



AZOBÉ

Source

FSC Azobé is available in the forests of Precious Woods, located in the Congo Basin of Gabon. The tree attains diameters till approximately 180 cm. The trunks are straight and cylindrical and therefore Azobé is used for the production of large dimensions.

Appearance

Freshly sawn Azobé has a red brown color, and darkens to dark red and / or chocolate brown after exposure. The heartwood has remarkable white to yellow constituents in the pores. The juvenile wood is lighter coloured and the sapwood is easy to distinguish. The wood structure is often irregular, interlocked and the texture is coarse.

Processing properties

Despite the high density machining can be done rather easily. Pre-drilling is necessary. The gluing experience of finger-jointing for the exterior use is good. It dries slowly with risks of cracking and deformation. Smaller dimensions show higher risk of deformation.

Application

Due to the good mechanical and physical properties, the timber is often used for all kind of hydraulic constructions, like bridge constructions, decking's, sheet pilings, jetties, sound barriers, stables and piles. More recently, Azobé has also been used for parts in the construction sector.

Technical properties

Green density	1.100 -1.300 kg/m ³
Density (at 12%)	1.060 kg/m ³
Shrinkage green – oven dry	7,7% radial; 10,2% tangential
Shrinkage green – 65% RH (abt. 12% EMC)	3,8% radial; 6,0% tangential
Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC)	13,5% (at 60% RH) 20,0% (at 90% RH)
Fibre Saturation Point (FSP)	28%
Durability according to EN 350:2016	Heartwood class 2v; transition wood class 3; (in-ground tested) Heartwood class 1-2 (tested without ground)
Bending strength, MOR (defect free samples)	157 N/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples)	18.600 N/mm ²
Shear strength (defect free samples)	17,1 N/mm ²
Janka hardness	19.200 N (transversal); 17.000 N (parallel)
Strength class (EN 338 / EN 1912)	D70 (grading: BS 5756 HS / NEN 5493 C3 STH)
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).