

Pikinmisiki

Floor



NAME

Botanical name: *Pseudopiptadenia suaveolens* (Miq.) J.W. Grimes [family: Fabaceae]

Common trade name: *timborana*

Common local name: *pikinmisiki* (also known by forest inventory code PMS)

BOTANICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Large tree (to 50 m height; DBH up to 100 cm) with mostly straight bole, tall buttresses (to 5 m), and a broad, flat crown. The bark is quite smooth and grayish. The leaves are finely divided into tiny leaflets (ca. 5 x 1.5 mm); the leaflets are arranged in pairs along the 'bones' of the fishbone-like leaf. The leaves are positioned alternately along terminal branchlets (not in pairs, nor densely clustered). The flowers are tiny, yellowish, arranged in spikes. The fruit is a very long, narrow and flat pod; when mature, the pod is brown to black, and splits open to release its many small, flat seeds.

DISTRIBUTION

Widely distributed and common, in dryland rainforest and tall dry forest ('savanna forest') throughout Suriname; also occurs throughout much of the Guiana Shield, and possibly also in parts of Amazonia and Central America.

WOOD CHARACTERISTICS

The wood is heavy, shiny, reddish brown, and is similar to that of *Pseudopiptadenia psilostachya*, which probably also occurs in Suriname, and is also traded under the name *timborana*.

Flat sawn: view of
tangential plane

cross
cut

Quarter sawn: view of
radial plane

cross
cut



PROCESSING

The blunting effect during sawing and machining is fairly high, stellite tipped tooth are recommended. Drying asks full attention, the timber is known for its high risk of distortion. Nailing and gluing requires pre-boring. Gluing is good.

DURABILITY

Resistance to attack by both fungi and termites is fairly good. No data is available on the durability related to marine conditions.

AVAILABILITY

There is no data on the overall availability of the species; harvested volumes over 2010 - 2013 vary between 1,600 - 3,200 m³ per year.

KNOWN USES

Heavy carpentry, industrial and heavy flooring, furniture and -components, crates and boxes.

NAME	
Botanical name	<i>Pseudopiptadenia suaveolens</i>
Trade name	timborana
Local name	pikinmisiki (PMS)
THE WOOD	
• Color	Sapwood: distinct, very light reddish brown Heartwood: (darker) reddish brown
• Color	straight or interlocked
• Texture	medium
• Green density (kg/m ³)	no data available
• Specific gravity (at 12% MC)	800
• Volumetric shrinkage (from green to moisture content of 12%)	4.6 % (TS 6.9% / RS 4.5%)
MECHANICAL PROPERTIES (at a moisture content of 12%)	
• Static bending (N/mm ²)	MOE: 19120 MOR: 122
• Compression strength (N/mm ²)	71
• Janka - Hardness (N)	no data available
PROCESSING PROPERTIES	
• Processing	Sawing: blunting effect fairly high, stellite tipped recomm. Machining: no information available
• Drying	high risk of distortion
• Nailing	good, pre-boring recommended
• Gluing	good
• Finishing	fairly good
NATURAL DURABILITY	
	Fungi: moderate durable Termites: moderate durable Marine borers: no data available
KNOWN USES	
	heavy carpentry, industrial or heavy flooring, furniture or -components, interior joinery, crates and boxes

Synonyms

This species is referred to as *Piptadenia suaveolens* or *Newtonia suaveolens* in sources cited below published before 2000, and in Comvalius' Suriname Timber Species. In many sources, this species is classified under the family name Mimosaceae or under the Leguminosae family group name Mimosoldea; all these classifications and names are currently considered invalid.

Information sources used

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Tropix (2013), The main technological characteristics of 245 tropical wood species, Version 7. Species data sheets published on the Internet: <http://tropix.crad.fr>

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FSWPS
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