

Azobé

Lophira alata / species information

Native to lowland forests in Central and Western Africa, Azobé timber is appreciated for its strength and suitability in marine and heavy construction projects.

A tall tree, it is not unusual to see an Azobé reaching 50 metres, with very few branches until around 30 metres high. When freshly sawn, the timber is a red-brown hue. With exposure to light and air, this deepens to an attractive dark chocolate brown with a hint of purple. Deposits of white or yellow silica also give it a unique speckled appearance, similar to Kwila.

At Hermpac, we are confident to endorse Azobé as a quality hardwood, particularly for use as posts, beams and boardwalks across New Zealand. We have also carefully scrutinized our suppliers and chosen to work exclusively with those carrying the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification.

The FSC label is internationally recognised as the most rigorous environmental and social standard for responsible forest management, giving our clients a measure of assurance when choosing Azobé.



Premium timbers that don't cost the earth

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Auckland 0753
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Wellington
160 Gracefield Rd, Seaview.
PO Box 38-123, Wellington Mail Centre,
Lower Hutt 5045
p. 04 586 9674 f. 04 586 9675

Christchurch
27 Nga Mahi Road, Sockburn.
PO Box 8822, Riccarton,
Christchurch 8440
p. 03 341 2163 f. 03 341 2173

Products / Azobé

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Azobé is used in a range of applications such as bridge constructions, commercial boardwalks, jetties, exterior sound barriers, stables and piles. With availability in epic cross-sections and lengths of up to 9 metres, it is fast becoming a versatile option. While incredibly dense with an interlocked grain, Hermpac is achieving excellent machining results and welcome a chance to discuss the merits of this species with you.

Commercial Decking and Boardwalks

Along with looking robust and striking as a boardwalk, Azobé boasts a high resistance to surface impact and exceptional life span (Class 1 durability). There are many options to explore, from the ever popular Watershed profile through to Promenade profiles with safety strips.

Posts and Beams

Commercial clients recognise Azobé's suitability for a wide range of heavy-duty uses, including industrial beams, rafters and structural posts. With dimensions reaching up to 500 x 500, matched with endurance against the harshest climates, this timber is an excellent choice.

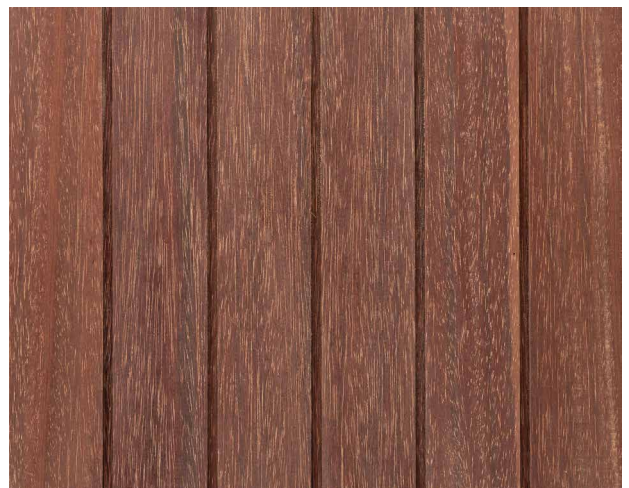
Technical Information

Hermpac Common Name	Azobé
Scientific Name	Lophira alata
Common Names	Ekki, Bongossi
Regions Of Distribution	West Africa
Heartwood Colour	Dark chocolate to dark reddish brown. Pores contain light-coloured mineral streak
Sapwood Colour	Pale pinkish white, with a gradual transition zone between the heartwood and sapwood
Grades	Select & Better
Sizes	up to 500 x 500
Lengths	up to 5.7m longer lengths available on request
Visual Grain	Light, Indistinct
Natural Durability	Class 1*
Radial Shrinkage (Green To 12% Mc)	8.4%
Tangential Shrinkage (Green To 12% Mc)	11%

Mechanical Properties

	Green	Dry (12% Mc)
Modulus of Rupture ^(MPa)	116	168
Janka ^(kN)		14.3
Max Crushing Strength ^(MPa)	65.6	86.9
Shearing Strength ^(MPa)	14.1	20.4
Modulus of Elasticity ^(GPa)	14.9	17
Specific Gravity ^(kg/m³)	820	940
Weight ^(kg/m³)	1200	1060

Sample



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* The heartwood of an individual piece of timber may vary from the species nominated classification.