

**FIBER MORPHOLOGY OF JUVENILE RUBBER WOOD (*Hevea brasiliensis*)
ACCORDING TO HEIGHT PORTIONS AND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
SAPWOOD AND HEARTWOOD**

By

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**Final Project submitted in Partial Fulfillment for the Diploma in Wood Industry
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November 2005

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bismillairrahmanirrahim.....

In the name of Allah, The most Gracious and The Most Merciful,

Alhamdulillah at last I manage to finish my thesis. First of all, thank you to Allah s.w.t for His Mercy for giving me strength and patience to complete this final project successfully.

Besides that, I am pleased to express my great appreciation to my advisor Professor Dr. Suhaimi Bin Muhammed. Thank you very much for your kind and advice for me during completing this final project.

I also want to thanks Miss Junaiza Bin Ahmad Zaki for helping me by giving the rubber wood sample and helping me during the fiber maceration. Not forgetting En. Rudaini for helping me during the microscopic observations.

Lastly, for my partner during completing this final project Nor Hashilah bt Abdul Halim. Thank you very much for your kind and cooperation. To all my classmates, memories of our friendship will always remind in my mind forever and ever.

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ABSTRACT

Fiber morphology of Rubber wood (*Hevea brasiliensis*) was studied according to height portions and between sapwood and heartwood. The longest fiber was in the base sapwood (1.51mm) and the shortest fiber found in the middle heartwood (1.19 mm). Similar trend of greater values at the sapwood was observed for cell wall thickness, runkle ratio and felting power where the biggest value was found at the base sapwood. But it is different with Coefficient of Suppleness where the highest value for fiber was found at the heartwood. These portions of Rubber wood in sapwood could lead to more meaningful utilization if one is looking for longer fiber and greater values of runkle ratio and felting power. If these criteria met the end use of fiber production, then the potential of Rubber wood as the raw materials for wood industries especially in pulp and paper should be considered.