EFFECT OF THE DENSITY ON THE PROPERTIES OF PARTICLEBOARD FROM KENAF CORE AND KELEMPAYAN (*Neolamarckia* spp.) PARTICLES

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ABSTRACT

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This study investigates the potential of kenaf core and Kelempayan as a raw material for manufacturing particleboard. The mixture between 2 species wood particles used to manufacture panel for three different densities (300, 400 and 500 kg/m³) at different kenaf core ratio (30:70 and 50:50). The influences of density and ratio on mechanical and physical properties of particleboard manufactured were determined. The experimental panels were tested for their mechanical strength including modulus of elasticity (MOE), modulus of rupture (MOR), internal bonding (IB) and physical properties which is thickness swelling (TS) and water absorption (WA) were determine based on JIS A 5908: 2003, a Japanese Industrial Standard. For the result all of particleboard does not achieve the minimum MOE standard. Range of MOR for particleboard is 255 to 1140 MPa and it not achieve the minimum standard which is 2000 MPa. The range for MOR of particleboard is in range 0.919 to 5.212 MPa and it not achieve the minimum standard which is 8 MPa. For internal bonding of particleboard, the minimum requirement standard is 0.15 MPa. Based on the result, all of particleboards were achieve the minimum requirement given. Next, according to JIS A 5908: 2003 Type 8, the minimum requirement for thickness swelling of particleboard is 12%. Based on the result, all TS and WA of particleboard does not satisfy the minimum requirement, except for board at (300 and 400 kgm⁻³) with ratio 50 for TS in 2 hours that achieve the minimum requirement which is 10.748% and 11.409%. Mechanical and physical properties strength of particleboard were increased toward density of board and ratio used were increased.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABS ABS ACK TAB LIST LIST LIST	Page iii iv iii vi vii viii	
CHA	APTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Background of the study	1
1.2	Problem statement	4
1.3	Significant of study	5
1.4	Objective	6
CHA	APTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1	Particleboard Industry	7
	2.1.1 Manufacturing process of particleboard	8
	2.1.2 Properties of particleboard	9
	2.1.3 Uses of particleboard	10
	2.1.4 Import and export of particleboard	11
2.2	Raw Material	15
	2.2.1 Kenaf	16
• •	2.2.2 Kelempayan	17
2.3	Resin	18
	2.3.1 Urea Formaldehyde (UF)	19
	2.3.2 Melamine Urea Formaldehyde (MUF)	20
2.4	2.3.3 Phenol Formaldehyde (PF)	21
2.4	Effect of Density Effect of Particle Ratio	22 23
2.3	Effect of Fatticle Ratio	23
CHA	APTER 3 METHODOLOGY	25
3.1	Raw material	25
3.2	Particleboard manufacturing process	25
	3.2.1 Raw material preparation	25
	3.2.2 Board making	26
	3.2.3 Chipping and Flaking	26
	3.2.4 Drying and Screening	27
	3.2.5 Resin Mixing and Blending	28

	3.2.6	Mat Forming	29
	3.2.7	Pre-press	30
	3.2.8	Hot press	30
	3.2.9	•	31
3.3	Testing		
	3.3.1	Mechanical Properties	33
	3.3.2	Physical Properties	34
3.4	Experi	mental design	36
3.5	Statica	lly Analysis	36
CHA	PTER 4	RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS	37
4.1	Mecha	nical and physical Properties	37
4.2	Particl	eboard Manufacturing	39
	4.2.1	Sieve Analysis	39
4.3	Statisti	ical Significance	41
4.4	Effects	s of Board Density	42
4.5	Effects	s of Ratio	46
CHA	PTER 5	CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	50
5.1	Conclu	asion	50
5.2	Recom	nmendation	51
CITI	ED REFI	ERENCES	52
APPENDICES			
CURRICULUM VITAE			