HOMOGENOUS PARTICLEBOARD PROPERTIES OF PETAI BELALANG (*Leucaena Leucocephala*) WOOD IN RELATION TO RESIN CONTENT AND PARTICLE SIZE

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ABSTRACT

HOMOGENOUS PARTICLEBOARD PROPERTIES OF PETAI BELALANG (LEUCAENA LEUCOCEPHALA) WOOD IN RELATION TO RESIN CONTENT AND PARTICLE SIZE

In this study, the influences of resin content and particle size on the properties of particleboard from petaibelalang (Leucaenaleucocephala) wood were determined. Variable factors were as resin content of UF (8%, 10%, and 12%) and particle size (1.0mm and 2.0mm) on particleboard was determined. The properties of this particleboard were tested for their mechanical strength including modulus of rupture (MOR), modulus of elasticity (MOE), internal bonding (IB), and also physical properties including thickness swelling (TS) and water absorption (WA). The mechanical and physical properties of this particleboard evaluated based on the European Standard (EN). According to mechanical properties values, the all of values are able to meet the minimum requirement of the standard. Whereas, for physical properties values all of them had failed to meets the standard on particle size.