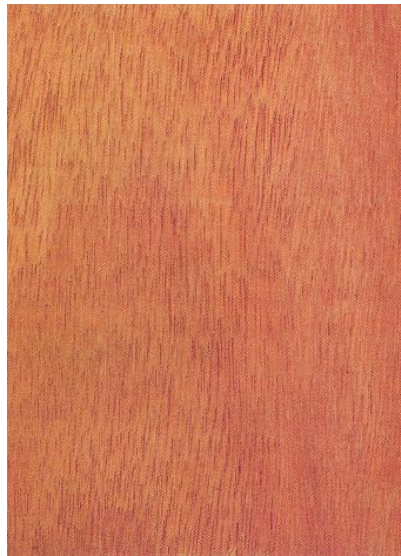


Bekak



INTRODUCTION

The Standard Malaysian Name for some species of the timber of *Aglaia* sect. *Amoora* (Meliaceae). Vernacular names applied include *kedondong kijau* (Peninsular Malaysia), *lantupak paya* (Sabah), *merelang* (Peninsular Malaysia), *pasak lingga* (Peninsular Malaysia), *segera* (Sarawak), which include other members of the family and *lantupak* (Sabah), which also include other members of the family. Major species include *A. lawii*, *A. macrocarpa*, *A. malaccensis*, *A. multinervis*, *A. rubiginosa* and *A. spectabilis*. The sapwood is straw-coloured and is sharply differentiated from the heartwood, which is brick-red or dark red and becomes dark red-brown or walnut-brown on exposure.

Also known as Amali and Amoora (India); Bunjau, Kolaka, Lempega gunung, Parak api, Perak seluang, Tenge and Woloe lakoe (Indonesia); Mai Kuang Deng and Nok Kok (Laos); Amoora and Aukchinza-ni (Myanmar); Amoor (Pakistan); Amoora (Papua New Guinea), Kato (Philippines); Ta-sua (Thailand); and Goi noc (Vietnam).

DENSITY

The timber is hard and moderately heavy to heavy and has been classified under Medium Hardwood with a density of 705-1,025 kg/m³ air dry.

NATURAL DURABILITY

The timber is moderately durable.

TEXTURE

Texture is slightly coarse and even, with interlocked and irregular grain.

STRENGTH PROPERTIES

The timber falls into Strength Group B (Burgess, 1958) or SG 3 (MS 544:Part 2:2001).

MACHINING PROPERTIES

It is fairly easy to slightly difficult to resaw and is difficult to cross-cut. Planing is easy to slightly difficult and the planed surface is smooth.

NAILING PROPERTY

Nailing property is rated as excellent.

AIR DRYING

The timber seasons fairly rapidly, with only slight cupping, bowing, end-checking and insect attacks as the main sources of degrade. 13 mm thick boards take 1.5 month to air dry, while 38 mm thick boards take 3.5 months.

SHRINKAGE

Shrinkage is rather high, especially in the radial direction, which averages 2.4% while the tangential shrinkage also averages 2.4%.

USES

The timber is suitable for light to medium construction, decking, flooring (heavy traffic), power-line posts when treated, posts, beams, joists, rafters, pallets (heavy and permanent types), tool handles (impact), staircase (angle blocks, rough brackets, apron linings, baluster and balustrade) and boat planking.