



Frijolillo (*Lysiloma* spp.)

Family: Leguminosae

Other Common Names: Abey, Frijolillo, Jigue, Sabicu (Cuba), Tabernau, Tavernon (Haiti), T'zalam (Mexico).

Distribution: Chiefly a Mexican genus with extensions into Central America, southernmost parts of the United States, and the Greater Antilles.

The Tree: A spreading tree with a rather short trunk, 2 to 3 ft in diameter; sometimes free of branches for 25 ft.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood lustrous brown with a coppery or purplish tinge, sometimes faintly striped; sharply demarcated from the thin white sapwood. Texture medium; grain straight to roey; without distinctive odor or taste.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (ovendry weight/green volume) 0.63; air-dry density 48 pcf.

Drying and Shrinkage: Reported to air-season slowly. Kiln schedule T3-C2 was used to dry 6/4 and 4/4 stock; the boards were prone to surface and end checking. Shrinkage green to ovendry: radial 2.7%; tangential 7.2%; volumetric 9.5%.

Working Properties: Considered easy to work, finishes smoothly, and takes a high natural polish.

Durability: Heartwood is rated as highly durable.

Preservation: No information available.

Uses: General construction, furniture, wheel wright work, parquet, interior trim, bobbins and shuttles, veneer, and knife handles.