

Amesclào

Family. Burseraceae

Botanical Name(s).

Tetragastris altissima

Tetragastris panamensis

Tetragastris p.p.

Continent. Latin America

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

Notes. The genus *Trattinickia* is also commercialized under the name AMESCLAO.

Description of logs

Diameter. From 50 to 60 cm

Thickness of sapwood. From 4 to 6 cm

Floats. No

Log durability. Moderate (treatment recommended)

Description of wood

Colour reference. Orange - yellow

Sapwood. Clearly demarcated

Texture. Fine

Grain. Interlocked

Interlocked grain. Slight

Notes. Wood light brown to orangey yellow. Sometimes frequent small black resinous spots.

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	0.87
Monnin hardness ¹	7.2
Coefficient of volumetric shrinkage	0.60 % per %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	8.6 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	5.2 %
Ratio St/Sr	1.7
Fibre saturation point	26 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.28 W/(m.K)
Lower heating value	18,660 kJ/kg
Crushing strength ¹	71 MPa
Static bending strength ¹	128 MPa
Modulus of elasticity ¹	17,490 MPa

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



Quarter sawn



Half-quarter sawn

Natural durability and preservation

Resistance to fungi. Class 2 - durable

Resistance to dry wood borers. Class D - durable (sapwood demarcated, risk limited to sapwood)

Resistance to termites. Class D - durable

Treatability. Class 3 - poorly permeable

Use class ensured by natural durability.

Class 3 - not in ground contact, outside

Notes. The possible presence of few demarcated sapwood may have an influence on the expected durability. According to the European standard NF EN 335 (2013), performance length might be modified by the intensity of end-use exposition.

Requirement of a preservative treatment

Against dry wood borer. Requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of temporary humidification. Does not require any preservative treatment

In case of permanent humidification. Use not recommended

Drying

Drying rate. Normal to slow

Risk of distorsion. High risk

Risk of casehardening. No known specific risk

Risk of checking. High 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	87	17.0
Prewarm 2	4	> 50	50	86	16.5
Drying		> 50	53	85	15.7
		50 - 40	53	82.0	14.6
		40 - 35	54	78.0	13.4
		35 - 30	55	77.0	12.9
		30 - 27	57	73.0	11.9
		27 - 24	58	68.0	10.7
		24 - 21	60	61.0	9.3
		21 - 18	62	52.0	7.9
		18 - 15	64	43.0	6.6
		15 - 12	65	39.0	6.0
		12 - 9	65	31.0	5.0
		9 - 6	65	28.0	4.5
Conditioning	8		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. Not recommended or without interest

Slicing. Not recommended or without interest

Notes. Requires power. Sawing and machining are more or less easy according to the species and the interlocked grain. Variable silica content.

Assembling

Nailing and screwing. Good but pre-boring necessary

Notes. Tends to split when nailing. High specific gravity: gluing must be especially performed in compliance with the code of practice.

Commercial grading

Appearance grading for sawn timbers.

According to NHLA grading rules (2015) Possible grading: FAS, Select, Common 1, Common 2, Common 3 In French Guiana, the local name of this species is "Sali". Grading is done according to local rules "Bois guyanais classés". Possible grading: choix 1, choix 2, choix 3, choix 4

Visual grading for structural applications

According to European standard EN 1912 (2012) and associated national standards (see explanatory note), strength classes C16 or C24 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

- Bridges (parts not in contact with water or ground)
- Exterior joinery
- Flooring
- Heavy carpentry
- Indoor staircases
- Industrial or heavy flooring
- Interior joinery
- Vehicle or container flooring

Main local names

Country	Local name
Brazil	Amesclao
Brazil	Breu grande
Brazil	Breu manga
Brazil	Breu preto
Colombia	Trementino azucarero
Cuba	Palo cochino
Ecuador	Copal
French Guiana	Bois cochon
French Guiana	Encens rouge
French Guiana	Sali
Guyana	Haiawaballi
Guyana	Joeliballi-tataroe
Puerto Rico	Masa
Puerto Rico	Palo de aceite
Suriname	Joeliballi-tataroe
Suriname	Salie