

<b>Synonym(s)</b>	: <i>Mimusops balata</i> (Miq.) Eichl. / <i>Manilkara balata</i> (Pierre) Dubard	
<b>Family</b>	: Sapotaceae	
<b>Vernacular names</b>		
Suriname	: Bolletrie / Balata / Paardevleeshout	
Guyana	: Bulletwood / Balata / Beefwood / Iriar / Kobero / Purue	
French Guiana	: Balata franc / Balata rouge / Balata gomme	
Brazil	: Macaranduba / Maparajuba / Paraju	
Venezuela	: Balata / Massaranduba	
Columbia	: Balata / Nispero / Trapichero	
<b>International trade name</b>	: Macaranduba	
<b>Occurrence</b>	: Suriname, Guianas, Brazil, Tropical South America	
<b>Tree description</b>		
Bole length	: bole 20 - 25 m; tree height 30 - 45 m	
Diameter	: 0.45 - 1.50 m	
Log shape	: straight, cylindrical and slender	
<b>Wood description</b>		
Sapwood	: distinct, pink beige to pale brown	
Heartwood	: light to dark red brown, upon exposure to dark purple brown	
Grain	: straight, occasionally wavy or interlocked	
Texture	: fine	
<b>Technological characteristics</b>		
<b>Physical properties</b>		
Green density	(g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	: 1.30
Air dry density at 12% MC	(g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	: 1.09
Basic specific gravity		: 0.94
Tot. tangential shrinkage	(%)	: 9.4
Tot. radial shrinkage	(%)	: 6.3
Tot. volumetric shrinkage	(%)	: 17.0

### **Mechanical properties**

Bending strength at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	:	190
Modulus of elasticity (MOE) at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	:	19300
Crushing strength at 12% MC	(N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	:	87

### **Processing**

Sawing : difficult, power required; blunting effect: moderate

Drying : difficult, slow and carefully; risk of distortion and checking: high; risk of casehardening  
US kiln schedule T1 - B1 for 25-38 mm stock

Machining \* : power required but moderately easy; special tools recommended

Gluing : with special precautions

Nailing : pre-boring necessary; good holding of nails

Finishing : good

Veneering : slices well

### **Natural durability**

Decay fungi : good to very good

Termites : very good

Marine borers : poor

### **Treatability (heartwood)**

: poor

### **End uses**

: heavy constructions, bridges, flooring, carpentry, stairs, naval construction, violin bows, billiard cue butts, furniture components.

\* wood dust may cause skin irritation (dermatitis).