

Common name:	CHICHA
Family:	STERCULIACEAE
Scientific name(s):	Sterculia apetala Sterculia caribaea Sterculia pruriens Sterculia rugosa

LOG DESCRIPTION		WOOD DESCRIPTION	
Diameter:	from 60 to 90 cm	Colour:	Light brown
Thickness of sapwood:	from 4 to 6 cm	Sapwood:	Not clearly demarcated
Floats:	no	Texture:	Coarse
Durability in forest :	Low (must be treated)	Grain:	Straight
		Interlocked grain:	Absent

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES			MECHANICAL PROPERTIES		
Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.					
	mean	standard deviation		mean	standard deviation
Density *:	0.64 g/cm ³	0.06			
Monnin hardness*:	2.3	0.3	Crushing strength *:	54 MPa	6
Coef of volumetric shrinkage:	0.58 %	0.06	Static bending strength *:	93 MPa	9
Total tangential shrinkage:	10.1 %	1.2	Modulus of elasticity *:	15690 MPa	1250
Total radial shrinkage:	5.0 %	0.7			
Fibre saturation point:	34 %				
Stability:	Poorly stable		(* : at 12 % moisture content ; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm ²)		

NATURAL DURABILITY AND TREATABILITY

Fungi and termite resistance refers to end-uses under temperate climate.

Except for special comments on sapwood, natural durability is based on mature heartwood.

Sapwood must always be considered as non-durable against wood degrading agents.

Fungi:	Class 5 - not durable	* ensured by natural durability (according EN standards).
Dry wood borers:	Susceptible; sapwood not or slightly demarcated (risk in all the wood)	
Termites:	Class S - Susceptible	
Treatability:	1 - easily permeable	
Use class*:	1 - inside (no dampness)	

MAIN LOCAL NAMES

Countries	Local names	Countries	Local names
Bolivia	MANI	Venezuela	MAYAGUA
Brazil	ACHICHA		
Brazil	CHICHA		
Brazil	TACACAZEIRO		
Colombia	CAMAJURA		
Cuba	ANACAGUITA		
Ecuador	CACAO DE MOTE		
Ecuador	SAPOTE		
Ecuador	SAPUT		
Ecuador	ZAPOTE		
French Guiana	KOBE		
Guyana	MAHO		
Peru	HUARMI-CASPI		
Peru	ZAPOTE SILVESTRE		
Porto-Rico	ANACAGUITA		
Surinam	JAHOBALLI		
Surinam	KOBEHE		
Surinam	OKRO-OEDOE		
Trinidad and Tobago	MAHOE		
Venezuela	CAMORUCO		

CHICHA

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks:	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
In case of temporary humidification risk:	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
In case of permanent humidification risk:	Use not recommended

DRYING

Drying rate:	Normal
Risk of distortion:	High risk
Risk of casehardening:	No
Risk of checking:	High risk
Risk of collapse:	No

Note: A moderate drying speed reduces defects.

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect:	Normal
Sawteeth recommended:	Ordinary or alloy steel
Cutting tools:	Ordinary
Peeling:	Good
Slicing:	Good
Note:	Fuzzy surface. To obtain a good finish, sharp cutters are recommended.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing / Screwing:	Good
Gluing:	Correct

END-USES

Main known end-uses; they must to be implemented according to the code of practice.

Important remark: some end-uses are mentionned for information (traditional, regional or ancient end-uses).

Note: Wood also used for the fabrication of coffins.

Veneer for interior of plywood
Veneer for back or face of plywood
Fiber or particle boards
Blockboard
Interior joinery
Boxes and crates
Pulp
Formwork
Interior panelling
Light carpentry
Current furniture or furniture components
Sliced veneer
Flooring
Seats
