OKOUME

Family: BURSERACEAE (angiosperm)
Scientific name(s): Aucoumea klaineana
Commercial restriction: no commercial restriction

WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color: light red
Sapwood: clearly demarcated
Texture: fine
Grain: straight or interlocked
Interlocked Grain: slight
Note:
More or less dark pinkish white to red brown, darkens with age. Sometimes lustrous or pearly. The grain can be slightly wavy.

LOG DESCRIPTION

Diameter: 23.6 – 47.2 inches
Thickness of Sapwood: 0.8 – 2 inches
Floats: yes
Log Durability: moderate (treatment recommended)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

MECHANICAL/ACOUSTIC

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

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Specific Gravity*:	0.44	0.06
Janka Hardness (lbs):	400	
Volumetric Shrinkage:	0.33%	0.09%
Total Tangential Shrinkage (TS):	6.9%	1.6%
Total Radial Shrinkage (RS):	4.6%	1.1%
TS/RS Ratio:	1.5	
Fiber Saturation Point:	40%	

Stability: Moderately stable to poorly stable

	Mean
Crushing Strength*:	5,221.36 lbf
Static Bending Strength*:	8,992.34 lbf
Modulus of Elasticity*:	1,405,416 lbf

Musical Quality Factor: 114.3 measured at 2537 Hz

**At 12% moisture content.*

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 4 - poorly durable
Dry Wood Borers: durable sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)
Termites (According to E.N. standards): class S - susceptible
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

Note: This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350-2

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks: does not require any preservative treatment
In case of risk of temporary humidification: use not recommended
In case of risk of permanent humidification: use not recommended

OKOUME

DRYING

Drying Rate: rapid
Risk of Distortion: slight risk
Risk of Casehardening: no
Risk of Checking: slight risk
Risk of Collapse: no

M.C. (%)	Dry-Bulb	Wet-Bulb	Air Humidity (%)
Green	122	116.6	84
40	122	113	75
30	131	116.6	67
20	158	131	47
15	167	136.4	44

Temperature (ºF)

This schedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness lower or equal to 1.5 in. It must be used in compliance with the code of practice. For thickness from 1.5 to 3 in, the air relative humidity should be increased by 5% at each step. For thickness over 3 in, a 10% increase should be considered.

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting Effect: high
Sawteeth Recommended: stellite-tipped
Cutting Tools: tungsten carbide
Peeling: good
Slicing: good
Note: Some difficulties in planing due to interlocked grain. Tendency to woolliness. Filling is necessary in order to obtain a good finish.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing / screwing: good
Gluing: correct

END-USES

Veneer for interior of plywood
Sliced veneer
Formwork
Moulding
Interior Paneling
Veneer for back or face of plywood
Blockboard
Boxes and crates
Interior joinery
Current furniture or furniture components

MAIN LOCAL NAMES

Country	Local Name
Cameroon	Mfumu
Gabon	Angouma, Okoume
Equatorial Guinea	N' Goumi, Okume
United Kingdom	Gaboon
Congo	N' Kumi

Works Cited:

CIRAD'S *Biomass, Wood, Energy, Bioproducts Research Unit (BioWooEB)*
Meier, E. (2015), Wood, United States of America