PROPERTIES OF PARTICLEBOARD FROM DRIED LEAVES AND *Eucalyptus pellita*

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CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

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ABSTRACT

PROPERTIES OF PARTICLEBOARD FROM DRIED LEAVES AND Eucalyptus pellita

Properties of particleboard from dried leaves and *Eucalyptus pellita* in relation to temperature and ratio bounded with phenol formaldehyde was evaluated. The particle board manufacturing was made with three temperature setting 160°C,170°C and 180°C with 3 different types of ratio which are 70% dried leaves and 30% *Eucalyptus pellita*, 50% dried leaves and 50% *Eucalyptus pellita*, 30% dried leaves and 70% *Eucalyptus pellita*. The boards produced were evaluated for its internal bonding (IB) testing, bending strength testing, thickness swelling (TS) and water absorption (WA) according to British Standard (EN312:1996). The measurement of internal bonding (IB), thickness swelling (TS) and water absorption (WA) is 50mm × 50mm × 12mm while the measurement of bending strength (MOR and MOE) is 320mm × 50mm × 12mm. The optimum properties of board derived from 170°C and ratio of 30% dried leaves and 70% *Eucalyptus pellita* with IB of 0.58 MPa, MOR of 5.86 MPa, MOE of 849.83, TS 2 hours of 12.19%, TS 24 hours of 24.01%, WA 2 hours of 72.03%, and WA 24 hours of 89.01%.

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