

Description of the kinds of wood that I, Don Luis Néé, Botanist Royal in the expedition around the world, have observed in diverse provinces visited in the years 1789 to 1794 ...

Madrid 1797

Types of Wood in the vicinity of Acapulco

COCOBOL	A marbled wood, extremely hard and very heavy, which can be polished: it is suitable for use in [the construction of] buildings, furniture, instruments etc. [The tree grows to a] height of six varas. ¹
BORDENAZO	Very solid and heavy, and has the same uses as the above. 4 varas in height.
BOBO	Very solid, this wood is ideal for furniture, instruments and buildings.
GRANADILLO [PASSION FRUIT?]	A grained wood, very heavy and solid, for the same uses as above.
QUIEBRA HACHA AMARILLO	A good, solid wood. Its height is nine varas.
QUIEBRA HACHA COLORADO	A beautiful wood, heavy and compact. 8 to 9 varas in height.
VERA	A marbled wood, very solid and able to take on lustre. 9 varas in height.
TAPINCERAN	A very solid and compact wood, of height 7 varas.
POBLADOR	A good, solid wood. Grows to 8 or 10 varas.
MORADO O NAZARENO	A wood especially suitable for furniture. 6 varas in height.
LAUREL	This wood is light but solid.
GUAPINOLE	A fairly firm wood and suitable for helms etc. Height up to 20 varas.
ZOPILOTE	A very firm wood for knee-timbers and other uses. Ten varas in height.
CEDRO [CEDAR]	Has three different grades and all are particularly suited to construction. From 30 to 40 varas.
MARIA BLANCO	Suitable for masts and yards. Of 25 or more varas in height.
BRASIL [BRAZIL]	This wood is a well-known for use as veneer. From 5 to 6 varas.
MARIA COLORADA	A wood very useful for buildings. From 25 to 28 varas in height.
TECAMACA [TEAK]	The tree which produces the resin of the same name. From 7 to 8 varas.
MANGLE [MANGROVE]	Also resin-producing. 5 varas or more.
BALSAMO [BALSAM]	Produces the resin called "Natural Balsam." Six varas in height.
DRAGO [DRAGON]	Yields the resin called "Dragon Blood." 8 varas in height.
PLOMILLO	A solid and fairly heavy wood. Height 5 varas.

¹ One vara is approximately 2.8 feet.

MANGLE DE LAGUNA [LAGOON MANGROVE]	A fairly solid wood, although not very heavy; it is white: six varas in height.
PARACATE	Its skin, or rather bark, is dissolved in water, making a buff-coloured dye. Its height is 4 varas
COPALCOQUITE	Tree which produces copal resin, which is used instead of incense. Grows up to three varas in height.
PINO [PINE]	Its height is more than 40 varas; and its diameter 7 spans. Its wood is useful for canoes, pillars, arches, doors, tables and benches. It is abundant in resin.
SUELDA-CONSUELDA	Its wood is good for use in construction, its height 12 varas.
GUACHIPEHUALI O CUACHIPEHUALI	Height ten varas. Its wood has a good consistency, and is good for a variety of uses.
HINCHA CUERPOS	Twelve varas in height, and two in thickness. Its shadow makes people swell when they place themselves under it; its wood is very fleshy, and suitable for poles, boxes etc.
GUALLAVILLO	15 varas in height and 1 one in thickness. Its wood is excellent for many uses.
GUAGINIQUILLI	Grows up to 13 varas in height.
COBANÚ	Grows up to 15 Varas in height two in thickness: its wood is solid and good.
ARRAYAN [MYRTLE]	Its height is 14 varas and thickness one. Its wood is very hard and easy to cut.
PALO SANTO [LIGNUM VITAE]	Its height is five varas and its thickness half a vara.
TEPEHUAXE	Grows up to 40 varas in height and 5 in thickness: its wood is good and strong.
PALO MULATO	12 varas in height; its wood is very strong and serves for various uses.
TESCATAMA	Grows up to six varas in height: but its wood is useless.
MOXO	Its height is thirty varas, its thickness 4: its wood is used in many ways.
CIRIANA	Its height is 15 varas. Its wood is strong and yellow: it is used for various kinds of household furniture.
BOLITAR	Its height is 20 varas and its thickness four. Its fruit is used for washing clothing and making rosary-beads: the wood has no use.
TEPEMESQUITE	Its height is 16 varas and its width 4; its wood is very heavy and firm. It is employed in diverse ways.
CORCHUELO	Ten varas in height and two in thickness. Its wood is as strong as that of the ilex.
PALO CRUZ	Grows to ten varas high and is one vara thick. Its wood is solid, very firm, and provides good fibre.

CASCARA AMARGA	Its height is 12 varas and thickness three. Its wood, though weak, is rated fairly highly.
TECOMACA	Grows in to eight varas high and half a vara in thickness: its wood serves for the construction of houses.
MEZQUITE [MESQUITE]	Is of the same height and thickness as the above. Its wood is strong and of use for various purposes.
GUISACHE	Six varas in height. The seeds it produces, when dried, make a good dye. Its wood is not used.
COLORIN	It grows up to 8 varas high and 3 thick: its wood is spongy and is used by carvers, as well as in place of cork.
SALATE	13 varas in height and three in thickness. Its wood is of little use because of its excessive brittleness.
CIRUELO [PLUM]	Grows up to six varas in height and two in thickness: the wood has no use at all.
GUICILACATLE	Reaches up to 25 varas in height and 4 in thickness: the wood is not used.
CAMICHOLIN	Grows up to twelve varas high: its width is three. Neither is this used for anything.
GUAMUCHIL	Its height can be up to 14 varas, and its thickness three: this wood is employed in carriage-building: for pins in coaches etc.
MINGUELETO	Grows up to eight varas high and a little more than one in thickness: no use is made of its wood because of its weakness.
TORONJO [GRAPEFRUIT]	Its usual height is 12 varas, its thickness one. Its wood is suitable for various uses because of its sheen and firmness.

It is clear that the above-mentioned woods from Acapulco and other parts of New Spain can be used for construction if indeed we establish a shipyard in Acapulco, which is certainly one of the most beautiful sites on the coast of the New Spain.

(Museo Naval, Madrid)