

AYOUS

Common Name(s): Obeche, samba, wawa, African whitewood

Scientific Name: *Triplochiton scleroxylon*

Distribution: Tropical West Africa

Tree Size: 65-100 ft (20-30 m) tall,
3-5 ft (1-1.5 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 23.8 lbs/ft³ (380 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): 0.32, 0.38

Janka Hardness: 440 lb_f (1,960 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 8,680 lb_f/in² (59.8 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 934,000 lb_f/in² (6.44 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 4,310 lb_f/in² (29.7 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 3.1%, Tangential: 5.3%,
Volumetric: 8.7%, T/R Ratio: 1.7

Color/Appearance: Heartwood tends to be a pale yellow, with the sapwood not clearly differentiated from the heartwood. Colors darken slightly with age. Can be prone to fungal staining if not dried properly. Interlocked grain can give a ribbon-stripe appearance on quartersawn surfaces similar to [satinwoods](#) and sometimes compared to [primavera](#).

Grain/Texture: Grain tends to be slightly interlocked (though sometimes straight), with a medium to coarse texture and good natural luster.



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