



LOURO GAMELA

Source

FSC Louro gamela (also known as Red louro) is available in the forests of Precious Woods, located in the Amazon region of Brazil. The large trees attain diameters upto 120 cm, with a straight and cylindrical shape. It is possible to produce larger dimensions.

Appearance

The heartwood has a beige color with a yellow to brown shade, hardly darkening after exposure. The yellow white sapwood can be distinguished easily. It has a pleasant (sweet) odour and a moderate to golden lustre. The grain is mainly straight, and now and then wavy and interlocked. The texture is medium fine. Louro gamela has a greasy touch, due to a wax content, which provides Louro gamela with its excellent properties. In the Netherlands, Louro gamela is approved for certified joinery (KOMO).

Processing properties

Machining of Louro gamela goes excellent. With sharp tools a smooth surface can be achieved. The sawdust of Louro gamela can sometimes cause an allergic reaction. Pre-drilling is recommended (self-drilling screws excepted). The results for gluing (also for finger jointing) and finishing are good and in accordance with the guidelines of KOMO for certified joinery. Drying of thin dimensions goes quickly, with a risk of collapse. Dimensions above 33 mm requires a lot of craftsmanship, and above 52 mm it is not possible to dry Louro gamela defect free.

Application

This medium heavy and easy to utilise heartwood is used in several exterior applications for many years. E.g. garden furniture, cladding (substitute for western red cedar), constructions, park benches and boardwalks. It is also used for mouldings and window frames and doors. Especially in the garden wood sector, it is a valuable substitute for Bangkirai.

Technical properties

Green density	700 – 1.000 kg/m ³
Density (at 12%)	550 - 600 kg/m ³
Shrinkage green – oven dry	4,1% radial; 8,2% tangential
Shrinkage green – 65% RH (abt. 12% EMC)	1,6% radial; 4,0% tangential
Swelling between 50-94% RH	1,4% radial; 3,1% tangential
Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC)	11,6% (at 65% RH water adsorption) 22,7% (at 94% RH water adsorption)
Fibre Saturation Point (FSP)	29%
Durability according EN 350:2016	Heartwood class 2
Bending strength, MOR (defect free samples)	81 N/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples)	14.170 N/mm ²
Shear strength (defect free samples)	6,7 N/mm ²
Janka hardness	2.630 N (transversal); 2.950 N (parallel)
Chemical composition	Cellulose: 42,1%; Hemicellulose: 19,9%; Lignine: 38%
<i>The figures in this table are mainly indicative, unless a specific standard is mentioned, which provides exact figures.</i>	

References:

This information is based on research (mainly independent) and experience of Precious Woods Europe BV, (semi-) scientific literature and the (Dutch) Houtvademecum (10th edition 2010).