

# TIMBER SPECIES

## **Kwila – *Intsia bijuga***

### Wood Appearance

**Colour** – Heartwood yellowish-brown or orange-brown when first cut, turning darker with age to brown or reddish-brown. Sapwood white, pale yellow or buff and sharply differentiated from heartwood.

**Grain** – Grain variable but usually interlocked or wavy, texture is coarse but even. Attractive figure on back sawn material.

### Wood Properties

**Density** – 830-865 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Durability** – Class 2 – Highly resistant to decay when fully exposed to the weather, clear of the ground and well drained with free air circulation. Only moderately decay resistant in the ground.

**Hardness** – Hard (rated 2 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools

### Identification Features

**Sapwood** – Sharply differentiated from the heartwood

**Heartwood** – Dark red-brown or yellow-brown in colour

**Texture** – Coarse and even; grain often interlocked

### Wood Structure

**Vessels** – Moderately large, visible to naked eye; short radial pairs or multiples and solitary cells. Sulphur-yellow and dark coloured deposits often visible. Vessel lines prominent on longitudinal surfaces.

**Parenchyma** – Abundant, aliform and occasionally confluent, with terminal bands present.

**Rays** – Moderately fine, not visible without a lens

### Other Features

**Burning Splinter Test** – A match size splinter burns to a white ash

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*We do anything when it comes to wood*