



Staudtia stipitata* syn. *S. gabonensis

Family: Myristicaceae

Niove

Other Common Names: M'bonda (Cameroon), Niove, M'boun (Gabon), Kamashi, Nkafi (Zaire).

Distribution: Found in Gabon, Cameroon, and the Congo region; occurs in mixed forests, in large stands, as well as secondary forests.

The Tree: Reaches a height of 70 to 100 ft; bole is cylindrical, straight and clear to 60 ft; butt is sometimes swollen; trunk diameter to 3 ft.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood red brown to yellow brown with darker streaks; sapwood 4 in. wide, pale yellow to orange brown. Texture is very fine; grain straight; slightly lustrous and occasionally oily; pepperlike scent.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.75; air-dry density 57 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (2-cm standard)

Moisture content (%)	Bending strength (Psi)	Modulus of elasticity (1,000 psi)	Maximum crushing strength (Psi)
12% (44)	23,500	NA	11,300
12% (46)	25,400	2,300	13,300

Amsler toughness 155 to 272 in.-lb at 12% moisture content (2-cm specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: Seasons slowly and requires care to avoid end checking, little warp. No information on kiln schedules. Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 5.5%; tangential 7.2%; volumetric 12.5%. Movement in service is small.

Working Properties: Timber saws slowly but with little difficulty, tungsten-carbide tipped cutters are suggested; planes with ease to produce a smooth finish, glues satisfactorily. Should be quartersawn. if steamed, suitable for slicing.

Durability: Excellent durability and resistant to termite attack. Excellent weathering properties.

Preservation: Difficult to treat.

Uses: Cabinetwork, joinery, decorative veneers, flooring, turnery.

Additional Reading: (3), (36), (44), (46)

3. Bolza, E., and W. G. Keating. 1972. African timbers-the properties, uses, and characteristics of 700 species. CSIRO. Div. of Build. Res., Melbourne, Australia.
36. France: Revue Bois Appl. 1957. Niove (Staudtia gabonensis). Revue Bois Appl. 12(9/10):32.
44. Sallenave, P. 1955. Proprietes et mecaniques des bois tropicaux de l'union Francaise. Pub. Centre Tech. For. Trop. No. 8.
46. Sallenave, P. 1964. Proprietes physiques et mecaniques des bois tropicaux. Premier Supplement. Centre Tech. For. Trop. No. 23.

From: Chudnoff, Martin. 1984. Tropical Timbers of the World. USDA Forest Service. Ag. Handbook No. 607.