

# Sucupira Preta



## Scientific Name(s)

*Bowdichia nitida*  
*Diploptropis martiusii*  
*Diploptropis purpurea*

## Family

FABACEAE (angiosperm)

## Commercial Restriction

No commercial restriction

Sucupira Preta decking is a high-quality and visually appealing outdoor decking material known for its strength, durability, and rich dark brown colour. The wood features a dense grain pattern with varying shades of brown, offering a natural and elegant look to any outdoor space.

Sucupira Preta decking is highly resistant to rot, decay, and insect damage, making it ideal for outdoor use and ensuring its longevity. The wood is also known for its exceptional hardness and durability, making it resistant to scratches, dents, and wear caused by heavy foot traffic.

The natural colour of Sucupira Preta decking can be enhanced and preserved by applying a protective finish. This finish helps protect the wood from UV rays, preventing it from fading or greying over time, and maintains its original beauty for years to come.

## Wood Description

**Color:** dark brown  
**Sapwood:** clearly demarcated  
**Texture:** medium  
**Grain:** straight or interlocked  
**Interlocked grain:** slight

**Note:** Wood dark brown to reddish brown, with lighter thin veins.

## Log Description

**Diameter:** from 40 to 60cm  
**Thickness of sapwood:** from 1 to 2cm  
**Floats:** no  
**Log durability:** moderate (treatment recommended)



## Physical, Mechanical and Acoustic Properties

Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.

**Stability:** moderately stable to poorly stable

**Musical quality factor:** 128,6 measured at 2918 Hz

(\*: at 12% moisture content, with 1 MPa = 1 N/mm<sup>2</sup>)

	Mean	Std dev.
Specific gravity *:	0,91	0,06
Monnin hardness *:	9,4	2,8
Coeff. of volumetric shrinkage:	0,61%	0,08%
Total tangential shrinkage (TS):	7,00%	0,80%
Total radial shrinkage (RS):	4,90%	0,80%
TS/RS ratio:	1,40%	
Fiber saturation point:	24%	
Crushing strength *:	88MPa	10MPa
Static bending strength *:	141MPa	21MPa
Modulus of elasticity *:	22300MPa	3100MPa

## Requirement of a Preservative Treatment

**Against dry wood borer attacks:** does not require any preservative treatment

**In case of risk of temporary humidification:** does not require any preservative treatment

**In case of risk of permanent humidification:** use not recommended

## Natural Durability and Treatability

Fungi and termite resistance refers to end-uses under temperate climate. Except for special comments on sapwood, natural durability is based on mature heartwood. Sapwood must always be considered as non-durable against wood degrading agents.

**E.N.** = Euro Norm

**Funghi (according to E.N. standards):** class 2 - durable  
**Dry wood borers:** durable - sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)

**Termites (according to E.N. standards):** class D - durable

**Treatability (according to E.N. standards):** class 3 - poorly permeable

**Use class ensured by natural durability:** class 3 - not in ground contact, outside

**Species covering the use class 5:** no

**Note:** According to the European standard NF EN 335, performance length might be modified by the intensity of end-use exposition.

## Drying

**Drying rate:** normal to slow

**Risk of distortion:** slight risk

**Risk of casehardening:** no

**Risk of checking:** slight risk

**Risk of collapse:** no

**Possible drying schedule:** 4

**Note:** The wood must be dried carefully and slowly to avoid defects. Initial surface drying prior to kiln drying is recommended.

This schedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness lower or equal to 38 mm. It must be used in compliance with the code of practice. For thickness from 38 to 75 mm, the air relative humidity should be increased by 5 % at each step. For thickness over 75 mm, a 10 % increase should be considered.

M.C. (%)	Temperature (°C)		
	Dry-bulb	Wet-bulb	Air humidity (%)
Green	42	39	82
50	48	43	74
40	48	43	74
30	48	43	74
15	54	46	63

## Sawing And Machining

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**Blunting effect:** fairly high

**Sawteeth recommended:** stellite-tipped

**Cutting tools:** tungsten carbide

**Peeling:** not recommended or without interest

**Slicing:** nood

**Note:** Sometimes difficulties due to interlocked grain. Good finish after filling.

## Commercial Grading

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### Appearance grading for sawn timbers:

- According to NHLA grading rules (January 2007)

- **Possible grading:** FAS, Select, Common 1, Common 2, Common 4

- In French Guiana, the local name of this species is "COEUR DEHORS". Grading is done according to local rules "Bois guyanais classés".

- **Possible grading:** Choix 1, choix 2, choix 3, choix 4

## End-uses

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- Sliced veneer
- Interior panelling
- Cabinetwork (high class furniture)
- Flooring
- Ship building (planking and deck)
- Heavy carpentry
- Turned goods
- Interior joinery
- Current furniture or furniture components
- Stairs (inside)
- Bridges (parts not in contact with water or ground)
- Vehicle or container flooring
- Wood frame house
- Exterior joinery
- Exterior panelling
- Wood-ware

**Note:** Recommended for high class end-uses.

## Assembling

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**Nailing / screwing:** good but pre-boring necessary

**Gluing:** correct (for interior only)

## Fire Safety

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### Conventional French grading:

- **Thickness > 14 mm:** M.3 (moderately inflammable)

- **Thickness < 14 mm:** M.4 (easily inflammable)

**Euroclasses grading:** D s2 d0

Default grading for solid wood, according to requirements of European standard EN 14081-1 annex C (April 2009). It concerns structural graded timber in vertical uses with mean density upper 0.35 and thickness upper 22 mm.

## Main Local Names

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Country	Local Name
Brazil	Cutiuba
Brazil	Sapupira
Colombia	Arenillo
Guyana	Tatabu
French Guiana	Coeur Dehors
Peru	Huasai-Caspi
Venezuela	Alcornoque
Brazil	Macaniba
Brazil	Sucupira Preta
Colombia	Zapan Negro
French Guiana	Baaka Kiabici
Peru	Chontaquiuro
Suriname	Zwarte Kabbes
Venezuela	Congrio