



ACARIQUARA

Source

FSC Acariquara is available in the forests of Precious Woods, located in the Amazon region of Brazil. The tree has an irregular grooved stem and a very decorative appearance. It is not possible to produce sawn timber and therefore it is only used for round piles. The trunk has a small diameter and is straight.

Appearance

Heartwood has a brown uniform color, the sapwood has a more pale brown color, with darker stripes. The grain is curved and often interlocked or irregular. The texture is fine to medium fine.

Processing properties

The trunk has an irregular grooved shape, which makes it impossible to produce sawn wood. Furthermore, the Silica content causes a blunting effect on the tools. Therefore, the timber is only used as round wood piles. If desired, the piles can be pointed. Special care is required to connect other building elements to the Acariquara piles.

Application

In South-America, Acariquara is often used for piles in all kind of constructions, like pergola's, fences and utility poles. Furthermore it is used in large quantities for sea defence on the Baltic sea in Germany, because it is one of the few species that is highly resistant against marine borers. In the Netherlands, it is used for the same applications (see picture). Acariquara is also liked for decorative uses, for instance in zoos, bridge constructions etc.

Technical properties

Green density	1.000 kg/m ³
Shrinkage green – oven dry	5,4% radial; 8,3% tangential
Durability according to literature	Heartwood class 1
Durability (against shipworm)	Acariquara is one of the few species that is very resistant against marine borers (<i>Teredo</i> spp). No traces of marine borer attacks were found in pilings after 13 years of exposure, where piles of species like Oak, Greenheart and Pine were seriously damaged.
Bending strength, MOR (defect free samples)	90 N/mm ²
Bending strength, MOR (round piles)	61 N/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples)	15.250 N/mm ²
Shear strength (defect free samples)	10 N/mm ²
Janka hardness	9.000 – 12.000 N
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).