

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**ADVANCED *WALET* SCAFFOLDING
NEST DESIGN USING MODIFIED
HIGH TEMPERATURE
STONEWARE**

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of the requirements for the degree of
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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

Edible bird nest (EBN) known as the nests of *Aerodramus Fuciphagus* species (*Walet*) is built entirely from threads of their saliva, and normally it was collected for the famous Chinese delicacy bird's nest soup. In the market, EBN price grade by its form and size. From the reviewed work, it was discovered that the young *Walet* are not able to build nest by their own. This led to an odd form that reduced its commercial values. Hence this was undertaken to introduce as- guide form to the young *Walet* to build a typical form that will increase its commercial values. Furthermore, the quality of EBN degraded due to the artificial surrounding. The existing scaffolding nest materials used plastic and silicon are not in standard size and gave negative effects on human health. Hence, the substitution of the existing scaffolding nest materials with nature materials may attract and create the natural habitat of *Walet* and increase the productivity of EBN. In this study, the design of the natural scaffolding nest was explored and it was determined that the form of the scaffolding has to be in the concave form for the ease of *Walet* saliva deposition. The study on scaffolding nest materials was performed systematically and it was determined that the stoneware body with the composition of 30% calcium carbonate as fired at 1100°C/0.5h was finally used as scaffolding nest materials. The highest strength and water absorption are 16.94 N/mm² and 24.67 %, respectively. Finally, the form of scaffolding nest was alike the natural supporter in limestone cave with guideline by MS 2334 (2011). The hook design also enhanced in order to adapt with ceramic materials brittleness. The modified stoneware scaffolding nest was successful installation in the *Walet* house. The finding of this modified stoneware scaffolding nest will growth the productivity of the EBN hence it will increase the income of entrepreneur.

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