

• TIMBER SPECIES DATASHEET •

DABEMA

(*Piptadeniastrum africanum*)



★ Wood Type	Hardwood
★ Durability: Class 1	Class 1 – Very durable
★ Average Service Life	25+ years (without treatment)
★ Treatability	Moderately difficult
★ Moisture Movement	Moderate
★ Density (mean, Kg/m³)	650–750
★ Texture	Fine
★ Use(s)	Fine Furniture, Cabinetry, Flooring, Millwork
★ Colour(s)	Pale to dark brown with an attractive grain pattern

Environmental

Dabema wood, also known as "Dabema" or "African Walnut," is generally not listed on the IUCN Red List. However, responsible sourcing and certification status should be verified with suppliers to ensure sustainability and responsible harvesting.

The Tree

Dabema trees are medium-sized to large, often reaching heights of 30 to 40 meters. They have straight, cylindrical trunks with minimal buttressing and produce simple, alternate leaves. The tree's wood is the primary focus, and it is not known for other products or uses.

Drying

Dabema wood can be challenging to dry, especially when it comes to avoiding defects like warping or checking. Careful drying practices are essential to minimize these issues.

Working Qualities

Dabema wood is moderately difficult to work with due to its interlocked grain, which can lead to tearout. However, with sharp tools and proper techniques, it can be machined, sanded, and finished to achieve a beautiful, polished surface. It takes stains and finishes well, producing an elegant appearance.

Distribution

Dabema wood is primarily found in West and Central Africa, with countries like Cameroon, Gabon, and the Democratic Republic of Congo being significant sources. The Dabema tree is valued for its high-quality timber.

The Timber

Dabema wood is known for its attractive, pale to dark brown color with a fine, even texture and a straight grain. The wood is moderately heavy and is valued for its strength and durability.

Strength

Dabema wood is appreciated for its strength and durability. It is a robust and stable wood that can withstand various stressors, making it suitable for a wide range of applications.