



Taun – *Pometia pinnata*

Other Names: Akwa, Tava, Ahabu

Region of Origin: Solomon Islands

SPECIES OVERVIEW:

Taun heartwood colour is pink-brown maturing to a dull reddish-brown with age. The grain is usually straight but sometimes interlocked or with a regular wave.

MAIN USES:

A medium density hardwood with a large range of applications from structural work to joinery, furniture, cabinets, flooring and heavy construction – it may require treatment for high hazard applications. It has particular application in New Zealand for hardwood door cores in the manufacture of fire doors.

WORKING PROPERTIES:

Machines satisfactorily, good gluing and nailing properties although splitting may occur. It finishes well and is a good bending timber. Non-siliceous.

MECHANICAL PROPERTIES:

Taun is a medium density hardwood that is moderately hard and strong with excellent steam bending properties.

AVAILABILITY:

Specifications stocked at Rosenfeld Kidson are: Sawn 40mm and 50mm thicknesses in varying fixed widths.

GRADING:

Select.

DENSITY (kg/m ³)*:	710
DURABILITY:	Moderately durable

STRENGTH GROUP:	SD4
MOR (MPa):	113
MOE(GPa):	13.5
JANKA(kN):	5.5

SHRINKAGE GREEN TO 12% M.C.	Tangential	Radial
	7.0	5.0

*Air Dry Density (kg/m³) is average indication only and actual value may vary. Refer to timber properties tables over page for strength, shrinkage and durability classifications.



STRENGTH GROUPINGS:

Minimum values for strength groups (unseasoned timber)			
<i>(units are Mpa = 145 lb/sq.inch)</i>			
Strength group	Modulus of rupture	Modulus of elasticity	Maximum crushing strength
S1	103	16300	52
S2	76	14200	43
S3	73	12400	36
S4	62	10700	31
S5	52	9100	26
S6	43	7900	22
S7	36	6900	18

Minimum values for strength groups (seasoned timber)			
<i>(units are Mpa = 145 lb/sq.inch)</i>			
Strength group	Modulus of rupture	Modulus of elasticity	Maximum crushing strength
SD1	150	21500	80
SD2	130	18500	70
SD3	110	16000	61
SD4	94	14000	54
SD5	78	12500	47
SD6	65	10500	41
SD7	55	9100	36
SD8	45	7900	30

SHRINKAGE CLASSIFICATIONS:

Description of shrinkage	Shrinkage from Green to Oven-dry (12% MC)	
	(% before reconditioning)	
	Tangential	Radial
Very low	0 - 3.5	0 - 2
Low	3.5 - 5.0	2 - 3
Medium	5.0 - 6.5	3 - 4
High	6.5 - 8.0	4 - 5
Very high	> 8.0	> 5

DURABILITY CLASSIFICATIONS:

Grade of durability	Approximate service life (years)		
	Fully protected	Above ground, exposed	In-ground, exposed
Very durable	>50	>40	>25
Durable	>50	15-40	15-25
Moderately durable	>50	7-15	5-15
Non-durable	>50	0-7	0-5