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## Jequitiba Rosada.

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**Bot. Name** : CARINIANA ESTRELLENSIS. (O.KUNTZE).

\*) This family is consisting of more than 10 different species, some of them closely related to other families s.a. Couratari and Allantoma, with a.o. botanical names as Cariniana Pyriformis, Micrantha, Couratara Decandra en Integrifolia, Cariniana Rubra, Uhuapensis, Domestica, Legalis etc. but we limit ourselves to Cariniana Estrellensis only.

**Familyname** : Lecythidaceae.

**Com. names** : Jequitiba Rosada, Albarco-rosada, Jeguitiba-Amarella, Estopeiro.

\*) This specie has been erroneously also named Columbian Mahogany, but is no mahogany!

**Growing areas** : occurring in all Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

\*) Already fifty years ago, this specie was very well reputed, being exported from the big Atlantic Forests around Bahia with logs of often 125 feet tall and diameters of 60 to 70 inches or more. The logs of this specie are still straight, cylindrical and tall with often good heavy diameters.

**Trees** : Fairly heavy and tall growing mainly on lower slopes, boules of 30-40m long and diameters from 70cm up to 140cm. Impressive big roots on top of which there usually is a boule almost free of defects and cylindrical to about 25 meters.

To separate this specie from the others, is difficult and needs a lot of skill, owing to the fact that neither bark nor leaves differ from the Abarco (dark red Jequitiba) nor from the Red Tauari (Cachimbo), but only the fruits of it are slightly different.

Of course during and after sawing these species, one can tell the 'Estrellensis' from the others. Moreover the Jequitiba Rosada never/hardly ever has mineral(carbon) streaks/canals, whereas the other species almost always show this defect, often on the log-ends but anyhow in the sawn Timber.

**Description** : The heartwood fresh is yellowish-pink to pinkish red, darkening to red-brown in the air and the surface often shows attractive dark red veins. This has inspired some people in the past to call this timber Columbian Mahogany, name we strongly reject.

The grayish-yellowish sapwood usually as small as 2-5cm, differs little from the heartwood but can be distinguished. Sometimes a 'sound' grayish discoloration is found in the heartwood of this specie, called "mapa" which should not be mistakenly considered as sapwood and to be considered as 'inherent' to the specie, so being no defect.

**Structure** : Moderately fine-grained, medium glossy, fairly straight-grained with axially contrasting Parenchyma-lines. These very tiny Lines and sometimes contain some silica which may cause a little blunting effect on saws and tools.

Pores and inner structure can be seen without lupe. Color-variation due to the contrasting parenchyma lines occurs and makes the surface more attractive.

**Grain** : generally very straight-grained although some cross-grain does occur.

Especially cross-grained timber and veins give this specie a somewhat mahogany-like look.

**Odor/taint** : NONE when dry, so odor- and taintless.

**Spec. Weight** : Green density is 950-1000 kgs/m<sup>3</sup>, density at 12% M.C. is 680-750 kgs/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Sawing** : Generally easy to cut, but needs some power if containing silica.

**Properties** : Very easy to plain, trim, finish, but has a blunting effect, which with today's machinery should not be a real problem. Surface-finishing as very smooth.

\*Logs must be kept in wet condition or be sawn quickly after felling to avoid splitting.

Before sawing logs must be debarked.



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**Kilning** : A moderate kilning-scheme is advisable, to avoid the slight tendency of deformation and surface-splitting. By steaming, respectively steamkilning this timber Even the slight tendency to deformation and surface-splitting can be avoided. !This timber cannot be 'oven-dried'! Surface-checks can be occasionally caused by Vessel-constipations, however when steamed this problem can be entirely eliminated. Shrinkage from wet to 0% moisture is very low indeed.

**Fixation** : Nailing and screwing are without any problem, still pre-drilling is advisable.

**Gluing** : This specie has proofed to glue very well during 50 years, being used for Marine Plywood according to AW-100 DIN-norm 68705, as well as for lam-flooring. Also solid finger-jointed window-frames have been manufactured with it. Glues used were MUF and PUR types, as well as Urea-Melamine.

**Paint-Lacker** : Finishing excellently with both transparent and pigmented lacker, and paints.

**Durability** : Class II, so durable, well resistant against all insects and doat. In the Tropics Also well resistant to termites. According to Yale-studies, the heartwood is well fungi-resistant in moderate climates.

**Impregnation** : Although not really necessary, impregnation of this Cariniana-specie does not seem to present any major problems.

**Uses** : Due to it's good characteristics and fairly high natural durability, together with the very low and excellent shrinkage, as well as it's attractive surface, this specie is very suitable for all exterior and interior Carpentry, Cladding, Window-framing, Door-manufacturing, Staircases, Flooring, Mouldings etc. In Germany this Jequitiba-rosada has been used for more than 50 years as a substitute for african Macore and Sapele in naval carpentry.

**Disponibility** : Although not always recognized in tropical forests for reasons explained before, this specie is occurring fairly frequently and a regular export in both FSC and NFSC can be assured.



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**Technical Properties of Jequitiba Rosada.**

<b>Durability</b>	<b>Class II</b>
<b>Impregnation</b>	<b>Good u/pressure.</b>
<b>Specific Weight : Green</b>	<b>950-1000 kg/m3</b>
<b>KD at 12% MC</b>	<b>680-750 kg/m3</b>
<b>Shrinkage Radial (R%)</b>	<b>3,2% to 12%MC</b>
<b>Tangential (T%)</b>	<b>5,1% tot 12%MC</b>

**Mechanical Properties at 12% MC.**

<b>Bending Strength Modulus</b>	<b>91 N/mm2</b>
<b>Elasticity Modulus</b>	<b>10600 N/mm2</b>
<b>Compression Strength</b>	<b>51 N/mm2</b>
<b>Shear Strength</b>	<b>12,1N/mm2</b>
<b>Splitting Strength (T) + (R)</b>	<b>72 N/mm</b>
<b>Hardness Janka (T)</b>	<b>4610 N</b>

**Comparison 1** : The Janka-hardness of Unsteamed Beech being about 4500 Newton, this specie has an even harder surface, especially when containing silica.

**Comparison 2** : Strength, durability and resistance to doat-rot and insects are favorably comparable with Sipo- and Sapelemahogany, Macore etc.

**Sources** \_\_\_\_\_ : ‘Timbers of the New World’, Yale University Press., Instituto Brasileiro de Desenvolvimento Florestal. CTFT Atlas de Mad. Trop. Am. do Sul. Arvores e Plantas Uteis. Madeiras da Amazonia Biblioteca Bras. de Madeiras. Gottwald Handelshoelzer. Publicacoes Ibama and I.P.T.

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**JEQUITIBA ROSADA PICTURES**



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