



**Timber Team International A/S**  
Naverland 2  
2600 Glostrup  
Denmark

tel: +45 4344 3044  
fax: +45 4344 2255

all@timberteam.com  
www.timberteam.com



## Afzelia / Apa / Doussie

Afzelia spp.

Family: Leguminosae

**Other Common Names:** Doussie (Cameroons), Apa, Aligna (Nigeria), Mkora, Mkola, Mbambakofi (Tanzania), Chanfuta, Mussacossa (Mozambique), Beyo, Meli, Azza (Uganda).

**Distribution:** West, Central, and East Africa. Occur in the dense evergreen forests but also common in the savanna and coastal forests of East Africa.

**The Tree:** Reaches best development on moist sites with heights of 80 to 120 ft and clear boles 30 to 50 ft; trunk diameters 3 to 5 ft and more; large irregular buttresses sometimes present.

### The Wood:

**General Characteristics:** Heartwood reddish brown after exposure; sapwood pale straw to whitish, well defined. Texture moderate to coarse; grain straight to interlocked; medium luster; without characteristic odor or taste. Some pores contain a yellow dyestuff which, under moist conditions, can discolor textiles, paper, or other cellulosic materials.

**Weight:** Basic specific gravity (oven-dry weight/green volume) 0.67; air-dry density 51 pcf.

Janka side hardness 1,770-1,850 lb for dry material.

**Drying and Shrinkage:** Seasons satisfactorily but slowly with little or no degrade. Kiln schedule T6-D2 is suggested for 4/4 stock and T3-D1 for 8/4. Shrinkage green 12% moisture content: radial 1.0%; tangential 1.5%. Movement in service is rated as small.

**Working Properties:** Rather difficult to saw and machine because of rapid dulling of saw teeth and cutters but works to a smooth finish; some tearing of grain on radial faces. Difficult to stain where pores contain yellow deposits. Classified moderate in wood bending properties. Dust may be irritating. Difficult to glue.

**Durability:** Heartwood is rated as very durable and moderately resistant to termite attack; sapwood liable to attack by powderpost beetles. In East African waters, teredo are slow to attack and develop. Pholad attack is more rapid.

**Preservation:** Extremely resistant to preservative treatments; sapwood reported to be moderately resistant.

**Uses:** Exterior joinery (window frames, doors), flooring, heavy construction including harbor and dock work, furniture, because of good acid resistance used for vats and tanks.

Re-produced by **Timber Team International A/S** with permission from :

*Technology Transfer Fact Sheet*



**Center for Wood Anatomy Research**

USDA Forest Service • Forest Products Laboratory • One Gifford Pinchot Drive • Madison, Wisconsin 53726-2398