

Common name:	OKOUME
Family:	BURSERACEAE
Scientific name(s):	Aucoumea klaineana

LOG DESCRIPTION	WOOD DESCRIPTION		
Diameter:	from 60 to 120 cm	Colour:	Light red
Thickness of sapwood:	from 2 to 5 cm	Sapwood:	Clearly demarcated
Floats:	yes	Texture:	Fine
Durability in forest :	Moderate (treatment recommended)	Grain:	Straight or interlocked
Note:	More or less dark pinkish white to red brown, darkens with age. Sometimes lustrous or pearly. The grain can be slightly wavy.		

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 *:	0.44 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	0.06	Crushing strength *:	36 MPa	5
Monnin hardness*:	1.6	0.6	Static bending strength *:	62 MPa	11
Coef of volumetric shrinkage:	0.33 %	0.09	Modulus of elasticity *:	9690 MPa	1231
Total tangential shrinkage:	6.9 %	1.6			
Total radial shrinkage:	4.6 %	1.1			
Fibre saturation point:	40 %				
Stability:	Moderately stable to poorly stable (* : at 12 % moisture content ; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm <sup>2</sup> )				

#### 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 4 - poorly durable	* ensured by natural durability (according EN standards).
Dry wood borers:	Durable; sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)	
Termites:	Class S - Susceptible	
Treatability:	3 - poorly permeable	
Use class*:	2 - inside or under cover (dampness possible)	
Note:	This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350-2.	

#### MAIN LOCAL NAMES

Countries	Local names
Congo	N'KUMI
Equatorial Guinea	N'GOUMI
Equatorial Guinea	OKUME
Gabon	ANGOUMA
Gabon	OKOUME
United Kingdom	GABOON

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## OKOUME

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### REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

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

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### DRYING

#### Possible drying schedule

Drying rate:	Rapid	Temperature (°C)			Air humidity (%)
		M.C. (%)	dry-bulb	wet-bulb	
Risk of distortion:	Slight risk	Green	50	47	84
Risk of casehardening:	No	40	50	45	75
Risk of checking:	Slight risk	30	55	47	67
Risk of collapse:	No	20	70	55	47
		15	75	58	44

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This schedule 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.

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### SAWING AND MACHINING

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Blunting effect:	High
Sawteeth recommended:	Stellite-tipped
Cutting tools:	Tungsten carbide
Peeling:	Good
Slicing:	Good
Note:	Some difficulties in planing due to interlocked grain. Tendency to woolliness. Filling is necessary in order to obtain a good finish.

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### ASSEMBLING

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Nailing / Screwing:	Good
Gluing:	Correct

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### 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).

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Veneer for interior of plywood  
Veneer for back or face of plywood  
Sliced veneer  
Blockboard  
Formwork  
Boxes and crates  
Moulding  
Interior joinery  
Interior panelling  
Current furniture or furniture components

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