

Chengal – *Balanocarpus heimii*

Wood Appearance

Colour – Sapwood is pale yellow and well defined. Heartwood is yellow to dark brown, often with a green tinge.

Grain – Grain is usually slightly interlocked producing a vague ribbon figure on the radial face. Chengal has an even, medium texture.

Wood Properties

Density – 930 kg/m³

Durability – Class 1 – Highly resistant to decay when in ground contact or in persistently damp or poorly ventilated situations

Hardness – Hard (rated 2 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools

Identification Features

Sapwood – Well defined from heartwood

Heartwood – Dark tan-brown, planed surface lustrous, sometimes with subdued striped figure

Texture – Moderately fine and even texture, interlocked grain, hard to cut across the grain

Wood Structure

Vessels – Medium size, predominantly solitary, others in radial pairs or short multiples, evenly distributed. Filled with tyloses.

Parenchyma – Numerous short fine apotracheal strands and tangential lines closely spaced, often not clearly visible with hand lens. Paratracheal parenchyma sparse

Rays – Moderately fine, inconspicuous on radial surface

Ripple Marks - Characteristics and very distinct

Intercellular Canals – Vertical canals, smaller than vessels, filled with white resin, in concentric formation and often discontinuous.

Other Features

Burning Splinter Test – A match size splinter burns to an ash

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