Scientific name: *Swartzia leiocalycina*
Family: Caesalpinioideae
Standard name: Wamara
Other names: Montouchi, Panacoco, Saboarana, Brown Ebony

**Wood Appearance**
The heartwood is chocolate to purplish-brown with darker purple streaks, giving the wood an attractive appearance. The sapwood is pale in colour and sharply demarcated from heartwood; sapwood and heartwood are often used in furniture to give two toned effect. The grain is straight sometimes irregular and texture fine. The bole is 18-21m in length with a diameter of 40-75cm.

**Physical and Mechanical Properties**
A very hard, very heavy wood with medium movement. Excellent mechanical strength:
- Air dried density (12%) - 1060kg/m³
- Bending strength (at 12%) - 213 N/mm²
- Modulus of elasticity (at 12%) - 23630 N/mm²
- Crushing strength (at 12%) - 110N/mm²

**Natural Durability**
The heartwood is durable and extremely resistant to insects, decay and preservatives but not to marine borers. The sapwood is permeable.

**Timber Processing**

**Drying**
Dries slowly with appreciable surface checking. Kiln Schedule B.

**Working**
Difficult to work owing to hardness and interlocked grain. Easy to scrape and sand and gives a fine finish. There is a tendency for end splitting but distortion is not serious. Blunting effect is moderate to high. Suitable for bends of moderate radius of curvature if well supported with a metal strap.

**Assembly**
Difficult to nail and screw and tends to split, but fastenings are held well. Pre-boring is necessary.

**Finishing**
Finishes smoothly and polishes well. Stains will not penetrate the timber.

**Uses**
Suitable for interior decorative work and fittings. Can be used for cabinetwork, furniture making, flooring and panelling. Very suitable for inlay work and turnery.

**Supplies**
Occurs frequently in Guyana’s forests. Reasonable supplies are available.