

Family: FABACEAE-CAESALPINIOIDEAE (angiosperm)

Scientific name(s): *Berlinia bracteosa*

*Berlinia confusa*

*Berlinia grandiflora*

Commercial restriction: no commercial restriction

## WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color: pinkish brown  
 Sapwood: clearly demarcated  
 Texture: medium  
 Grain: straight or interlocked  
 Interlocked grain: slight

Note: Presence of purple or dark brown veins. Frequent resin canals.

## LOG DESCRIPTION

Diameter: from 60 to 90 cm  
 Thickness of sapwood: from 10 to 15 cm  
 Floats: no  
 Log durability: moderate (treatment recommended)

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std dev.</u>
Specific gravity *:	0,70	0,06
Monnin hardness *:	4,0	1,2
Coeff. of volumetric shrinkage:	0,53 %	0,11 %
Total tangential shrinkage (TS):	7,8 %	1,3 %
Total radial shrinkage (RS):	3,8 %	1,3 %
TS/RS ratio:	2,1	
Fiber saturation point:	28 %	

Stability: moderately stable to poorly stable

Note: Physical and mechanical properties are very variable according to the different EBIARA species.

## MECHANICAL AND ACOUSTIC PROPERTIES

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std dev.</u>
Crushing strength *:	57 MPa	9 MPa
Static bending strength *:	93 MPa	17 MPa
Modulus of elasticity *:	12870 MPa	2356 MPa

(\*: at 12% moisture content, with 1 MPa = 1 N/mm<sup>2</sup>)

Musical quality factor: 86,6 measured at 2289 Hz

## NATURAL DURABILITY AND TREATABILITY

Fungi and termite resistance refers to end-uses under temperate climate. Except for special comments on sapwood, natural durability is based on mature heartwood. Sapwood must always be considered as non-durable against wood degrading agents.

E.N. = Euro Norm

Funghi (according to E.N. standards): class 3 - moderately durable

Dry wood borers: durable - sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)

Termites (according to E.N. standards): class M - moderately durable

Treatability (according to E.N. standards): class 3 - poorly permeable

Use class ensured by natural durability: class 2 - inside or under cover (dampness possible)

Species covering the use class 5: No

## REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks: does not require any preservative treatment

In case of risk of temporary humidification: requires appropriate preservative treatment

In case of risk of permanent humidification: use not recommended

## DRYING

Drying rate: normal to slow	Possible drying schedule: 2			
Risk of distortion: slight risk		Temperature (°C)		
Risk of casehardening: no	M.C. (%)	dry-bulb	wet-bulb	Air humidity (%)
Risk of checking: no risk or very slight risk	Green	50	47	84
Risk of collapse: no	40	50	45	75
Note: In order to reduce the risks of distortion, quartersawn drying is recommended.	30	55	47	67
	20	70	55	47
	15	75	58	44

This schedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness lower or equal to 38 mm. It must be used in compliance with the code of practice. For thickness from 38 to 75 mm, the air relative humidity should be increased by 5 % at each step. For thickness over 75 mm, a 10 % increase should be considered.

## SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect: normal  
 Sawteeth recommended: ordinary or alloy steel  
 Cutting tools: ordinary  
 Peeling: good  
 Slicing: good

## ASSEMBLING

Nailing / screwing: good but pre-boring necessary  
 Gluing: correct

## COMMERCIAL GRADING

Appearance grading for sawn timbers: According to SATA grading rules (1996)  
 For the "General Purpose Market":  
 Possible grading for square edged timbers: choix I, choix II, choix III, choix IV  
 Possible grading for short length lumbers: choix I, choix II  
 Possible grading for short length rafters: choix I, choix II, choix III  
 For the "Special Market":  
 Possible grading for strips and small boards (ou battens): choix I, choix II, choix III  
 Possible grading for rafters: choix I, choix II, choix III

## FIRE SAFETY

Conventional French grading: Thickness > 14 mm : M.3 (moderately inflammable)  
 Thickness < 14 mm : M.4 (easily inflammable)

Euroclasses grading: D s2 d0

Default grading for solid wood, according to requirements of European standard EN 14081-1 annex C (April 2009). It concerns structural graded timber in vertical uses with mean density upper 0.35 and thickness upper 22 mm.

## END-USES

Sliced veneer	Veneer for back or face of plywood
Interior joinery	Interior panelling
Current furniture or furniture components	Cabinetwork (high class furniture)
Turned goods	Flooring
Stairs (inside)	Exterior joinery
Exterior panelling	Formwork
Wood-ware	Light carpentry

## MAIN LOCAL NAMES

<u>Country</u>	<u>Local name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Local name</u>
Angola	M'POSSA	Benin	BAGBE
Cameroon	ABEM	Cameroon	ESSABEM
Congo	M'POSSA	Ivory Coast	MELEGBA
Ivory Coast	POCOULI	Gabon	EBIARA
Ghana	BERLINIA	Nigeria	EKPOGOI
Democratic Republic of the Congo	M'POSSA	Sierra Leone	SARKPEI
Germany	BERLINIA	United Kingdom	BERLINIA

