

Heavy Section Hardwood Beams, Poles & Piles

Sustainably milled Greenheart & Purpleheart

BBS Timbers now stock an excellent range of the Hardwoods that may be worthy of consideration for your next project. These timbers have outstanding durability when used for the right application.

HARDWOOD PILES



Standard sizes Ex stock Greenheart

300 x 75
300 x 150
150 x 350
225 x 350
100 x 300
Lengths to 8m



Standard sizes Ex stock Purpleheart

150 x 50
200 x 50
300 x 50
200 x 75
300 x 75
200 x 100
300 x 100
Lengths to 8m

Custom cut orders can be processed with a lead time of about 4 months

Technical information on reverse.
For further information contact us at:



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GREENHEART

Scientific name:- *Ocotea rodiaei*

A.T.I.B.T. Standard name:- Greenheart

Other name:- Sipiroe

General description:- Light greenish yellow to dark olive-green, sometimes marked with brown or black streaks. Sapwood pale yellow in colour, shading gradually into the heartwood. Texture fine and even. Grain straight or interlocked. Bole 50-80 feet long, cylindrical; diameter 20-35 inches.



Mechanical properties:- Has exceptionally high strength properties even when its weight is taken into account. Weight about 1030kg/m³ (64lb/ft³) seasoned. Bending strength 181 N/mm² (26200 lbg/in²). Compression parallel to grain 89.9 N/mm² (3040 lbg/in²)

Distribution:- Found in commercial quantities only in the Guyana forest. Regular and large supplies are readily available.

Working properties:- Dries very slowly with minor degrade, particularly in the thicker sizes. Distortion is not serious, but checking and splitting may occur. Kiln schedule B. Easily sawn, in spite of a slight blunting effect. Turns well. Planning is not difficult despite the high density of the wood and interlocked grain. Easy gluing. Pre-boring is recommended for nails and screws. Good nail holding. Staining rarely necessary. Polishes satisfactory.

Durability:- Almost immune to decay and termites, highly resistant to marine organism and fire. Extremely resistant to preservative treatment.

Uses:- A very heavy, hard timber, suitable for use under exacting conditions, outstanding in most of its strength properties, and of very high durability and having excellent resistance to attack by marine borers. Available in very large sizes and long lengths, and is therefore suitable for piling, piers, lock gates, dock and harbour work. Useful for pier decking and hand rails, flooring, and in the engineering industry as bearers for engines. Gives good service in chemical plants for vats, filter press plates and frames. Suitable for joinery in both exterior and interior situations, and used also for fishing rods and as centre laminates for longbows and general construction.

PURPLEHEART

Other names:- amaranth, violetwood(USA), koroboreli, saka, sakavalli(Guyana), purplehart(Surinam), pau roxo, nazareno, morado(Venezuela) tananeo(Columbia).

Distribution:- Central America and tropical South America.

General Description:- The heartwood is a deep purple-violet colour when freshly cut, maturing to a dark brown. The original colour is restored when re-cut. Straight grained, but often irregular, wavy, and sometimes interlocked, producing a pleasing striped figure on quartered surfaces. Texture moderate to fine. Weight varies from 800-1000kg/m³ (50-63lb/ft³) averaging 860kg/m³ (54lb/ft³), specific gravity .86.



Mechanical properties:- High strength in bending, stiffness and crushing categories and medium resistance to shock loads, with a moderate steam bending classification. Bending (fb) 62.77. Compression parallel (fc) 51.21. Tension parallel (tt) 48.25 Shear in beams (fs) 6.2. Compression perpendicular (fp) 15.5. Modulus of Elasticity E(Gpa) 16.55.

Distribution:- Dries fairly rapidly with little degrade, but care is needed to dry out the centre of thick pieces. Air drying is slow, with some end and surface checking or case hardening. There is small movement in service.

Working properties:- It is rather difficult to work, with moderate to severe blunting effect on tools. It exudes gummy resin when heated by dull cutters and the material is best run slowly through machines equipped with high speed steel knives. The wood turns well and smoothly. Pre-bore for nailing, glues without difficulty and stains and wax polishes easily. Spirit finishes remove the purple colour.

Durability:- Very durable. Sapwood liable to attack by powder post beetle. Extremely resistant to preservative treatment but the sapwood is permeable.

Uses:- Purpleheart is used for heavy construction work, bridge building, fresh water piling, dock work, cladding, house construction and vats. Excellent for flooring and very suitable for gymnasium equipment, shafts, tool handles, boat building, turnery, furniture and billiard tables. Also as decorative veneers for inlaying and marquetry work, etc. Best colour from saw-cut, as steaming affects the soluble phonicoin content.