

# SASSAFRAS

*Atherosperma moschatum*



Also known as Tasmanian Sassafras, there are two types of timber, Blackheart and Golden. Sassafras is an under-storey evergreen tree, growing extremely well in the cool temperate rainforests of Tasmania and reaches heights of around 25 metres. Sassafras has the most variable and dynamic colouring, the most spectacular being the Blackheart Sassafras. The blackheart occurs in some, produced by a fungus, which usually affects the tree after some crown damage resulting from storms or adjacent falling trees. Sassafras is particularly good as a veneer or as a solid timber, with knots providing another striking feature. Sassafras is highly valued in the furniture making industry for its ease of working and versatility, and is regarded by many as an intermediate between softwood and hardwood.

## SUITABILITY

Furniture  
Joinery  
Cabinetry  
Veneer  
Craft



## TECHNICAL DATA

<b>Density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>) unseasoned</b>		<b>Density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>) seasoned</b>	600
<b>Strength Group - unseasoned</b>	S6	<b>Strength Group - seasoned</b>	SD5
<b>Radial Shrinkage %</b>	2.5	<b>Tangential Shrinkage %</b>	6.5
<b>Lyctid Susceptible</b>	No	<b>Stability</b>	Excellent
<b>Colour</b>	Sapwood is white with heartwood pale or black (blackheart)	<b>Durable</b>	Not recommended for external use
<b>Grain</b>	Straight, even & smooth	<b>Texture</b>	Fine and uniform
<b>Nailing</b>	Nail holes must be pre-drilled	<b>Screwing</b>	Pre-drilling recommended
<b>Sawing</b>	Good	<b>Moulding</b>	Good
<b>Turning</b>	Excellent	<b>Bending</b>	Excellent
<b>Gluing</b>	Good	<b>Finishing</b>	Good