

Technical Document

“Naturally Durable Wood”

**International Building Code /International Residential Code
Definition for Code Compliance**

The International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code (IRC) require the use of Treated or Naturally Durable Wood having the durability of Redwood or Cedar as a minimum standard for deck constructions.

Both Redwood and Cedar have a durability class rating of Class 2 or higher in above ground applications. It is important to note that the durability rating of wood is associated with heartwood. As such untreated sapwood of Redwood, Cedar or any other species must always be considered as non-durable.

This document has been prepared to assist the building inspection professional whose state or municipality has adopted IBC and IRC codes as the minimum standards basis for commercial and residential construction.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common/Market Names</u>	<u>Durability Class</u>	<u>IBC/IRC Compliant</u>
Ipe	Tabebuia spp (Lapacho Group)	Iron Woods, Brazilian Walnut	1	Yes
Cumaru	Dipterix odorata	Brazilian Teak, Red Cumaru, Yellow Cumaru	1	Yes
Massaranduba	Manilkara bidentata	Brazilian Redwood, Abaco	1	Yes
Teak	Tectona grandis	Teak	1	Yes
Yellow Balau	Shorea spp	Bangkarai, Selangan Batu	2	Yes
Garapa	Apuleia leocarpa	Garapa Gold, Brazilian Ash	2	Yes
Cambara	Erismia uncinatum	Cambara, Cedrino	2	Yes
Genuine Mahogany	Swietenia macrophylla	Genuine Mahogany	2	Yes
Western Red Cedar	Thuja plicata	Cedar	2	Yes
Redwood	Sequoia spp	Redwood	2	Yes
Meranti (Dark Red)	Shorea spp	Meranti Batu, Blue Star, Mahogany	3/4	No
Meranti (Light Red)	Shorea spp	Duck Back, Iuan, Mahogany	4	No
Balau (Red)	Shorea spp	Mangaris	3/4	No

References:

U.S Forest Products Laboratory Wood Technical Fact Sheets

Australian Timber Standard AS 5604-2005

Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry