

JATOBA

Version 2

STANDARD TRADE NAME	Jatoba
BOTANICAL NAMES	Hymenaea Courbaril
DISTRIBUTION	Throughout Central America and the West Indies to northern Brazil, Bolivia and Peru.
COLOUR	Heartwood is salmon red to orange brown when fresh; becoming russet to reddish brown when seasoned, often marked with dark streaks. Sapwood is grey or pink.
GRAIN	Texture is medium to rather coarse; grain mostly interlocked; golden luster; without distinctive odor or taste
CHARACTERISTICS	May grow to a height of 40M with trunk diameters of 1.5-1.8M, usually less than 30M high with diameters of 600mm-1.2M. Boles are well formed, often clear for 12-28M and basally swollen or buttressed in large trees.
WEIGHT	Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.71 to 0.82; * Air-dry density 833-977M.
DURABILITY	Class 1 durable. Resistant to brown-rot and white-rot fungi; actual field exposure trials also rate the wood as durable. Heartwood is also rated very resistant to dry-wood termites; little resistance to marine borers.
SEASONING	Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 4.5%; tangential 8.5%; volumetric 12.7% - values are low for a wood of this density.
PRESERVATION	Heartwood is not treatable using open-tank or pressure-vacuum systems. Sapwood, however, is responsive.
WORKING PROPERTIES	The wood is moderately difficult to saw and machine largely because of its high density, but except in planning it can be machined to a smooth surface. The wood has occasional interlocked grain – care is required. It is easy to glue and finish satisfactorily, steam-bending properties comparable to white oak.
USES	Decking, flooring, furniture and cabinet work, Tool handles and other applications where good shock resistance is needed, steam-bent parts, turnery, railroad crossties, tree nails, gear cogs, wheel rims and other specialty items.

Disclaimer:

JSC has endeavoured to ensure this information is accurate but recommends that for critical applications independent advice is obtained. These properties are only a guide, as timber is a natural product there will be variations within any species.

* Air dry density (kg/m³) is average indication only and actual value may vary

This information may be updated at any time.

Profiles, fixing details and documentation available by request at

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