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LOURO PRETO

Source

FSC Louro preto is available in large quantities in the forests of the Amazon region of Brazil. There are only limited dimensions available in sawn wood.

Appearance

The colour of the heartwood is very variable from light yellow to brown with irregular darker zones and spots. Sometimes ingrown bark or small knots can be found. The sapwood is greyish to yellowish white and normally it can be distinguished easily. The wood has a remarkable lustre and pleasant smell. The grain is mainly straight but sometimes wavy or interlocked. The texture is medium fine and results in the typical nice appearance of Louro preto.

Working properties

Machining of Louro preto is easy, resulting in a nice and smooth surface. Hard metal tools are advised, but not necessary. There could be a small blunting effect on the tools. Pre-drilling is recommended. Louro preto could be finished with standard wood coatings, but we advise to use oil/stain products for cladding. There is not much experience with gluing, but initial tests for lamination are showing good results. Wood till a thickness of 33 mm dries quickly, but thicker sizes are very difficult to dry defect-free.

Use

The special texture, colour variation and lustre makes Louro preto a popular species in the European market and it is often used in building projects for cladding and decking. In addition, it is also used for children's playground equipment, garden timber and park benches.

Technical properties

Green density 960 kg/m³

Density (at 12%) 700 kg/m³

Shrinkage green – oven dry 2,9% radial; 6,6% tangential

Shrinkage green – 65% RH (abt. 12% EMC) 1,0% radial; 2,4% tangential

Swelling between 50-90% RH 1,1% radial; 2,4% tangential

Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) 12,9% (at 65% RH water adsorption)

13,3% (at 65% RH water desorption)

17,5% (at 95% RH water adsorption)

Durability according to ENV 807 (with soil contact) Heartwood class 1

Bending strength, MOR (defect free samples) 107 N/mm²

Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples) 15.750 N/mm²

Shear strength (defect free samples) 12,9-16,8 N/mm²

Janka hardness 4.900 N (parallel)

• The figures in this table are mainly indicative, unless a specific standard is mentioned, which provides exact figures.