

# UTILE

*(Entandrophragma utile)*

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** West and Central Africa  
VPA country supply: Cameroon, Liberia, Gabon, the Ivory Coast

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Not listed by CITES Appendices  
Is listed on the IUCN Red List  
Related species: Sapele  
LESSER KNOWN SPECIES

**MAIN USES:** Utile is typically used for general house use, flooring, cabinets, furniture, stairs  
In addition: for boat construction, port storage, musical instruments and plywood

**TECHNICAL:** Tendency to distort although not severe  
Interlocking grain and often irregular  
Texture is medium

**DURABILITY:** Moderate durability

**WORKING:** Utile is typically easy to work with although some difficulties can be had in instances of interlocking grain  
Turns, glues and finishes well  
Sawing is easy although slight blunting effect, machining however is difficult due to the interlocking grain  
Reacts with contact with iron (discoloured and stained)

**ALSO KNOWN AS:**

SIPO

ASSIÉ

**MOISTURE MOVEMENT:** Medium

**WEIGHT:** Average 635 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**SIZES:** 25, 32, 38, 50, 63, 100 (mm)  
Average length (m) 2.7, range 1.8-5.4

**COLOUR:** Utile heartwood is a medium red brown with sapwood pale yellow

**PRICING:** Medium

**SUBSTITUTE FOR:** European Beech (strength properties) or American Mahogany

**AVAILABILITY:** Availability is variable, more readily available at specialist or on order, check sustainability with supplier

