

### BOTANY

*Common names*  
*Botanical name*  
*Family*

Brasiletto, Palo de brasil, Brasil, Bois rouge, Bois de Sainte-Marthe  
*Haematoxylum brasiletto* H. Karst.  
Fabaceae

*Botanical description*

A small spiny tree of 2-12 m height with a twisted and deeply-fluted trunk with a grey or brown bark. Branches with spines, pinnate leaves of 5-8 cm length with 3 pairs of reverse heart-shaped leaflets. Yellow blossoms with few five spreading petals and papery seed pods of 2-6 cm are grey yellowish and split down the middle instead of along the edges.

*Plant origin*

Mexico to Costa Rica



Mature tree

### PROCESSING

*Plant part*  
*Grinding*

Heart wood

Wood pre-cut into 2-5 cm thick slides.  
Two step process grinding by AFT in order to reach particle sizes of 1-2 cm long and maximal 3 mm thick.



*Extraction/Drying*

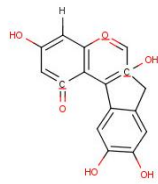
Aqueous extraction and spray drying  
Particle size distribution measured by AFT: D(v; 0.9)=76µm.



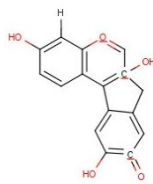
## VALORIZATION

### Compounds

Main known compounds are two homoisoflavonoids :



Brazilin



Brazilein



### Applications

For colouring various textiles (silk, cotton, wool, bamboo etc)  
Cosmetics (hair colours, make-up)  
Inks

