



Iroko – *chlorophora excelsa*

OTHER NAMES: Odum, Kambala

REGION OF ORIGIN: West Africa



GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Iroko is golden orange to brown, lighter vessel lines are conspicuous on flat sawn surfaces. Colour darkens with age. The grain is interlocked and sometimes irregular and the texture rather coarse but even. Iroko is sourced with independent FSC certification.

MAIN USES

Boatbuilding, interior and exterior joinery, outdoor furniture and as a substitute for teak.

WORKING PROPERTIES

The timber works satisfactorily with hand and machine tools but with a moderate to severe blunting effect. The wood nails and screws well, glues satisfactorily and when the grain is filled an excellent finish can be obtained.

Although severe reactions are quite uncommon, Iroko has been reported as a sensitiser. Usually most common reactions simple include eye, skin and respiratory irritation.

MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

This medium density wood has a moderate steam bending classification, with medium crushing strength, very low stiffness and resistance to shock loads.

AVAILABILITY

Specifications stocked at Rosenfeld Kidson are: kiln-dried sawn 25mm, 40mm, 50mm and 75mm thicknesses in mixed widths.

GRADING

Select.

DENSITY (kg/m3)*:

673

DURABILITY:

Very Durable

STRENGTH GROUP:

SD6

MOR (MPa):

Unseasoned
70.3

Seasoned
85.5

MOE(GPa):

Unseasoned
8.9

Seasoned
10.1

JANKA(kN):

5.6

SHRINKAGE GREEN TO 12% M.C.

Tangential

Radial

5.4

3.5

*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.

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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

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