



Piptadenia pittieri

and *P. spp.*

Family: Leguminosae

Carbonero

Other Common Names: Angico preto (Brazil), Cebil, Cebil colorado (Argentina), Curupay-ata (Paraguay).

Distribution: Has a wide distribution in Argentina and is also found in the subtropical and dry forests of Brazil and Paraguay.

The Tree: A medium-sized tree reaching a height of 80 ft with trunk diameters 2 to 3 ft; bole are straight and clear and will yield logs up to 24 ft in length.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood pale brown, darkening on exposure to reddish brown with darker colored, almost black, streaks; sapwood yellow brown or light pink. Texture fine and uniform; grain usually irregular and interlocked; without distinctive odor or taste.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.86; air-dry density pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (2-cm standard)

Moisture content (%)	Bending strength (Psi)	Modulus of elasticity (1,000 psi)	Maximum crushing strength (Psi)
Green (30)	22,200	2,370	10,100
15%	26,900	NA	12,600
12% (42)	29,290	2,595	14,100

Janka side hardness 3,840 lb. Amsler toughness 680 in.-lb at 15% moisture content (2-cm specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: Dries slowly with little warp but does tend to check and split in kiln-drying, particularly in thicker dimensions. Kiln schedule T8-B3 is suggested for 4/4 stock and T5-B1 for 8/4. Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 4.6% tangential 7.6%; volumetric 12.0%. Movement in service is rated as medium.

Working Properties: The timber is difficult to work on account of its hardness, severe blunting effect on cutting edges. In planning a cutting angle of 10 to 15 degrees is suggested to prevent tearing of irregular grain.

Durability: Heartwood is rated as very durable.

Preservation: Extremely resistant to preservative treatments.

Uses: Used for heavy exterior construction and marine work, flooring, railroad crossties, tool handles, turnery. The bark is extracted for its tannin.

Additional Reading: (22), (30), (42), (69)

- 22. Farmer, R. H. (Editor). 1972. Handbook of hardwoods. H. M. Stationery Office, London.
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- 42. Lavers, G. M. 1969. The strength properties of timbers. For. Prod. Res. Bull. No. 50. H. M. Stationery Office. London.
- 69. Tortorelli, L. A. 1956. Maderas y bosques argentinos. Editorial Acme S.A.C.I. Maipu 92, Buenos Aires.

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