

Coachwood – *Ceratopetalum apetalum*

Wood Appearance

Colour – Heartwood pale pink, pinkish-brown. Sapwood is not always distinguishable. The wood has a characteristic 'caramel' colour

Grain – Grain usually straight, texture fine and even, often highly figured on the tangential face due to numerous bands of soft tissue.

Wood Properties

Density – 625 kg/m³

Durability – Class 4 – Suitable for use only in continuously dry situations under cover, well ventilated, clear of the ground and fully protected from the weather and other dampness.

Hardness – Firm (rated 4 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools.

Identification Features

Sapwood – Pink brown

Heartwood – Light-brown to pink-brown

Texture – Fine and uniform, straight grained

Wood Structure

Vessels – Very small, visible only with lens; solitary, multiples and short radial chains

Parenchyma – Plentiful in irregularly spaced apotracheal bands, distinct without lens

Rays – Fine, visible with a lens

Other Features

Burning Splinter Test – A Match size splinter burns to a partial white or grey ash

Figure – Prominent on the back sawn surfaces (tangential) die to bands or parenchyma

Odour – Pronounced and characteristic, somewhat similar to caramel

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