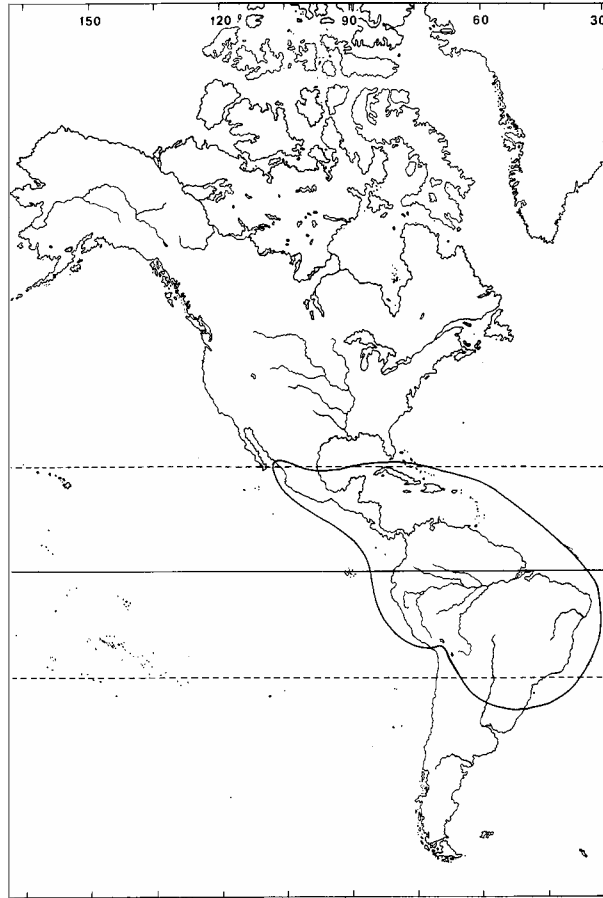




<b>Commercial names:</b>	engl.: Central American Cedar, South American Cedar, Honduras Cedar, Spanish Cedar, West Indian Cedar, Cigarbox Cedar esp.: Cedro fr.: Cedrela, Cedre d'Amérique centrale
<b>Common name</b>	Central American Cedar, Spanish Cedar
<b>Scientific synonyms:</b>	<i>Cedrela guianensis</i> Adr. Juss. <i>Cedrela mexicana</i> M.J. Roemer <i>Cedrela glaziovii</i> C.DC
<b>Subject to CITES control:</b>	Included in Appendix III.
<b>Macroscopic characteristics of the wood:</b>	Heartwood pale pinkish to reddish brown, sometimes with a purplish tinge, sapwood much lighter, creamy yellow or yellowish-brown. Wood semi-ring porous to diffuse-porous, growth rings distinct, lined with large earlywood vessels and initial parenchyma. Vessels often occluded with dark deposits. Grain straight to interlocked. Texture moderately coarse. Wood moderately to highly lustrous and with a pleasant odour (typical cigarbox smell). Hardness: soft Specific weight: 0.36-0.53 g/cm <sup>3</sup> (at 12% relative humidity).
<b>Microscopic characters of the wood:</b>	Wood semi-ring porous to diffuse porous. Growth rings usually distinct, marked by earlywood vessels and initial, marginal parenchyma. Vessels solitary and in radial multiples of 2-3(--8), 1-3/sq.mm, tangential diameter of the wider pores 130-300 microns (average diameter of all pores 130-160 microns), perforations simple. Intervascular pits alternate, nonvestured, 5-8 microns. Vessels with brown deposits; tyloses absent. Parenchyma paratracheal, vasicentric and in broad initial, marginal bands. Rays heterogeneous with usually one row of upright marginal cells, 1-5 cells wide, 4-12/mm. Libriform fibres thin-walled, non-septate, 0.8-1.5 mm long. Large, prismatic crystals occasionally present in parenchyma cells.
<b>Characteristics of the trees:</b>	<i>C. odorata</i> is a medium-sized to fairly large, deciduous tree up to 40 m tall, with a straight, cylindrical bole. Without or with small buttresses (up to 2 m high). Bark surface deeply fissured.

