

**Synonym(s)** : *Diploptropis guianensis* **Benth.** / *Diploptropis leptophylla* **Kleinh.** / *Bowdichia guianensis* **Ducke**

**Family** : Leguminosae (Papilionoideae)

**Vernacular names**

Suriname : Zwarte kabbes / Kiabici udu  
 Guyana : Tatabu / Ogoru / Konatopo  
 French Guiana : Saint Martin gris / Coeurs dehors / Baaka kiabici  
 Brazil : Sucupira / Sapupira / Acapurana  
 Colombia : Arenillo / Zapan negro  
 Venezuela : Congrio / Aji / Alcornoque  
 Peru : Chontaquiuro / Huasai-caspi

**International trade name** : Sucupira, Tatabu

**Occurrence** : Suriname, Guianas, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru

**Tree description**

Bole length : bole 18 – 20 m: tree height up to 40 m  
 Diameter : 0.40 – 0.65 m  
 Log shape : straight, cylindrical; tree base with root spurs

**Wood description**

Sapwood : distinct, whitish or yellowish cream  
 Heartwood : chocolate brown to reddish brown  
 Grain : straight to slightly interlocked  
 Texture : medium to coarse

**Technological characteristics**

**Physical properties**

Green density	(g/cm <sup>3</sup> ):	1.20
Air dry density at 12% MC	(g/cm <sup>3</sup> ):	0.93
Total tangential shrinkage	(%) :	7.1
Total radial shrinkage	(%) :	4.5
Total volumetric shrinkage	(%) :	12.2

\* low frequency in high dryland forest.

## Mechanical properties

Bending strength at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> ):	148
Modulus of elasticity (MOE) at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> ):	19240
Crushing strength at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> ):	85

## Processing

Sawing	: difficult, power required
Drying	: slow drying; air drying prior to kiln drying; US kiln schedule T7 – B3 for 25 – 38 mm stock
Machining	: very difficult
Gluing	: with special care
Nailing	: pre-boring necessary
Finishing	: filler recommended
Veneering	: slices well (decorative veneer)

## Natural durability

Decay fungi	: very good
Termites	: very good
Marine borers	: poor

**Treatability (heartwood)** : poor

**End uses** : exterior and interior joinery, flooring, stairs, turnery, tool handles, furniture, heavy constructions (wet and dry).



Log shape

**Blakakabisi** - *Diploptropis purpurea* (Rich.) Amshoff