



LOURO PRETO

Source

FSC Louro preto is available in the forests of Precious Woods, located in the Amazon region of Brazil. There are only limited dimensions available in sawn wood.

Appearance

The color of the heartwood is 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.

Processing 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. The GluGreen® Technology could successfully be applied to green sawn timber. Wood till a thickness of 33 mm dries quickly, but thicker sizes are difficult to dry defect-free.

Application

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/m ³
Density (at 12%)	700 kg/m ³
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/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity, MOE (defect free samples)	15.750 N/mm ²
Shear strength (defect free samples)	12,9-16,8 N/mm ²
Janka hardness	4.900 N (parallel)
<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, (semi-) scientific literature and the (Dutch) Houtvademecum (10th edition 2010).