

• TIMBER SPECIES DATASHEET •

AYOUS

(Obeche)



★ Wood Type	Hardwood
★ Durability	Class 4 - Not durable
★ Average Service Life	5-10 years (without treatment)
★ Treatability	Easily treatable
★ Moisture Movement	Low
★ Density (mean, Kg/m³)	300-400
★ Texture	Fine
★ Use(s)	Plywood, Interior Joinery, Carvings, Moldings
★ Colour(s)	Pale to light yellow

Environmental

Ayous wood, also known as Obeche or Samba, is generally considered sustainable and not listed on the IUCN Red List. It is typically available from well-managed sources. As with any wood, it is important to verify the certification status with suppliers to ensure responsible harvesting.

The Tree

Ayous trees are medium-sized with heights ranging from 30 to 40 meters. They have a straight, cylindrical trunk with minimal buttressing and produce simple, alternate leaves. The tree is valued for its timber rather than its fruit or other products.

Drying

Ayous wood is relatively easy to dry with minimal risk of defects or deformation. It can be successfully dried with proper control of the drying process.

Working Qualities

Ayous wood is easy to work with due to its lightweight and fine, straight grain. It machines, cuts, and sands smoothly, making it an excellent choice for woodworking projects. It is also receptive to stains and finishes.

Distribution

Ayous wood is native to West and Central Africa, with countries such as Cameroon, Gabon, and Nigeria being primary sources. The Ayous tree is known for its light, easily workable timber, which is used for various purposes.

The Timber

Ayous wood is pale to light yellow in color, often with a uniform appearance. It has a fine texture and a straight grain. The wood is lightweight and easy to work with, making it a popular choice for various applications.

Strength

Ayous wood is not as strong as some hardwoods but is appreciated for its ease of workability. It is suitable for applications where strength is not the primary requirement.