

36160 Redwood, Brazilwood, Haematoxylum brasiletto

Natural Red 24, C.I. 75280

The term „Redwood“ is referred to a number of different woods which is divided in two groups: soluble and insoluble redwoods. Brazilwood belongs to the soluble redwoods. Insoluble redwoods are, for example, Sandalwood, Coralwood, Muningawood. Brazilwood is derived from the Arabic name “Braza” which means pale red.

Redwood (Brazilwood; Haematoxylum brasiletto) is a species of tropical hardwood tree in the legume family, Fabaceae. It is known in its Mexico and Guatemala as “palo de brasil” or “palo de tinto”. The timber is used to make bows for stringed instruments, the manufacture of dyes and in ethnobotany.

To extract the dye, an aqueous extract is made from the grated wood, which is first yellow and after a while in the air it turns red. Older wood contains more dye and the extracts are redder from the beginning. The addition of acid makes the extract yellowish, and bases give an intense red color. Lakes can be obtained by the addition of salts: tin salts give a carmine red precipitation and iron vitriol a violet one.

Materials dyed with redwood extracts are not very resistant to acids and bases. Compared to the dyes now available, the lightfastness is also very low.

Redwood extracts (36160) are prepared by drying the aqueous extracts. These are available as pieces or in powder form, in the past it was also available as liquid pulp. Redwood extracts are more difficult to handle, partially it has to be cooked for a long time until the dry is solved again.

Specification

Composition:	Natural wood extract in spraydried powder coming from Haematoxylum brasiletto.
Aspect:	powder
Color:	brownish red
Total solids:	around 92 %
pH (10 % solution):	6.5 ± 1.0

The tinctorial principle is brazilin which, by oxidation on the fibres to be dyed, transforms in brazilein of a deep red color.

According to the mordant used it is possible to obtain bright, crimson, amaranth reds fast to washing but sensitive to light.