

# COCOWOOD PRESERVATIVE TREATMENTS

By

N.J. Melencion, PhD  
and  
L.J. Penamora, MSc



TIMBER UTILIZATION DIVISION  
PCA Zamboanga Research Center

**For more information, you may write or call:**

Timber Utilization Division  
Zamboanga Research Center  
Philippine Coconut Authority  
San Ramon, Zamboanga City  
PHILIPPINES  
Tel. no. (6362) 982-0302

## 1. Introduction

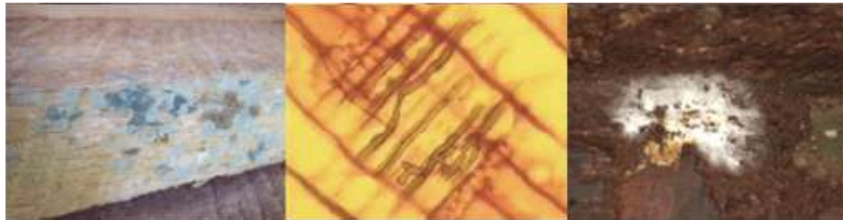
Coconut wood is susceptible to insect and fungal attacks in service. If left untreated, its utility and market value diminishes depending on the type and severity of attack.

## 2. Types of Cocowood Deteriorations

Freshly sawn cocowood which are improperly dried are often attacked by molds and stains fungi. While these fungi do not affect the strength properties of cocowood, the discoloration they impart can lower the price of finished cocowood product especially in high value products like furniture. Prolonged exposure of cocowood to wetting can cause decay fungi to thrive and effect damage.

Cocowood products in service can like-wise be attacked by wood destroying insects like borers and termites (dry-wood / subterranean).

### 2a. Fungi



**Molds**

**Stains**

**Decay Fungi**

### 2b. Insects



**Wood Borers  
(Beetles)**

**Drywood  
Termites**

**Subterranean  
Termites**

## 3. Preservative Chemicals\*

### For Molds and Sapstains

- Propiconazole (Mycostat P)
- Propiconazole and Didecyldimethyl ammonium Chloride (DDAC) (Brightwood XL)
- DDAC and 3-Iodo-2-propynyl butyl carbamate (IPBC) (NP1)
- Daconil 2787

### For Insects (Beetle Borers and Termites)

DOT – Disodium Octaborate Tetrahydrate  
e.g. Timbor

Rate of Application - 4.5 kg of DOT per 1 cubic meter of wood

### For Decay Fungi and Insects

- ACQ (Alkaline Copper Quat)
- Copper Azole
- Cyproconazole
- Propiconazole

## 4. Application Methods

Depending on the availability of equipment and the decay-hazard environment where a particular cocowood product will be exposed to, the following preservative application methods can be utilized:

- Brushing
- Dipping
- Dip-Diffusion Method
- Pressure treatment

All treated wood/products should be dried first before using to its intended application.

\* Disclaimer : Mentioned of commercial preservatives does not constitute endorsement. Individual trademarks belong to their respective copywrite/patent owners. Their efficacy and claims rest on their respective manufacturers.