



IROKO

Source

FSC Iroko is available in the forests of Precious Woods, located in the Congo Basin of Gabon. The tree attains diameters till about 100 cm. The trunks are straight and cylindrical and often have buttress root boards.

Appearance

Freshly sawn Iroko has a buttery yellow to brown yellow color, and darkens to gold brown till dark brown after exposure. The heartwood has sometimes dark brown patches through the wood structure. The lighter colored sapwood is 50-100 mm thick and easy to distinguish. The wood structure is straight to irregular and often interlocked. The texture is medium coarse.

Processing properties

The machining of Iroko can be done easily, unless there is lime in the wood structure, which causes a blunting effect on the tools. Pre-drilling is recommended. The gluing and finishing are possible, but not easy. It dries rather quickly, with risks of cracking and deformation.

Application

Thanks to the strength, durability and stability, Iroko is used for a wide range of applications, like door and window frames, doors and windows, cladding, exterior furniture, park benches and interior uses like furniture, carpentry and flooring. Iroko is mentioned on the SKH publication 99-05 which means that the timber is approved for production of KOMO certified door and window frames, doors and windows.

Technical properties

Green density	950-1.200 kg/m ³
Density (at 12%)	650 kg/m ³
Shrinkage green – oven dry	3,3% radial; 5,1% tangential
Shrinkage green – 65% RH (abt. 12% EMC)	1,3% radial; 2,2% tangential
Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC)	11,5% (at 60% RH) 14,5% (at 90% RH)
Fibre Saturation Point (FSP)	23%
Durability according to EN 350:2016	Heartwood class 1-2
Bending strength, MOR (defect free samples)	94 N/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples)	10.900 N/mm ²
Shear strength (defect free samples)	12,4 N/mm ²
Janka hardness	5.600 N (parallel); 10.900 (transversal)
Strength class (EN 338)	D40 (grading: BS 5756 HS)
The figures in this table are mainly indicative, unless a specific standard is mentioned, which provides exact figures.	

References

This information is based on research (mainly independent) and experience of Precious Woods, (semi-) scientific literature and the (Dutch) Houtvademecum (10th edition 2010).