

BLACK LIMBA



Family: COMBRETACEAE (angiosperm)
Scientific name(s): *Terminalia superba*
Commercial restriction: no commercial restriction

WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color: light yellow with black streaking
Sapwood: not demarcated
Texture: medium
Grain: straight or interlocked
Interlocked Grain: slight
Note: Sometimes brittle heart. Some logs have a black greyish heartwood, more or less veined.

LOG DESCRIPTION

Diameter: 23- 40 inches
Floats: yes
Log Durability: low (must be treated)

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*:	0.54	0.07
Janka Hardness (lbs):	670	
Volumetric Shrinkage:	0.42%	0.07%
Total Tangential Shrinkage (TS):	6.1%	0.9%
Total Radial Shrinkage (RS):	4.3%	1.1%
TS/RS Ratio:	1.4	
Fiber Saturation Point:	28%	
Stability:	moderately stable	

MECHANICAL/ACOUSTIC

	<u>Mean</u>
Crushing Strength*:	6,816 lbf
Static Bending Strength*:	11,603 lbf
Modulus of Elasticity*:	1,704,193 lbf
Musical Quality Factor:	115.6 measured at 2740 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:	susceptible – sapwood not or slightly demarcated (risk in all the wood)
Termites (According to E.N. standards):	class 5 - susceptible
Treatability (according to E.N. standards):	class 2 - moderately permeable
Use class ensured by natural durability:	class 1 – inside (no dampness)
Species covering the use class 5:	no

Note:

This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350-2.
Preservative treatment is sometimes difficult due to a variable permeability (low to good.)

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks:	requires appropriate 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:	rapid to normal
Risk of Distortion:	no risk or very slight risk
Risk of Casehardening:	no
Risk of Checking:	no risk or very slight risk
Risk of Collapse:	no

M.C. (%)	Dry-Bulb	Wet-Bulb	Air Humidity (%)
Green	140	132.8	81
86	154.4	136.4	61
68	165.2	140	51
59	176	141.8	41

Temperature (°F)

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:	normal
Sawteeth Recommended:	ordinary or alloy steel
Cutting Tools:	ordinary
Peeling:	good
Slicing:	good
Note:	Internal stresses in some logs (usually timbers from plantation.) Sometimes blunting effect quite high.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing/Screwing:	good
Gluing:	correct

END-USES

Veneer for plywood interior
Veneer for back or face of plywood
Current furniture or furniture components
Interior joinery
Moulding
Glued laminate
Boxes and crates
Wood-ware
Blockboard
Seats
Interior paneling
Light carpentry
Wood frame house
Fiber or particle boards
Sliced veneer

Note: Sawdust may cause allergic reactions during machining.

Works Cited:

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

MAIN LOCAL NAMES

<u>Country</u>	<u>Local Name</u>
Benin	Azinii
Congo	Limba
Gabon	Akom
Equatorial Guinea	Akom
Nigeria	Afara
France	Noyer Du Mayombe, Limbo
Cameroon	Akom
Ivory Coast	Frake
Ghana	Ofram
Sierra Leone	Kohagei
United States of America	Limba, Korina