

Mandioqueira / Gonfolo Kouali



Trade Name: **Mandioqueira**

Other Names: Gonfolo Kouali, Gronfolo

Scientific Name: *Qualea spp.*

Specie Brief: Medium density hardwood with moderate durability and minimal coloring or textural appeal. Primarily used for general construction & moderate durability needs.

Wood Description		Physical & Mechanical Properties	
Heartwood Color	Pinkish brown	Specific Gravity (kg/m3)*	0.74
Sapwood Color	Clearly demarcated	Monnin Hardness*	4.7
Texture	Medium	Crushing Strength*	69 MPa
Grain	Straight & interlocked	Radial Shrinkage	5.80%
Cross Grain	Slight	Tangential Shrinkage	9.70%
Durability	Class 3 - moderately durable	Tangential / Radial Ratio	1.70
Marine Durable	Class 5 - no	* at 12% moisture content	

Key Products & Uses:

- General Construction
- Framing
- Sub-Construction
- Cladding
- Industrial Lumber

Properties & Characteristics

Mandioqueira is a medium density hardwood with only moderate durability, so it is not suitable for high-value outdoor uses like other more preferred South American tropical hardwoods. Instead, it is mainly used for general construction purposes, framing, and for some outdoor uses that can tolerate moderate durability such as sub-construction or cladding. In French Guiana and Suriname, Mandioqueira is commonly used in the local construction industry for framing and roof trusses.

General Construction & Framing

Mandioqueira is a medium density wood, is quite stable and holds a nail well. It is therefore commonly used in South America within the local construction industry. In both French Guiana and Suriname as well as in Brazil the species is widely used as a framing timber and for roof construction. In areas where general construction is made from stone and concrete, Mandioqueira is one of the common woods used for roof joists and framing. It is also used for industrial crates and pellets.

Triton can supply Mandioqueira as an export timber, but it is advised that we can most likely supply better suited tropical hardwood species, depending on your specific end-use requirements.

Sub-Construction

In parts of Europe where tropical hardwoods are preferred as sub-construction compared to local softwoods, Mandioqueira can be widely used. The Netherlands and Germany are two European markets that purchase volumes of Mandioqueira as sub-construction, though forest management certification or similar is often required. More durable and expensive hardwood decking species are then laid on top.

Cladding

Due to it having some natural durability and not being too heavy Mandioqueira can be used as a cladding / weatherboard species. It has been used in the past for certain projects in Europe where a heavier tropical hardwood is preferred for exterior cladding. It is also used at times in South America as a cladding species.