

# The Colonial Woodsmyth

**Common Name:** Cocobolo

**Botanical Name:** Dalbergia retusa



**Other Common Names:** Cocobolo, Nicaraguan rosewood, Granadillo, Caviuna, Jacarandaholz, Palisander, Palissandro, Nambar, Rosewood, Pau preto, Urauna, Palo negro, Funera, Cocobolo prieto, Palisandre



**Common Uses:** Cabinetmaking, Chessmen, Inlay work, Lumber, Tool handles, Veneer, Bedroom suites, Boards, Core Stock, Decorative veneer, Drawer sides, Dressed boards, Figured veneer, Furniture, Handles, Kitchen cabinets, Living-room suites, Office furniture, Ornamental work, Plain veneer, Radio, stereo, TV cabinets, Rough boards/dimension stock, Shafts/Handles, Sporting Goods

**Region:** Central America

**Country:** Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

**Tree Data:** The size of the tree is reported to be small to medium. Mature tree heights are reported to be often 45 to 60 feet (13 to 18 m), with trunks that are usually of poor form reaching diameters of about 20 to 24 inches

(50 to 60 cm).

**Sapwood Color:** The freshly cut wood is reported to be variable in color.

**Heartwood Color:** The color of the heartwood varies when freshly-cut, and is described as a rainbow-hued. Exposure is reported to darken the lighter colors and merges them with the darker colors. The wood becomes deep red with irregular markings of purple or black and various colors of the rainbow. Boiling the wood in water is reported to remove some of the color.

**Grain:** The grain is usually straight, but it is occasionally interlocked.

**Texture:** The wood is usually fine textured.