Family: Apocynaceae

Vernacular names:
Guyana: Shibadan
Brazil: Araracanga, Maparana
French Guiana: Bois macaye
Suriname: Kromanti kopi

Distribution: The Guianas

Tree description:
Length of the bole: 18-21m; height of tree: 25-40m
Diameter: 0.5-0.8m
Shape of log: cylindrical or slightly flattened; base unbuttressed

Wood description:
Sapwood: distinct, light grayish brown
Heartwood: orange yellow to yellow brown at times with reddish or pinkish tinge
Grain: straight sometimes irregular or roey
Texture: rather fine to medium

Technological characteristics:
Physical properties: A. cuentum A. album
Green density (g/cm3) 1.06 -
Air-dry density at 12% (g/cm3) 0.95 0.91
Basic specific gravity 0.75 0.79
Total tangential shrinkage (%) 9.7 9.8
Total radial shrinkage (%) 6.8 6.2
Total volumetric shrinkage (%) 18.5 -

Mechanical properties: A. cuentum A. album
Bending strength at 12% (N/mm2) 174 176
Modulus of elasticity at 12% (N/mm2) 24810 19560
Crushing strength at 12% (N/mm2) 89 93

Processing:
Sawing: power required
Drying: not difficult
to air-season use a moderate rate
to avoid checks for species in the Araracanga group use U.S. Kiln
schedule T7-B3 for 25-38 mm (4/4 to 6/4) stock
Machining: not difficult
Nailing: pre-boring necessary, poor holding of nails
Finishing: good

Natural durability:
Resistance to decay: moderate to very good
Resistance to termites: poor to moderate
Resistance to insects of dry wood: good

Treatability: poor to moderate

Uses: flooring; interior trim; furniture; general carpentry; turnery; carving