Omu (Entandrophragma candollei)

TRADE NAME
Kosipo

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Entandrophragma candollei Harms

FAMILY
MELIACEAE

COMMON NAMES
Kosipo (Côte d`Ivoire); Kosipo-mahogany (Germany); Unscented mahogany; Tshimaye rouge; Tshimaie tshikunze; Sapele-heavy; Pepedom; Penkwa; Okpoloco; Lifaki mpembe; Heavy sapele; Heavy mahogany; Esaka; Diamuni; Bouboussou rouge; Atom assie; Atom; Omu (United Kingdom); Kosipo-mahogani (Germany); Lifuco (Angola); Impompo (Zaire); Atom-assie (Cameroon); Heavy sapelle (Nigeria); Omu (Nigeria); Penkwa-akowaa (Ghana); Candollei (Ghana); Kosipo

SCIENTIFIC NAME SYNONYMS
Entandrophragma ferrugineum A. Chev.; Entandrophragma choriandrum Harms in Mildbr.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TREE

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION
It is a large tree, sometimes of more than 50 m tall. The bole is cylindrical, straight and clear to 32 m in length. The trunk diameter is up to 230 cm, buttressed to a height of about 3 m.

NATURAL HABITAT

Entandrophragma candollei is found in evergreen, moist and transitional forests.

NATURAL DISTRIBUTION

In West Africa, from Angola to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

COLOR

The sapwood is whitish to pale brown, it has a thickness of 5 to 7.5 cm. The heartwood is brown to dark purple brown, it is clearly demarcated. The silver figure is fine.

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

2

GRAIN

Straight or slightly interlocked, sometimes with an influence on further processing operations.

TEXTURE

Texture is usually fine to medium.

LUSTER

The wood surface is described as low 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

No growth stresses are reported in this species.

SILICA CONTENT

Silica Content: Presence of silica is reported in timber of this species. Amounts over 0.05% may affect the wood processing. Silica Value: 0.21

RESISTANCE TO IMPREGNATION

Difficult to treat with only a low penetration of the preservative products.