



Protium heptaphyllum (Aubl.) Marchand

Family: Burseraceae.

Synonymies: *Icica heptaphylla* Aubl.; *Tingulonga heptaphylla* (Aubl.) Kuntze.

Popular names: Amescla-vermelha, almécega, almécega-brava, almécega-cheirosa, almecegueira, almecegueira-vermelha, almíscar, amescla, amescla-seca, amesclão, árvore-do-incenso, breu-almécega, breu-branco, breu-branco-do-campo, breubranco-verdadeiro, breu-de-campina, breu-sucuruba, breu-vermelho, elemieira, ibiracica, icariba, incenso, pau-de-breu, pau-de-mosquito.

General characters: Heartwood/sapwood distinct by color. Heartwood rosy; or brownish. Without color alteration by photo-oxidation. Growth ring boundaries indistinct or absent. Wood without brightness in the longitudinal surfaces. Imperceptible smell. Hard to the manual transversal cut. Grain straight. Texture medium. Figure absent.

Vessels/pores: Vessels present. Visible to the naked eye. Small diameter (smaller than 100µm); or medium diameter (from 100 to 200µm). Diffuse-porous. Low frequency (up to 5 vessels/2mm²). Vessel groupings: predominantly solitary (more than 2/3). In undefined pattern. Of circular to oval outline. Perforation plates not observed even with a 10x hand lens. Vessels partially blocked. By tyloses.

Axial parenchyma: Not observed.

Rays: Observed. Only with a 10x hand lens on the transversal and tangential surfaces. Contrasted on the radial surface. Fine (smaller than 100µm of width). Low (shorter than 1mm of height). Of little frequency (from 5 to 10 rays/mm).

Storied structure: Absent.

Secretory structure: Not observed.

Cambial variants: Not observed.

Physical-chemical tests: Chrome azurol-s test negative. Fluorescence test positive. Of bluish color. Basic specific gravity medium (0,50 - 0,72g/cm³).

Geographical distribution: In the northern region of Brazil; or in the northeast region of Brazil; or in the midwest region of Brazil; or in the southeast region of Brazil.

Phytogeographic domain: Amazônia; or Caatinga; or Cerrado; or Mata Atlântica.

Conservation status: Not included in the official Brazilian flora list of endangered species. Not included in the CITES annex.

Data about commercialization: Not included in the list of the 100 most commercialized native species in Brazil in 2008. Not included in the list of the 100 most commercialized species in Brazil in 2009.

Other observations: The species of this genus are of difficult distinction, there is a great volume of wood in the market just in generic level.