

FINISHING PROPERTIES OF ACACIA MANGIUM

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DEDICATION

Special thanks to my beloved parents and family

Who always support me in whatever I do in my life and also always guide

me in	
where I am today	

ABSTRACT

The paper discusses the effect of bleaching agent and concentration on the wettability of *Acacia mangium* and effect of finishing system on finishing properties of *Acacia mangium*. The study consists of two phases. Contact angle was calculated in the first phase. Adhesion test and impact test were conducted in the second phase. The wettability was studied to assess the effects on the wettability of *Acacia mangium* surface bleaching agents i.e. sodium hydroxide, methanol and control. There were seven levels of concentration of bleaching agent which 2%, 4%, 6%, 8%, 10%, 12% and 14%. It seems that the concentration of bleaching agent affect the wettability of *Acacia mangium*. Methanol was the only bleaching agent that gave effects on the samples. The finishing properties of *Acacia mangium* was tested at the second phase involve three type of coating system which are acid catalyst (AC), nitrocellulose (NC), and polyurethane (PU). Adhesion test (cross-cut) was conducted based on BS: EN ISO 2409:2013 and impact test based on BS 3962: PART 6:1980.

ABSTRAK

Kertas ini membincangkan kesan agen pelunturan dan kepekatan pada kebolehbasahan *Acacia mangium* dan kesan sistem penamat pada penamat sifat *Acacia mangium*. Kajian ini terdiri daripada dua fasa. Sudut kenalan dihitung pada fasa pertama. Ujian lekatan dan ujian impak dijalankan pada fasa kedua. Kebolehbasahan itu dikaji untuk menilai kesan dua agen pelunturan yang berbeza, natrium hidroksida, metanol dan kawalan. Terdapat tujuh peringkat kepekatan ejen pemutihan yang mana 2%, 4%, 6%, 8%, 10%, 12% dan 14%. Nampaknya kepekatan ejen pemutihan menjejaskan kelembapan *Acacia mangium*. Methanol adalah satu-satunya agen pelunturan yang memberi kesan kepada sampel. Ciri-ciri kemasan *Acacia mangium* diuji pada fasa kedua melibatkan tiga jenis sistem salutan iaitu pemangkin asid (AC), nitrocellulose (NC), dan poliuretana (PU). Ujian lekatan (salib) dilakukan berdasarkan BS: EN ISO 2409: 2013 dan ujian kesan berdasarkan BS 3962: BAHAGIAN 6: 1980.

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APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project entitled "Finishing Properties of *Acacia mangium*" by Muhamad Saiful Bin Rodzali has been examined and approved as a fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Wood Science and Technology in the Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- AC Acid catalyst
- FAO Food and Agriculture Organization
- NC Nitrocellulose
- NFT Nutrient film technique
- PU Polyurethane
- RF Resorcinol formaldehyde

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Acacia mangium has a high yielding plantation forest ; producing 20 to 30 cubic metre/hectare/year. *Acacia mangium* is a significant forest plantation in Malaysia with a total of 320,015 ha. A part of the total number belongs to Sabah which is 76,738 ha, Peninsular Malaysia 28,814 ha and Sarawak has the highest yielding plantation about 214,463 ha (Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia, 2017; Jusoh & Adam, 2007; Cienciala et al., 2000). *Acacia mangium* is a prominent fast-growing plantation species (Pinto, 2005) and has the ability to exhibit a relatively high wood quality even though the recovery rate is low.

1.2 Problem Statement and Justification

Basically, *Acacia mangium* is used in pulp and paper industry. It is also an important source of timber; the wood is used for construction, boat building, furniture and cabinet making, and veneer (Orwa et al., 2009). The density of *Acacia mangium* varies greatly around 290-675kg/m³ compared to rubberwood which is about 480-650 kg/m³ (Lim et al., 2010). *Acacia mangium* has low wettability, large contact angle, poorer bonding quality compared to *Paraserianthes falcataria* and *Pinus merkusii* (Alamsyah et al., 2007).

However, none of the study reported the finishing properties of *Acacia mangium*.

Similarly with bonding, the finishing ability of *Acacia mangium* may be difficult due to the low wettability of the surface (personal communication with Kraft Nusantara Sdn. Bhd.). However, the surface wettability of *Acacia mangium* can be improved by surface treatment. Some of the surface treatments that have been used are Sodium hydroxide, Hydrogen peroxide, Lime (natural) and Ethanol (Ayeni et al., 2013; Li et al., 2007; Ichazo, 2001). These treatments are reported to be effective in improving the wettability of wood through reactivation of wood surface for glue-wood bonds formation (Aydin, 2004). In wood finishing, the surface must be well adhered to the finish material and forming an anchor to cell wall. Such bonding would help a good formation of coating film onto the wood surface. However, if the wettability of the *Acacia mangium* is poor, minimal adhesion may occur thus coating of the surface may become weak. Hence, surface treatment is required in order to improve the wettability of *Acacia mangium* wood surface consequently the finished surface will be of good quality.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this research are:

1. To evaluate the effect of bleaching agents and concentration on the wettability of *Acacia mangium*.

2. To determine the effect of finishing system on finishing properties of *Acacia mangium*.

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