



# Iroko

## BOTANICAL NAMES

*Chlorophora excelsa*.

It belongs to the Moraceae family

## TRADE NAMES

Iroko - Italy, France, Great Britain

Simé - Guinea

Iroko - Ivory Coast

## GROWING AREA

The *Chlorophora excelsa* tree can be found throughout the tropical belt of Africa, while the *Chlorophora* reigns in West Africa, from Senegal to Ghana.

## TECHNOLOGICAL FEATURES

The sapwood is clearly distinguishable from the heartwood, which is yellow, tending to golden brown when exposed to light. Fine to medium texture with often crossed grain, this wood is sprinkled with large pores and is rich in calcareous secretions, even of considerable size. It is advisable to remove the sapwood, since, unlike the rather durable heartwood, it tends to be exposed to attacks by parasites.

## SPECIFIC WEIGHT

At 15% humidity, it has an average specific weight of 660 Kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

## DRYING METHOD

It dries quite easily since it does not have an excessive tendency to distort and split.

## MAIN USES AND WORKING

It is easy to work, although the presence of calcareous secretions tends to wear the blades of the tools used. The counterfine can also create difficulties, so it is advisable to reduce the planer's cutting angle to 15°. The wood glues, nails and screws satisfactorily, and a good finish can be achieved if good varnishes are used. Resistant to humidity, it is suitable for the construction of outdoor structures and is used for shipbuilding, boat decks, carpentry, joinery. Due to its similarity to teak and its good appearance, it is widely used as a veneer in the furniture industry.

**ZANUSO**legno

"Details make perfection  
and perfection is not a  
detail."