

Common name:	DIBETOU
Family:	MELIACEAE
Scientific name(s):	Lovoa trichilioides Lovoa klaineana (synonymous)

LOG DESCRIPTION	WOOD DESCRIPTION		
Diameter:	from 60 to 120 cm	Colour:	Brown
Thickness of sapwood:	from 3 to 7 cm	Sapwood:	Clearly demarcated
Floats:	yes	Texture:	Fine
Durability in forest :	Moderate (treatment recommended)	Grain:	Interlocked
Note:	Ring shakes and brittleheart possible in some logs. Wood yellow brown or grey brown, with black streaks or veins taking a golden glint. Black deposits in the pores.	Interlocked grain:	Slight

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES			MECHANICAL PROPERTIES		
Physical and mechanical properties are based on mature heartwood specimens. These properties can vary greatly depending on origin and growth conditions.					
	mean	standard deviation		mean	standard deviation
Density *:	0.53 g/cm ³	0.06	Crushing strength *:	47 MPa	8
Monnin hardness*:	2.3	0.7	Static bending strength *:	72 MPa	13
Coef of volumetric shrinkage:	0.43 %	0.11	Modulus of elasticity *:	10460 MPa	946
Total tangential shrinkage:	5.8 %	0.5			
Total radial shrinkage:	3.7 %	0.9			
Fibre saturation point:	27 %				
Stability:	stable		(* : at 12 % moisture content ; 1 MPa = 1 N/mm ²)		

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.

Fungi:	Class 3-4 moderately to poorly durable	* ensured by natural durability (according EN standards).
Dry wood borers:	Durable; sapwood demarcated (risk limited to sapwood)	
Termites:	Class S - Susceptible	
Treatability:	3-4 - poorly or not permeable	
Use class*:	2 - inside or under cover (dampness possible)	
Note:	This species is listed in the European standard NF EN 350-2.	

MAIN LOCAL NAMES	
Countries	Local names
Cameroon	BIBOLO
Côte d'Ivoire	DIBETOU
Dem Rep of Congo	BOMBULU
Dem Rep of Congo	LIFAKI MUINDU
Equatorial Guinea	M'BERO
Equatorial Guinea	N'VERO
Gabon	EYAN
Ghana	AFRICAN WALNUT
Ghana	DUBINI-BIRI
Ghana	MPENGWA
Nigeria	ANAMENILA
Nigeria	APOPO
Nigeria	SIDA
Sierra Leone	WNAIMEI
France	NOYER D'AFRIQUE
France	NOYER DU GABON
United Kingdom	AFRICAN WALNUT
United Kingdom	TIGERWOOD
U.S.A.	CONGOWOOD
U.S.A.	TIGERWOOD

DIBETOU

REQUIREMENT OF A PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Against dry wood borer attacks:	Does not require any preservative treatment
In case of temporary humidification risk:	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
In case of permanent humidification risk:	Use not recommended

DRYING

Possible drying schedule

Drying rate:	Rapid to normal	Temperature (°C)			Air humidity (%)
		M.C. (%)	dry-bulb	wet-bulb	
Risk of distortion:	Slight risk	Green	50	47	84
Risk of casehardening:	No	40	50	45	75
Risk of checking:	Slight risk	30	55	47	67
Risk of collapse:	No	20	70	55	47
		15	75	58	44

This schedule is given for information only and is applicable to thickness < 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.

Note: Existing shakes tend to slightly extend.

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect:	Normal
Sawteeth recommended:	Ordinary or alloy steel
Cutting tools:	Ordinary
Peeling:	Good
Slicing:	Good
Note:	Difficulties due to interlocked grain in planing (tearing). Keep sharp tools. Ribbon like aspect on quartersawn. Sawdust may be irritant.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing / Screwing:	Good
Gluing:	Correct
Note:	Risks of end checks.

END-USES

Main known end-uses; they must to be implemented according to the code of practice.

Important remark: some end-uses are mentionned for information (traditional, regional or ancient end-uses).

Note: Should not be confused with WALNUT (*Juglans* spp.), only colours are similar.

Cabinetwork (high class furniture)

Current furniture or furniture components

Sliced veneer

Interior panelling

Veneer for back or face of plywood

Interior joinery

Turned goods

Seats

Light carpentry
