: Initial surface drying prior to kiln drying is recommended.

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect:	Fairly high
Sawteeth recommended:	Stellite-tipped
Cutting tools:	Tungsten carbide
Peeling:	No information available
Slicing:	Good
Note:	Requires power. Veneers quite brittle.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing / Screwing:	Good but pre-boring necessary
Gluing:	Correct (for interior only)

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: Due to its beauty and its low availability, this wood should be used for decorative end-uses or in small quantities.

Cabinetwork (high class furniture)
Current furniture or furniture components
Interior panelling
Interior joinery
Sliced veneer
Flooring
Turned goods
Stairs (inside)
Posts
Bridges (parts in contact with water or ground)
Hydraulic works (seawater)
Ship building (planking and deck)
Heavy carpentry
Sleepers
Exterior joinery
Wood-ware
Bridges (parts not in contact with water or ground)