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Manuscript ID: IJE-2401-8088

Manuscript Title: **Effect of Adding LDPE, PP and Biodegradable Plastic Waste on the Physical and Chemical Properties of Peanut Shell Waste Briquettes**

Authors: Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe, Listiana Satiawati, Harin Widiyatni, Wiwik Dahani, Michelle Andini Rahman, Sherly Silvana Nursyam, Alyssa Lagrama

Dear Respectful author Prof./ Dr. Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe

I wish to acknowledge receiving of the above mentioned manuscript.

It should be noted that the manuscript will be reviewed for possible publication in International Journal of Engineering.

Please be sure that the submitted manuscript has not been published previously and will not be submitted elsewhere prior to our decision.

Our editorial decision will be brought to your attention once the paper has been reviewed due the referees consideration.

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Dear Respectful Author Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe

Your manuscript required major revisions. In this case we normally treat it as unacceptable for publication. However, as numerous editorial errors have pointed out by the reviewers, the **International Journal of Engineering** editor believes that the manuscript could be rectified and prepare for possible publication. We required itemized answer and rebuttal letter to respond all specified reviewers. A marked or highlighted manuscript is required to observe any changes and revision made by the respectful author.

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1. Graphical abstract is compulsory.

2. DOI for all references are required.

3. Cite recent published papers including IJE's published articles.

4. Use IJE;s recent template, follow new format as well.

Reviewers Recommendation:

Reviewer 1:

Reviewer Comment For Author:

1- Writing an abstract for a scientific paper involves summarizing the key points of your research in a concise and informative manner. Briefly explain the background or significance of the study and state the research question or objective, Describe the methods or approach used in the study. Include information about the study design, participants or subjects, data collection procedures, and any statistical analyses performed, Highlight the most important outcomes or discoveries, including any significant data, trends, or patterns that emerged from your analysis and conclude with a brief statement summarizing the overall significance of your research and its potential impact.

In your abstract, the detailed procedure involving the mixing of peanut shell charcoal powder with three types of plastic, each in specific ratios, as well as the setting of pressing pressure, particle size, plastic chopping size, and starch binder usage, is unnecessary. These technical details should be elaborated upon in the "Materials and Methods" section of the paper.

2- In the introduction section, only one relevant paper was referenced. Ideally, this section should encompass several key components, including providing background information, identifying the research problem or question, outlining the study's scope and objectives, emphasising the research's significance, and presenting an overview or roadmap of the paper's structure.

3- The study does not address the biodegradable nature of the plastic materials. While it mentions that the plastics are chopped into pieces measuring 0.5 × 0.5 cm, it does not specify whether their thickness is uniform or what the actual thickness is.

4- Moisture content is typically considered a physical property rather than a chemical property.

5- To conduct an investigation into three briquettes made with different types of waste plastic, it is essential to compare them with a briquette that does not contain any of these plastics, serving as the baseline sample.

6- Why was 4% waste plastic (0.8 grams of plastic per 20 grams of peanut shell charcoal powder) chosen? It is evident that the properties of briquettes depend on the characteristics of their ingredients, such as density, moisture content, and so on.

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7- Given that LDPE and PP are non-polar plastics, it is evident that they do not absorb moisture and therefore have no impact on moisture content.

8- It is advisable to interpret the results by considering the chemical structure of the ingredients (at least starch, LDPE, PP and biodegradable plastic.

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Reviewer 2:

Reviewer Comment For Author:

Dear Editor-in-Chief of International Journal of Engineering (IJE)

The manuscript deals with the effect of adding low density polyethylene (LDPE), polypropylene (PP) and biodegradable plastic waste on the physical and chemical properties of peanut shell waste briquettes. Authors have studied modulus of elasticity, compressive strength, calorific value, moisture content, ash content, volatile content and deficient fixed carbon. The recommendation is that the manuscript needs revisions, as suggested below:

1- In the Abstract section, LDPE and PP, must be written in full names for the first time.

