

# Andiroba / Carapa / Crabwood

**TRITON**  
TIMBER GROUP™



Trade Name: **Andiroba**

Other Names: Carapa, Crabwood

Scientific Name: *Carapa guianensis*

Family / Famille: *Meliaceae*

**Specie Brief:** A versatile medium-density hardwood with a beautiful reddish-brown color and soft texture. Commonly used for joinery, furniture & other appearance grade applications.

| Wood Description |                                     | Physical & Mechanical Properties |               |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Heartwood Color: | <b>Red brown</b>                    | Specific Gravity (kg/m3)*        | <b>0.67</b>   |
| Sapwood Color:   | <b>Not clearly demarcated</b>       | Monin Hardness*                  | <b>3.5</b>    |
| Texture:         | <b>Medium</b>                       | Crushing Strength*               | <b>59 MPa</b> |
| Grain:           | <b>Straight or interlocked</b>      | Radial Shrinkage                 | <b>4.8%</b>   |
| Cross Grain:     | <b>Slight</b>                       | Tangential Shrinkage             | <b>7.7%</b>   |
| Durability:      | <b>Class 3-4 moderately durable</b> | Tangential / Radial Ratio        | <b>1.6</b>    |
| Marine Durable:  | <b>Class 5 - no</b>                 | * at 12% moisture content        |               |

## Key Products:

- Joinery & Mouldings
- Windows & Doors
- Wall Paneling
- Furniture
- Flooring

## Properties & Characteristics

Andiroba is a beautiful medium density tropical hardwood that is found across South & Central America and the Caribbean. Due to its excellent properties for use as a joinery species and because its almond seed contains a usable oil, it is quite well known. The oil contained in the Andiroba almond, known as crabseed oil or carap oil, is light yellow and used to produce insect repellent and compounds for traditional medicine.

Andiroba wood is a beautiful red brown colour, dries well and is easily worked by hand tools and machines. It has a wide range of uses including joinery, wall paneling, interior stairs, instruments, furniture, flooring, crates and boxes, and exterior cladding. Though Andiroba is medium density it is very durable to insects due to the chemical composition of its natural wood oils.

## Joinery & Mouldings

Andiroba has excellent mechanical and physical properties that make it highly suitable as a joinery and moulding species. Matched with a strong red-brown colour means that it still has strong demand today in certain markets for joinery. The Dominican Republic in the Caribbean is one specific market that has a strong demand and use for Andiroba from furniture and mouldings to general joinery applications.

## Windows & Doors

As Andiroba is very stable and has a medium density so does not split easily, it is suitable as a window and door framing wood. The nice texture and red-brown colour of Andiroba also makes it very appealing for this particular end use. The Caribbean and USA are main markets for Andiroba for windows and doors and general joinery.

## Wall Paneling

Wall paneling is another use for Andiroba that is a result of its light weight and medium density, stability and machining properties, and because it is insect resistant. Triton is interested in developing Andiroba as a reclaimed wood species in the wall paneling market due to its aesthetic appeal and suitability for paneling. Also because Andiroba trees and logs are mostly small in size, producing 25mm thick product is preferable.