

AKWA SPECIFICATIONS



Common Name(s) : Akwa

Botanical Name : Pometia Pinnata

DISTRIBUTION

Akwa is one of the most common species in the Solomon Island and Papua New Guinea, grows to height of about 115' – 147' with a grith of above buttress of up to 12'. The trees can have clear boles up to 82'. Some trees in New Guinea can be larger but the quality is often poor. Over mature big trees sometimes have butt rot. This is an important export species

QUALITY STANDARDS AND GENERAL PROPERTIES

Only moderate end splitting is found in logs which are generally free of blue stain or pinhole borer. Sapwood is susceptible to lyctus. Fairly Coarse textured wood with from straight to strongly interlocked grain. A medium to heavy hardwood. Movement in service is considered low to medium. Akwa is moderately durable and suitable for exterior use if not in contact with the ground. It has good bending characteristics and the log provides clean wide boards. Detailed strength tests have been carried out and Akwa is one of the tougher and stronger commercial timbers of the Solomon's.

Machines and saws along and across the grain like most medium density hardwoods, with a slightly fibrous finish. Care is needed in planning to get smooth results. The wood has a tendency to twist. It turns and bores well with some chip out at exit points. It is brittle to chisel and difficult to handsaw.

TYPICAL END USE APPLICATIONS

Suitable for peeling, making very attractive veneers. A tough versatile timber for construction work, moldings, interior joinery, door and window frames, tool handles, turney, boat planking, beams and joists and flooring.

TECHNICAL DATA

Density	At 12% mc	715 kg/m ³
Shrinkage (Green to 12% mc)	Tangential	High from green
	Radial	Low when seasoned
Durability	Heartwood	Moderately Durable
Stability	Green	Stable
	At 12% mc	Very stable

AVAILABILITY

Relatively common in the area's state