

Sandbox

Family. Euphorbiaceae

Botanical Name(s).

Hura crepitans

Continent. Latin America

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

Description of logs

Diameter. From 70 to 100 cm

Thickness of sapwood. From 15 to 25 cm

Floats. Yes

Log durability. Low (treatment necessary)

Description of wood

Colour reference. Creamy white

Sapwood. Not clearly demarcated

Texture. Coarse

Grain. Straight or interlocked

Interlocked grain. Slight

Notes. Bark contains a very irritant sap. Color varies from cream white to pinkish brown. Presence of tension wood.

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	0.45
Monnin hardness ¹	1.5
Coefficient of volumetric shrinkage	0.37 % per %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	4.7 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	2.9 %
Ratio St/Sr	1.6
Fibre saturation point	27 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.16 W/(m.K)
Lower heating value	
Crushing strength ¹	31 MPa
Static bending strength ¹	56 MPa
Modulus of elasticity ¹	9,600 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



Half-quarter sawn

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. Very prone to blue stain.

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 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. Slow drying is recommended (in that case, wood must be treated against blue stain) to reduce defects.

Suggested drying program.

Phases	Duration (H)	MC (%) probes	T (°C)	Rh (%)	UGL (%)
Prewarm 1		> 50	55	84	15.5
Prewarm 2	3	> 50	57	83	15.0
Drying		> 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
Conditioning	6		63	(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. Not recommended or without interest

Notes. Log turning sawing recommended to avoid shakes (tension wood). Fuzzy surface. Silica content is variable according to the country of origin.

Assembling

Nailing and screwing. Poor

Commercial grading

Appearance grading for sawn timbers.

According to ATIBT grading rules, possible grade: FAS (First And Second), n°1 Common and select, n°2 Common

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

- Blockboard
- Boxes and crates
- Current furniture or furniture components
- Fiber or particle boards
- Floats
- Formwork
- Interior joinery
- Matches
- Model building
- Veneer for interior of plywood
- Wood-ware

Notes. Possible substitute for OBEICHE (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*). A careful sanding and a filling are recommended to obtain a good finish.

Main local names

Country	Local name
Bolivia	Ochoho
Brazil	Açacu
Brazil	Assacu
Colombia	Ceiba lechosa
Ecuador	Habillo
French Guiana	Bois du diable
French Guiana	Sablier
Guyana	Sandbox
Peru	Catahua
Suriname	Possentrie
Suriname	Possum
Suriname	Ura wood
United States of America (importated tropical timber)	Possumwood
Venezuela	Ceiba habillo
Venezuela	Jabillo