

Abura

Family. Rubiaceae

Botanical Name(s).

Fleroya ledermannii

Hallea ledermannii (synonymous)

Fleroya rubrostipulata

Hallea rubrostipulata (synonymous)

Fleroya stipulosa

Hallea stipulosa (synonymous)

Continent. Africa

CITES. This species is not listed in the CITES Appendices (Washington Convention 2023).

Description of logs

Diameter. From 60 to 80 cm

Thickness of sapwood. -

Floats. Yes

Log durability. Low (treatment necessary)

Description of wood

Colour reference. Light brown

Sapwood. Not demarcated

Texture. Fine

Grain. Straight or interlocked

Interlocked grain. Slight

Notes. Possible presence of brittleheart and coloured veins.

Physics and mechanics

The properties indicated are for mature wood. These properties may vary significantly depending on the origin and growing conditions of the wood.

Property	Average value
Specific gravity ¹	0.60
Monnin hardness ¹	2.0
Coefficient of volumetric shrinkage	0.44 % per %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	8.9 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	4.3 %
Ratio St/Sr	2.1
Fibre saturation point	32 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.20 W/(m.K)
Lower heating value	
Crushing strength ¹	46 MPa
Static bending strength ¹	78 MPa
Modulus of elasticity ¹	11,020 MPa

¹ At 12 % moisture content, with 1 MPa = 1 N/mm



Flat sawn



Quarter sawn

Natural durability and preservation

Resistance to fungi. Class 5 - not durable

Resistance to dry wood borers. Class S - susceptible (risk in all the wood)

Resistance to termites. Class S - susceptible

Treatability. Class 2 - moderately permeable

Use class ensured by natural durability.

Class 1 - inside (no dampness)

Notes. This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350 (2016).

Requirement of a preservative treatment

Against dry wood borer. Requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of temporary humidification. Requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of permanent humidification. Use not recommended

Drying

Drying rate. Rapid to normal

Risk of distorsion. No risk or very slight risk

Risk of casehardening. No known specific risk

Risk of checking. Slight risk

Risk of collapse. No known specific risk

Notes.

Suggested drying program.

Phases	Duration (H)	MC (%) probes	T (°C)	Rh (%)	UGL (%)
Prewarm 1		> 50	50	86	16.5
Prewarm 2	3	> 50	52	85	16.0
Drying		> 50	55	82	14.7
		50 - 40	55	80.0	13.8
		40 - 35	55	75.0	12.6
		35 - 30	56	73.0	12.0
		30 - 27	58	67.0	10.5
		27 - 24	60	58.0	8.9
		24 - 21	62	50.0	7.5
		21 - 18	64	45.0	6.8
		18 - 15	65	37.0	5.7
		15 - 12	65	34.0	5.3
		12 - 9	65	28.0	4.5
		9 - 6	65	24.0	4.0
Conditioning	6		58	(3)	(2)
Cooling	(1)		Stop	(3)	(2)

(1)) Cooling: until the temperature inside the kiln no longer exceeds external temperature by more than 30 °C.

(2) UGL = final H% x 0,8 to 0,9.

(3) Subtract RH from the UGL determined in (2) and temperature, using the Hailwood-Horrobin equation.

Sawing and machining

Blunting effect. Fairly high

Sawteeth recommended. Stellite-tipped

Cutting tools. Tungsten carbide

Peeling. Good

Slicing. Good

Notes. Blunting effect is variable. Sawdust occasionally irritant.

Assembling

Nailing and screwing. Good but pre-boring necessary

Commercial grading

Appearance grading for sawn timbers.

According to the ATIBT grading rules (2017), the main choices are: FAS (First And Second), n°1 Common and select, n°2 Common (see details of these rules on the ATIBT website).

Visual grading for structural applications

No visual grading for structural applications

Fire safety

Conventional French grading.

Thickness > 14 mm: M3 (moderately inflammable)

Thickness < 14 mm: M4 (easily inflammable)

Euroclasses grading. D-s2, d0

Default grading for solid wood, according to requirements of European standard EN 14081-1+A1 (August 2019). It concerns structural graded timber in vertical uses and ceiling with mean density upper 0.35 and thickness upper 22 mm.

End-uses

- Boxes and crates
- Cabinetwork (high class furniture)
- Current furniture or furniture components
- Glued laminated
- Interior joinery
- Interior panelling
- Moulding
- Resistant to one or several acids
- Sculpture
- Sliced veneer
- Turned goods
- Veneer for back or face of plywood
- Veneer for interior of plywood
- Wood-ware



Hand-crafted archways chest – Ateliers d’art, Christine and Fouad Nammour, Fontaine-en-Bray (France)

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Main local names

Country	Local name
Angola	Mivuko
Angola	Mivuku
Benin	Agbantín
Cameroon	Élelom
Cameroon	Élolom
Central African Republic	Oro
Congo	Vuku
Côte d’Ivoire	Bahia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mivuku
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mvuku
Equatorial Guinea	Elelon
France (importated tropical timber)	Bahia
Gabon	Élélom-n'zam
Germany (importated tropical timber)	Subaha
Ghana	Subaha
Nigeria	Abura
Sierra Leone	Mboi
Uganda	Nzingu
Zambia	Nzingu