

Ossoko

Family. Myristicaceae

Botanical Name(s).

Scyphocephalum mannii

Scyphocephalum ochocoa (synonymous)

Continent. Africa

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

Description of logs

Diameter. From 50 to 70 cm

Thickness of sapwood. From 5 to 15 cm

Floats. Yes

Log durability. Low (treatment necessary)

Description of wood

Colour reference. Brown

Sapwood. Not clearly demarcated

Texture. Medium

Grain. Straight or interlocked

Interlocked grain. Slight

Notes. Brown to orange brown, with slight grey 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	0.59
Monnin hardness ¹	2.8
Coefficient of volumetric shrinkage	0.41 % per %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	6.5 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	3.5 %
Ratio St/Sr	1.9
Fibre saturation point	25 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.20 W/(m.K)
Lower heating value	18,300 kJ/kg
Crushing strength ¹	46 MPa
Static bending strength ¹	78 MPa
Modulus of elasticity ¹	13,300 MPa

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

Natural durability and preservation

Resistance to fungi. Class 5 - not durable



Quarter sawn



Flat sawn

Resistance to dry wood borers. Class D - durable (heartw. durable but sapw. not clearly demarcated)

Resistance to termites. Class S - susceptible

Treatability. Class 2 - moderately permeable

Use class ensured by natural durability.

Class 1 - inside (no dampness)

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. 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. Ordinary or alloy steel

Cutting tools. Ordinary

Peeling. Good

Slicing. Not recommended or without interest

Notes. Peeling is easy but not often used because logs are often ill-formed and with several knots.

Assembling

Nailing and screwing. Good

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
- Flooring
- Interior joinery
- Interior panelling
- Moulding
- Sculpture
- Turned goods
- Wood frame house

Main local names

Country	Local name
Cameroon	Akurna
Cameroon	Éboukzok
Gabon	N'suku
Gabon	Ossoko
Gabon	Sorro