



Couratari stellata A.C.Sm.

Family: Lecythidaceae.

Popular names: Tauari, tauari-duro, tauari-escuro, tauari-rosa.

General characters: Heartwood/sapwood indistinct by color. Heartwood yellowish; or greyish. Without color alteration by photo-oxidation. Growth ring boundaries not clearly distinct, intermediate between distinct and indistinct. Wood without brightness in the longitudinal surfaces.

Imperceptible smell. Moderately hard to the manual transversal cut. Grain straight. Texture medium. Figure absent.

Vessels/pores: Vessels present. Visible to the naked eye. Large diameter (larger than 200µm). Diffuse-porous. Low frequency (up to 5 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 observed with a 10x hand lens. Simple perforation. Vessels unblocked.

Axial parenchyma: Observed. Only with a 10x hand lens. Banded. In reticulate; or scalariform.

Rays: Observed. By the naked eye on transversal surface; or only with a 10x hand lens on the tangential surface. Contrasted on the radial surface; or little contrast 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; or present. Formed by traumatic canals.

Cambial variants: Not observed.

Physical-chemical tests: Chrome azurol-s test negative. Fluorescence test negative. Basic specific gravity medium (0,50 - 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: 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.