

Utile (Entandrophragma utile)

TRADE NAME

Sipo

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Entandrophragma utile Sprague

FAMILY

MELIACEAE

COMMON NAMES

Sipo (Côte d'Ivoire); Sipo-Mahagony (Germany); Kalungi (Zaire); Undianuno; Tsimaié tshibu; Tshimaie n`shibu; Timbi; Sapele mahogany; Muyovu; Mufumbi mahogany; Mfumbi; Mebrou; M`vovo; Libuyu; Feather sapele; Efuobrodidwo; Efuokkonti; Efuchyewee; Budongo heavy mahogany; Bokoi; Akuk; Afrobrodiju; Kosi-kosi (Gabon); Assie (Cameroon); Okeong (Nigeria); Efuodwe (Ghana); Sipo-mahagoni (Germany); Utile (United Kingdom); Mufumbi (Uganda); Kalungi (Angola); Liboyo (Zaire); Assi (Gabon); Abebay (Equatorial Guinea); Asseng-assie (Cameroon); Utile (Nigeria); Utile (Ghana); Sipo

SCIENTIFIC NAME SYNONYMS

Pseudocedrella utilis Dawe & Sprague; Pseudocedrela utilis Dawe & Sprague; Entandrophragma roburoides Vermoes.; Entandrophragma macrocarpum A. Chev.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TREE

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The tree grows to a height of more than 50 m, with trunk diameter above up to 200 cm. The bole is straight, cylindrical and clear to 32 m, occasionally fluted. Log is banned for international trading.(Cameroon)

NATURAL HABITAT

Entandrophragma utile grows in moist deciduous primary forests, dry subtypes and transitional formations. There are protected populations and felling limits in various countries. National conservation status in Cote d'Ivoire V, Liberia E.

NATURAL DISTRIBUTION

West and Central Africa.

PLANTATIONS AVAILABLE?

It is a long rotation species for plantation. Best results are obtained in evergreen dense forests in comparison with plantations in semi-deciduous forest.

COLOR

The sapwood is pinkish white, it has a thickness of 2 to 6 cm. The heartwood is red brown, slightly purplish, it is clearly demarcated. The silver figure is medium.

COLOR INDEX (1=BLACK, 7=LIGHT YELLOW,WHITE)

GRAIN

The grain is slightly but systematically interlocked; special care is needed when drying because of frequent risks of distortion.

TEXTURE

Texture is reported to be fine to medium.

LUSTER

It is reported to be moderate in luster.

NATURAL DURABILITY

Because of its variable resistance it is considered as moderately durable to decay. Without treatment, it can be used when risks of occasional re-humidification; it is not suited for uses with risks of permanent or long-lasting humidification. Moderately

NATURAL DURABILITY INDEX (1= VERY HIGH DURABILITY, 7=VEY LOW DURABILITY)

4

INTERNAL GROWTH STRESSES

Residual growth stresses are absent.

SILICA CONTENT

Silica Content: Negligible contents of silica are found in timber of this species. Amounts over 0.05% may affect the wood processing. Silica Value: 0.02

RESISTANCE TO IMPREGNATION

Nearly impossible to treat with a too much low penetration of the preservative substances.