Antiaris spp.
Family: Moraceae
Antiaris

Other Common Names: Kyenkyen, Chenchen (Ghana), Mkuzu, Mlulu (Tanzania), Oro, Ogiovu (Nigeria), Kirundo, Mumaka (Uganda), Ako (Dahomey, Senegal).

Distribution: Distributed throughout the high forest zone of West, Central, and East Africa on widely varying sites.

The Tree: Reaches a height of 120 to 150 ft with a straight, cylindrical bole clear to 70 ft; trunk diameters 2 to 5 ft; sometimes buttressed.

The Wood:
General Characteristics: Wood is whitish or light yellow brown with no distinction between sapwood and heartwood. Texture medium to coarse; grain interlocked; lustrous; without characteristic odor or taste when dry, but has an unpleasant odor when green.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.38; air-dry density 27 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (First set of data based on the 2-in. standard, second and third sets on the 2-cm standard.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moisture content</th>
<th>Bending strength (Psi)</th>
<th>Modulus of elasticity (1,000 psi)</th>
<th>Maximum crushing strength (Psi)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green (4)</td>
<td>4,770</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>2,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7,270</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>5,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% (44)</td>
<td>6,040</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% (40)</td>
<td>8,550</td>
<td>1,040</td>
<td>5,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Janka side hardness 380 lb for green and 500 lb for dry material. Amsler toughness 50 in.-lb for dry material (2-cm specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: Seasons rather rapidly but there is a pronounced tendency to warp, particularly twisting. Kiln schedule T2-D4 is suggested for 4/4 stock and T2-D3 for 6/4. Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 4.2%; tangential 6.8%; volumetric 12.4%. Movement in service is rated as small.

Working Properties: Works easily with hand and machine tools but sharp cutters are needed; dresses smoothly, some tearing of interlocked grain; glues and nails satisfactorily.
**Durability:** Wood is perishable and liable to ambrosia beetle and powder-post beetle attack. Very susceptible to sap stain, requires rapid extraction and chemical treatments.

**Preservation:** Easy to treat using either open tank or pressure systems.

**Uses:** Veneer and plywood, furniture components, joinery, boxes and crates, light construction.

**Additional Reading:** (4), (9), (40), (44)
