



Trade Name: **Piquiarana**

Other Names: Piquia, Chawari, Agougagui

Scientific Name: *Caryocar glabrum*

Family / Famille: *Caryocaraceae*

Specie Brief: Durability class two hardwood that originates from large sized trees making it suitable to manufacture large timbers and beams such as bridge beams and railway sleepers.

Wood Description		Physical & Mechanical Properties	
Heartwood Color	Yellow brown	Specific Gravity (kg/m3)*	0.80
Sapwood Color	Not clearly demarcated	Monnin Hardness*	5.0
Texture	Coarse	Crushing Strength*	64 MPa
Grain	Interlocked	Radial Shrinkage	5.2%
Cross Grain	Marked	Tangential Shrinkage	9.60%
Durability	Class 2 - durable	Tangential / Radial Ratio	1.80
Marine Durable	Class 5 - no	<i>* at 12% moisture content</i>	

Key Products & Uses:

- Large Timbers
- Bridge Timbers
- Sub-Construction
- Joinery
- Cladding

Properties & Characteristics

Piquiarana is considered a lesser-known species (LKS) amongst the tropical hardwood species range but is relatively well known in certain markets that use LKS and prefer certified woods (FSC & PEFC), like the Netherlands and Denmark.

The heartwood of Piquia is whitish yellow to grey-brown color with sometimes a slight stripy pattern. It shows a coarse structure due to the interlocked grain which allows it to be used for large timbers and structural beams. The sapwood can be difficult to distinguish compared to other South American hardwoods. Freshly sawn Piquiarana has a mild vinegar-like odour, which disappears after drying. The grain

is generally irregular or curved and often interlocked while the texture of Piquia is medium coarse to coarse.

Piquia is mainly used in heavy outdoor construction that requires durable large timbers such as: bridges, jetties, and sheet piling. The species can also be used for some interior uses due to its light colour and medium density.

Heavy Timbers & Bridges

Due to the large size of Piquia logs the species can produce large timbers and beams for heavy construction projects such as bridges, piers or wharfs. Demand exists for these heavy construction uses, especially if the timber is certified. Piquiarana should not be used in marine environments or directly in brackish water.

Joinery & Cladding

Due to the light colour of Piquia and its moderate density and ability to be machined, it does have some demand as a joinery timber for interior and some exterior applications. Interior uses include wall paneling and windows and doors, while exterior applications include, cladding and general building facades.

Sub-Construction

As Piquia is Class 2 durability then it qualifies for use as sub-construction species in the wide European market. It is considered a medium quality and value species for sub-construction use and has some demand in markets that try a lot of lesser-known species such as the Netherlands and Scandinavian countries.