



Mezilaurus itauba (Meisn.) Taub. ex Mez

Family: Lauraceae.

Synonymies: *Acroclidium itauba* Meisn.; *Endiandra itauba* (Meisn.) Benth. & Hook. f.; *Mezia itauba* (Meisn.) Kuntze.

Popular names: Itaúba, itaúba-anacate, louro-itaúba.

General characters: Heartwood/sapwood distinct by color. Heartwood yellowish; or olivaceous. With accentuated color alteration by photo-oxidation. Changing to brownish. Growth ring boundaries distinct. Individualized by darker tangential fibrous zones. Wood without brightness in the longitudinal surfaces. With perceptible smell. Pleasant. Hard to the manual transversal cut. Grain irregular or interlocked.

Texture medium. Figure absent.

Vessels/pores: Vessels present. Visible to the naked eye. Medium diameter (from 100 to 200 μ m). Diffuse-porous. Medium frequency (from 6 to 30 vessels/2mm²). Vessel groupings: predominantly in radial multiples (more than 2/3). With less than 4 vessels. In radial pattern. Of circular to oval outline. Perforation plates not observed even with a 10x hand lens. Majority of vessels blocked. By tyloses.

Axial parenchyma: Not observed.

Rays: Observed. Only with a 10x hand lens on the transversal and tangential surfaces. Little contrast on the radial surface. Fine (smaller than 100 μ m 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 negative. Basic specific gravity high (maior que 0,72g/cm³).

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

Phytogeographic domain: Amazônia.

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

Data about commercialization: Included in the list of the 100 most commercialized native species in Brazil in 2008. Included in the list of the 100 most commercialized species in Brazil in 2009.

Other observations: The vessel's outline isn't clearly visualized by the presence of glowing tyloses in vessel lumina and parenchymatic oil cells, close to the vessels.