



Trade Name: **Marupa**

Other Names: Assoumaripa, Simarouba

Scientific Name: *Simarouba amara*

Family / Famille: *Simaroubaceae*

Specie Brief: A clean whitewood with a very low density that is suitable for a variety of indoor applications such as joinery, mouldings and furniture and also outdoor uses if treated.

| Wood Description |                             | Physical & Mechanical Properties |               |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Heartwood Color: | <b>Creamy white</b>         | Specific Gravity (kg/m3)*        | <b>0.41</b>   |
| Sapwood Color:   | <b>Not demarcated</b>       | Monnin Hardness*                 | <b>1.1</b>    |
| Texture:         | <b>Course</b>               | Crushing Strength*               | <b>34 MPa</b> |
| Grain:           | <b>Straight</b>             | Radial Shrinkage                 | <b>2.8 0%</b> |
| Cross Grain:     | <b>Absent</b>               | Tangential Shrinkage             | <b>6.3%</b>   |
| Durability:      | <b>Class 5. Not durable</b> | Tangential / Radial Ratio        | <b>2.3</b>    |
| Marine Durable:  | <b>Class 5 - no</b>         | * at 12% moisture content        |               |

### Key Products & Uses:

- Joinery Components
- Mouldings
- Wall Paneling
- Furniture
- Boxes & crates
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### Properties & Characteristics

*Simarouba amara* (Marupa) is a top tier canopy tree that is found across South and Central America and parts of the Caribbean. There are six species that make up the simarouba group. Marupa is a unique tropical hardwood in that it is bright white in colour and has a very low density of 0.41 kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 12% MC. The wood is generally free of defect and if dried quickly after processing it will not bluestain. This creamy white wood is commonly used for joinery and mouldings, wood turnings, wall paneling and cladding, furniture and veneers, instruments, and boxes and crates.

### Joinery & Mouldings

Because of its light weight, white colour, easiness of drying and due to it being easily worked by tools and machines, Marupa is a near perfect species for general joinery applications. It is used locally in South America for joinery uses and was exported in the past in significant volumes to Europe and the Caribbean.

### Wall Paneling & Cladding

Due to the ability of Marupa to absorb oils, resins and treatments, it can be used for feature wall paneling and also as weatherboard or cladding. For exterior cladding Marupa requires treatment to increase its durability. In recent years Marupa has been heat-treated to increase its durability and for use in the European cladding market which is dominated by cedar and Scandinavian softwoods.

### Furniture & Veneers

Marupa is a very versatile species for use in the furniture industry as it is a lightweight clear whitewood. It can be used as backing or structural material for furniture components or also it can be stained and coloured for appearance uses. In the past Marupa was used for clear whitewood veneers, though this market is now dominated more by pine and exotic softwoods.



Geographic range of Marupa