SIPO

Entandrophragma utile

Sipo, also known as Utile, is a premium African hardwood native to the tropical rainforests of West and Central Africa. Closely related to Sapele, Sipo offers a more uniform, refined grain pattern. Its warm color, consistent texture, and natural luster make it an attractive choice for both traditional and contemporary designs. Appreciated for its natural resistance to rot, decay, and insect damage. Commonly used for luxury exterior joinery, premium window frames, architectural doors, and high-end millwork.



Surfaced



Surfaced and clear coat

Harvested In:
Central and West Africa

Family:
MELIACEAE (angiosperm)

WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color:	*Red brown*
Sapwood:	*Clearly Demarcated*
Texture:	*Medium*
Grain:	*Interlocked*

CHARACTERISTICS

- Easy to work
- Durable
- Resistant to termites

COMMON USES

- Cabinetwork
- Moulding
- Sliced veneer
- Paneling (interior / exterior)
- Joinery (interior / exterior)
- Stairs (interior)
- Flooring
- Light carpentry

AVAILABILITY

- Select & Better
- Mixed Grain, Plain Sawn, Quarter Sawn
- 4/4, 5/4, 6/4, 8/4, 10/4 Thicknesses

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PHYSICAL / MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Air Dry Density	*3.9 lbs/bf*
Specific Gravity:	*0.63*
Janka Hardness (lbs):	*1,080*
Volumetric Shrinkage:	*11.8%*
Total Tangential Shrinkage (TS):	*6.9%*
Total Radial Shrinkage (RS):	*4.9%*
TS/RS Ratio:	*1.4*

Fiber Saturation Point:	*30%*
Crushing Strength:	*8,122 lbf/in²*
Static Bending Strength:	*13,198 lbf/in²*
Modulus of Elasticity:	*1,920,299 lbf/in²*
Stability:	*Moderate to stable*

** Based on 12% Moisture Content*

WORKING / FINISHING PROPERTIES

Blunting Effect:	*Normal*
Sawteeth Recommended:	*Ordinary or alloy steel*
Cutting Tools:	*Ordinary*
Peeling:	*Good*

Note: Tendency to tear due to interlocked grain.

Slicing:	*Good*
Nailing / Screwing:	*Good*
Gluing:	*Good*

Note: Gluing must be done carefully: Wood may be easily stained.





Credit: Nicolson Woodworks Mobile, AL