2- In the Abstract section: “biodegradable plastics” instead of “Biodegradable plastics”.

3- In the section 2. 1. Preparation of Raw Materials: The LDPE and PP used in the research were purchased from which company? Biodegradable plastic specifications should be mentioned in detail.

4- In the section 2. 2. Carbonization and Preparation of Mixtures: Add the weight of LDPE, PP and biodegradable plastic used to prepare briquettes.

5- In the section 3. 1. Physical Properties: "Physical properties were calculated using equations (1)–(3)." instead of "Physical properties were calculated using equations (1)–(6).".

6- Add the reference used for equation 2.

7- Equation 4 is not in accordance with the common formula used to determine the percentage of moisture content. In Equation 4, W1 should be the difference between the initial weight and the final weight after drying (Total weight loss in the oven).

8- In the section 3. 2. Chemical Properties: please mention the standard method of tests used to determine ash content, volatile content and fixed carbon.

9- The data should be presented either in the form of a table or in the form of a figure. The data of Table 3 is repeated in Figures 4 and 5. Either Table 3 or Figure 4 and 5 should be deleted.

10- Ignition time and flame rate are two important parameters in briquettes. Why did the authors not study these parameters?

11- Please arrange all references based on journal format as some of the references don't meet journal requirement. Also, the reference numbers in the text should be placed in square brackets.

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Manuscript ID: IJE-2401-8088 (R1)

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Authors: Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe, Listiana Satiawati, Harin Widiyatni, Wiwik Dahani, Michelle Andini Rahman, Sherly Silvana Nursyam, Alyssa Lagrama

Date: 2024-01-26

Dear Respectful Author Prof./ Dr. Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe

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Dear Respectful Author Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe,

Thank you very much for your interest in publishing your work in **International Journal of Engineering**. Your manuscript recorded above cannot be considered for possible publication in the presented form.

Therefore, we must suggest you to CAREFULLY revise your paper and resubmit it to the journal. To resubmit your manuscript, log into https://www.ije.ir/ and enter as "Author", where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscript needs to be resubmitted".

Editor-in-Chief / Editor Note:

Dear author

You have replied as response to reviewers; while I am unable to see any changes on your revised paper. Please apply all changes with highlights on your revised manuscript for easy observation as final reviewer has to evaluate your revision.

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Date: 2024-01-26

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Dear Respectful Author Prof./ Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe

Evaluation process of the above mentioned manuscript has been reviewed. The comments of the reviewer(s) are included at the bottom of this letter.

The reviewer(s) have recommended publication, but also suggest some revisions to your manuscript. Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewer(s) comments and revise your manuscript within the period of defined time.

Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to journal, your revised manuscript should be uploaded as soon as possible. A marked or highlighted manuscript is required to observe any changes and revision made by the respectful author. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision in a reasonable amount of time, we may have to consider your paper as a new submission.

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Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to this journal and I look forward to receiving your revision.

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Reviewers Recommendation:

Reviewer 1:

Reviewer Comment For Author:

Dear Editor-in-Chief of International Journal of Engineering (IJE)
I checked the revised highlighted manuscript. The authors' response to the comment of one of the reviewers is not correct:
- In the section 3. 2. Chemical Properties: The standard method mentioned by authors is in Indonesian. Please mention the standard method in English. Also, according to the standard method written by the authors, in equation 4, W1 is the amount of weight loss. Therefore, Equation 4 should be corrected according to the previous comment: "In Equation 4, W1 should be the difference between the initial weight and the final weight after drying (Total weight loss in the oven)."
Also, the data in Figure 5 should be recalculated and corrected.

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Dear respectful IJE author Ms. Yusraida Khairani Dalimunthe

This is my great pleasure to confirm that after technical and in-house evaluation, the above mentioned manuscript has been finalized and accepted for publication in IJE journal.

IJE's Editor in Chief shall contact you for the unmarked manuscript in the exact IJE's template for the required steps to follow IJE's format, in order to prepare proof of your accepted manuscript while communicating with the corresponding author.

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