

Family: Apocynaceae

Vernacular names:

Guyana: Shibadan

Brazil: Araracanga, Maparana

French Guiana: Bois macaye

Suriname: Kromanti kopi

Distribution: The Guianas

Tree description:

Length of the bole: 18-21m; height of tree: 25-40m

Diameter: 0.5-0.8m

Shape of log: cylindrical or slightly flattened; base unbuttered

Wood description:

Sapwood: distinct, light grayish brown

Heartwood: orange yellow to yellow brown at times with reddish or pinkish tinge

Grain: straight sometimes irregular or roey

Texture: rather fine to medium

Technological characteristics:

<i>Physical properties:</i>	<i>A. cuentum</i>	<i>A. album</i>
Green density (g/cm ³)	1.06	-
Air-dry density at 12% (g/cm ³)	0.95	0.91
Basic specific gravity	0.75	0.79
Total tangential shrinkage (%)	9.7	9.8
Total radial shrinkage (%)	6.8	6.2
Total volumetric shrinkage (%)	18.5	-

<i>Mechanical properties:</i>	<i>A. cuentum</i>	<i>A. album</i>
Bending strength at 12% (N/mm ²)	174	176
Modulus of elasticity at 12% (N/mm ²)	24810	19560
Crushing strength at 12% (N/mm ²)	89	93

Processing:

Sawing: power required

Drying: not difficult

to air-season use a moderate rate

to avoid checks for species in the Araracanga group use U.S. Kiln

schedule T7-B3 for 25-38 mm (4/4 to 6/4) stock

Machining: not difficult

Nailing: pre-boring necessary, poor holding of nails

Finishing: good

Natural durability:

Resistance to decay: moderate to very good

Resistance to termites: poor to moderate

Resistance to insects of dry wood: good

Treatability: poor to moderate

Uses: flooring; interior trim; furniture; general carpentry; turnery; carving