



American Cherry

Prunus serotina Ehrh

Commercial names:

English:	American cherry, American black cherry.
Spanish:	Cerezo americano.
French:	Mérissier d'Amérique.
Italian:	Ciliegio americano.
German:	Amerikanische Spätkirsche, Amerikanische Traubenkirsche.

Common names:

U.S.A.:	Black cherry, Cabinet cherry.
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Physical properties:

Density:	500 kg/m ³	
Shrinkage:	Moderately unstable	
Shrinkage values:	Total	Unitary
Volumetric:	11.5%	(-)
Tangential:	4.0%	(0.30)
Radial:	7.0%	(0.18)
Hardness:	-	Soft

Mechanical properties (Wood free of defects (ASTM))

Static bending:	91 N/mm ²
Modulus of elasticity:	9,000-11,410 N/mm ²
Compression parallel to grain:	-
Compression perpendicular to grain:	2.8 N/mm ²
Shear:	12 N/mm ²
Toughness:	-

Origin and availability:

This wood is found in North America. The forested area, production and export are stable.

Wood description:

The color of the sapwood varies from pink to whitish brown to reddish brown, and the heartwood is red-brown or dark red. The wood is close-grained with brown streaks. The grain is straight and the grain texture is fine. There may be small pitch pockets.

Drying:

The drying rate is fast, and there are risks of warping, checking and ring failure. The recommended drying schedules are T8-B4 (4/4) and T5-B3 (8/4) from the FPLM.

Natural durability and ease of penetration:

This wood is graded as resistant to the action of fungi. The sapwood is not resistant to insects. The heartwood is moderately penetrable.

Technological properties:

Saws are dulled at a normal rate. The wood is suitable for obtaining sliced veneer. It offers no problems during machining. Resinous exudations produce moderate blunting of tools. Interlocked-grained wood is very difficult to plane, and a cutting angle of 20° is advised. The wood is well-suited to curving. Gluing and finishing can be executed without difficulty. Nailing and screwing properties are graded as average.

Applications:

Furniture./ High quality carpentry./ Turnery./ Sculpture./ Decorative veneers./ High quality plywood./ Tobacco pipes./ Musical instruments.