



USDA Forest Service
Forest Products Laboratory
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison, WI 53705-2398
(608) 231-9200

Wood Technical Fact Sheet

Pseudosindora palustris

and Sindora spp.

Sepetir

Family: Leguminosae

Other Common Names: Sindur (Indonesia), Supa, Kayu Galu (Philippines), Makata (Thailand), Gu (Indochina).

Distribution: Malaysia, Indochina, and the Philippines; usually found in the lowlands, locally common.

The Tree: Reaches a height of 100 to 150 ft, straight cylindrical boles; trunk diameters 2 to 4 ft, free of buttresses.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood brown with a pink or golden tinge, darkening on exposure, dark brown or black streaks sometimes present in species of Sindora; sapwood light gray brown or straw colored, sometimes with pink tinge, usually clearly defined. Texture moderately fine and even; grain straight or shallowly interlocked without luster; characteristic spicy smell that persists when dry; wood has an oily feel.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.52 to 0.58; air- dry density 40 to 45 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (First set of data based on the 2-in. standard; second set the 2-cm standard.)

Moisture content Bending strength Modulus of elasticity Maximum crushing strength
(%) (Psi) (1,000 psi) (Psi)

Green (37) 10,300 1,695 5,285

17% 13,330 1,980 6,725

Green (35) 11,700 1,470 5,690

12% 18,100 1,840 9,250

Janka side hardness 930 to 950 lb for green material and 1,170 to 1,410 lb for dry.

Drying and Shrinkage: Seasons well, but rather slowly, with little warp, tendency to end-splitting. Kiln schedule T8-B3 is suggested for 4/4 stock and T5-B1 for 8/4. Shrinkage green to oven-dry: radial 3.7%; tangential 7.0%; volumetric 10.5%. Movement in service is rated as small.

Working Properties: Gum tends to accumulate on the teeth of saws, planes cleanly, rather rapid dulling of cutters, tends to char in boring, difficult to work with handtools, finishes well.

Durability: Rated as nondurable in ground contact under Malayan exposure and not resistant to subterranean or dry-wood termite attack. Sapwood readily attacked by powder-post beetles.

Preservation: Heartwood rated as extremely resistant to preservative treatments; sapwood moderately resistant.

Uses: General carpentry, furniture and cabinetwork, joinery, flooring, plywood, decorative veneers.

Additional Reading: (9), (17), (35), (37)