CHERRY, BRAZILIAN

Jatoba Hymenaea courbaril



Appearance

COLOR: Sapwood is gray-white; heartwood is salmon red to orange-brown when fresh and becomes russet or reddish brown when seasoned; often marked with dark streaks.

GRAIN: Mostly interlocked; texture is medium to rather coarse.

VARIATIONS WITHIN SPECIES AND GRADES: Moderate to high color variation.

Properties

HARDNESS (JANKA): Average of 2820. DIMENSIONAL STABILITY: Average. However, actual installations have shown significant movement. Longer-than-normal acclimation time is recommended.

Workability

NAILING: Due to hardness it is very important that the angle of penetration be adjusted carefully. If using a pneumatic nailer, the air pressure should be adjusted.

SANDING: Scratches are easily seen—each sanding must carefully remove the scratches from

the previous cut, or sanding marks will be visible in the finish.

Suggested Sequence

First Cut: 50 at a 7-15 degree angle with the

Second Cut: 60 or 80 straight with the grain

Third Cut: 100 Hard Plate: 100 First Screen: 80

Second Screen: 100 or 120

FINISHING: Occasionally white spots or specks that were not noticeable before finishing may be apparent once the floor is coated or after the floor has aged. These are spots of calcium carbonate and are a naturally occurring part of the species. (See finishing comments on page 6.)

Origin

South America.

Availability

Easily available.