

Piquia Marfim

Durability class	Class 1.
Specific gravity	Fresh 1100-1200 kg/m3. At 12% moisture content 850-950 kg/m3.
Colour	The colour of Piquia Marfim wood is orange brown, light brown to light pinkish red.
Applications	Piquia marfim is suitable as construction wood, for decking, furniture, wooden posts, decking, turning, (parquet) floors, fencing and interior frames.
Strength class	D45.
Hardness	10000 N Janka.
Grain	Straight or cross-thread, or even an irregular thread.
Timber texture	Fine to moderately coarse.
Stability	Unknown.
Drying	Thin wood dries slowly with a slight tendency to form head cracks and moderate to severe tendency to warp. With thicker Piquia marfim wood, a lot of cracking occurs during drying.
Workability	Considering the density, this type of wood is not difficult to machine. It has a moderate dulling effect on cutting tools. Due to the crosshair there is a risk of indentation, but with a correct cutting angle a smooth surface can be obtained. The wood can also be lathed and sanded well.
Details	The sapwood is somewhat lighter in colour than the heartwood, but is sometimes difficult to distinguish. The heartwood has a slightly bitter taste, but no noticeable odour.
Screwing/nailing	Difficult, pre-drilling is necessary.
Finishing of surface	Good. Moderately good to create a smooth finish.
Botanical name	Aspidosperma desmanthum
Origin area	Piquia Marfim hardwood grows in tropical Central America and South America.
Other names	Araracanga, kromanti kopi (Surinam).
Quality requirements	Piquia marfim is listed in the NEN 5493 'Quality requirements for hardwood in earth, road and hydraulic engineering works and other construction applications.
Remarks	The Piquia Marfim trees reach up to 20-45 m with a diameter up to 90 cm. The trunks are 15-25 meters long.
Family	Apocynaceae