**Distribution:**

New World from Mexico to N. Argentina, all countries except Chile.



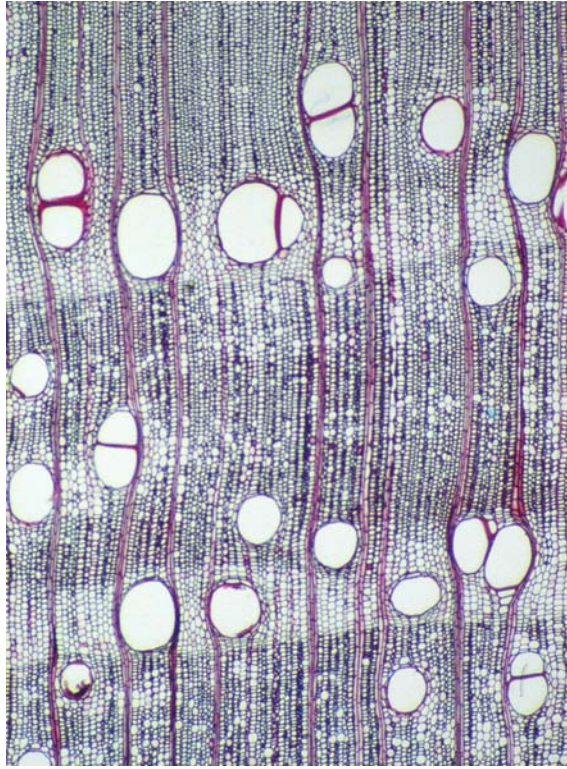
**Characteristics of the trade:** Although native in the New World tropics, Central American Cedar is planted in all tropical regions. Traditional supply regions are the West Indies, the Guianas, Brazil and Peru. Timber plantations have been established in Costa Rica, Uganda, Tanzania, Madagascar, South Africa and Southeast Asia, largely for domestic use.

**Use:** Cigar boxes, light construction, mouldings, joinery, cabinets, furniture, panelling, boat building (hulls of light racing boats), clothing chests and wardrobes, veneer and plywood, musical instruments (sounding boards). *Cedrela* trees are also sometimes planted for shade and as ornamental roadside trees.

**Similar species:** The genus *Cedrela* numbers about 8 species which are anatomically indistinguishable from each other. Possibly confused with: American Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla* – which can, however, easily be told apart by absence of fragrance, and its greater hardness and finer texture, and microscopically by its septate fibres). Wood of the Asiatic and Australian tree genus *Toona* is very similar to that of *Cedrela*, and shares the cedar-like fragrance. There are no absolute distinguishing characters between the wood of *Toona* and *Cedrela*.

	Distribution	Common name
<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>	Tropical America	American Mahogany
<i>Toona spp.</i>	Malesian region; Australia	Toon, Surian

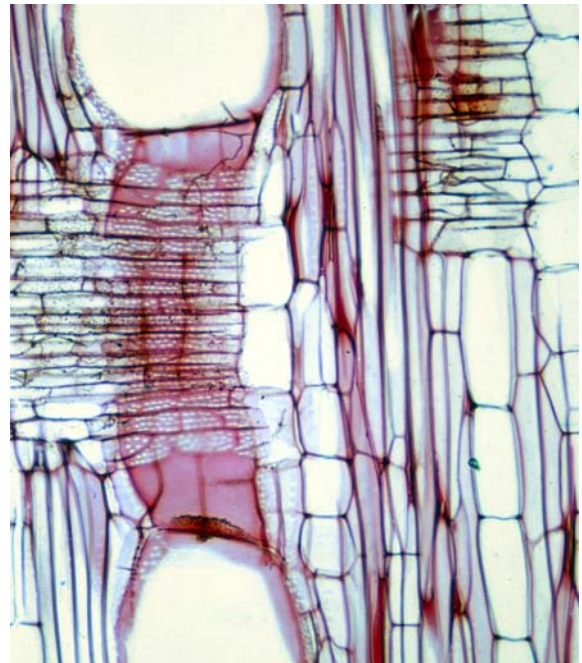




transverse section



tangential section



radial section