Cordia spp.
(soft-wooded, light-colored Alliodora group)
Family: Boraginaceae
Laurel Blanco

Other Common Names: Omo (Nigeria), ebe (Cameroon).

Distribution: Widely distributed in tropical Africa, found in closed forests and old secondary formations.

The Tree: Grows to a height of 60 to 100 ft, bole cylindrical, but rarely straight, 30 to 40 ft. in length; trunks about 3 ft in diameter above buttresses.

The Wood:
General Characteristics: Heartwood pale golden brown to medium brown occasionally with a pinkish tint; sapwood lighter. Texture coarse; grain typically interlocked give a stripe figure; lustrous; brittleheart fairly common.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) about 0.34; air-dry density 25 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (2-cm standard)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moisture content</th>
<th>Bending strength (Psi)</th>
<th>Modulus of elasticity (1,000 psi)</th>
<th>Maximum crushing strength (Psi)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green (40)</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>3,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9,700</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% (44)</td>
<td>9,150</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>4,050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Janka side hardness 550 lb for green and 590 lb for dry material. Amsler toughness 105 in.-lb for dry material (2-cm specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: Dries rapidly and well with only a slight tendency to warp. A high temperature kiln schedule is necessary to remove moisture pockets. Kiln schedule T1 3-C4S is suggested for 4/4 stock and T1 1-D3S for 8/4. Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 3.4%; tangential 4.6%; volumetric 7.5%. Movement in service is rated as small.

Working Properties: Works well with hand and machine tools and is easy to finish, in planing there is some tearing of interlocked grain, nails satisfactorily.

Durability: Generally heartwood may be rated as moderately durable.

Preservation: Reported to be resistant to preservative treatments.
**Uses:** Fine furniture and cabinetwork, joinery, and other decorative work where strength is not important.

**Additional Reading:** (3), (9), (40), (44)
