

## Ilomba

Family. Myristicaceae

Botanical Name(s).

*Pycnanthus angolensis*

*Pycnanthus kombo* (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. Pinkish brown

Sapwood. Not demarcated

Texture. Coarse

Grain. Straight

Interlocked grain. Absent

Notes. Possible presence of brittleheart. Strong tendency to shakes. Wood pinkish brown to light brown.

### 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 <sup>1</sup>	0.49
Monnin hardness <sup>1</sup>	1.4
Coefficient of volumetric shrinkage	0.39 % per %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	8.6 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	4.6 %
Ratio St/Sr	1.9
Fibre saturation point	33 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.17 W/(m.K)
Lower heating value	18,030 kJ/kg
Crushing strength <sup>1</sup>	38 MPa
Static bending strength <sup>1</sup>	63 MPa
Modulus of elasticity <sup>1</sup>	10,130 MPa

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



Quarter sawn



Flat 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 1 - easily 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. Normal

Risk of distorsion. High risk

Risk of casehardening. No known specific risk

Risk of checking. High risk

Risk of collapse. Yes

Notes. Drying is difficult for thickness > 54 mm. Steaming strongly recommended before kiln drying (T = 95°C, Humidity = 100 %) during 48 hours.

Suggested drying program.

Phases	Duration (H)	MC (%) probes	T (°C)	Rh (%)	UGL (%)
<b>Prewarm 1</b>		> 50	55	84	15.5
<b>Prewarm 2</b>	3	> 50	57	83	15.0
<b>Drying</b>		> 50	60	76	12.5
		50 - 40	60	73.0	11.6
		40 - 35	60	69.0	10.7
		35 - 30	60	62.0	9.5
		30 - 27	63	55.0	8.2
		27 - 24	64	50.0	7.5
		24 - 21	65	46.0	6.9
		21 - 18	65	39.0	6.0
		18 - 15	68	32.0	5.0
		15 - 12	70	29.0	4.5
		12 - 9	70	25.0	4.0
		9 - 6	70	24.0	3.9
<b>Conditioning</b>	6		63	(3)	(2)
<b>Cooling</b>	(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. Normal

**Sawteeth recommended.** Ordinary or alloy steel

**Cutting tools.** Ordinary

**Peeling.** Good

**Slicing.** Not recommended or without interest

**Notes.** Quartersawn recommended in order to reduce the risks of distortion during drying.

## Assembling

**Nailing and screwing.** Poor

**Notes.** Tends to split when nailing.

## 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**

According to French standard NF B 52-001-1 (2018), strength class D24 can be provided by visual grading.

## 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

- Blockboard
- Boxes and crates
- Current furniture or furniture components
- Exterior panelling
- Interior joinery
- Interior panelling
- Moulding
- Pencils
- Rolling shutters
- Veneer for back or face of plywood
- Veneer for interior of plywood

## Main local names

Country	Local name
Angola	Ilomba
Benin	Jaja
Cameroon	Éteng
Central African Republic	Gélé
Congo	Ilomba
Côte d'Ivoire	Walélé
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Ilomba

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Equatorial Guinea

Gabon

Ghana

Nigeria

Sierra Leone

United Kingdom (importated tropical timber)

Lifondo

Lolako

Calabo

Éteng

Otie

Akomu

Kpoyei

Pycnantus