



**PENGARUH VARIASI KONSENTRASI NaOH DAN LAMA  
PERENDAMAN SERAT TERHADAP SIFAT PAPAN KOMPOSIT  
PELEPAH SALAK (*SALACCA sp.*) DENGAN PEREKAT ASAM SITRAT**

Oleh :

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**INTISARI**

Pelepah salak mengandung selulosa tinggi yang potensial digunakan sebagai bahan baku papan komposit. Modifikasi serat dengan perlakuan alkali memiliki tujuan untuk meningkatkan kekuatan mekanika dan stabilitas dimensi papan komposit. Faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi kualitas papan komposit dengan perlakuan alkali pada serat diantaranya adalah konsentrasi alkali, lama perendaman serat, dan jenis perekat. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh interaksi konsentrasi alkali dan waktu perendaman terhadap sifat fisika dan mekanika papan komposit pelepah salak dengan perekat asam sitrat. Penelitian ini menggunakan rancangan acak lengkap dengan dua faktor yang berbeda, yaitu konsentrasi alkali (NaOH) (1%, dan 2%) dan lama waktu perendaman (20 menit, 40 menit, dan 60 menit). Serat pelepah salak diperoleh dari pelepah yang direndam dalam air kemudian diberi perlakuan mekanis menggunakan sikat besi untuk memisahkan serat dengan kulit dan lapisan gabus. Papan komposit pelepah salak dibuat dari serat dalam ukuran 2,5 cm secara acak dengan ukuran papan 25 cm x 25 cm x 0,7 cm dibuat target kerapatan  $0,8 \text{ g/cm}^3$  dan dikempa pada tekanan spesifik 3,5 MPa dengan suhu  $180^\circ\text{C}$  selama 10 menit. Pengujian sifat fisika dan mekanika papan komposit dilakukan berdasarkan standar JIS (*Japan Industrial Standart*) A 5908-2003. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa interaksi faktor konsentrasi alkali dan waktu perendaman serat tidak berpengaruh nyata terhadap semua parameter uji. Dari sisi ekonomi, kombinasi konsentrasi NaOH 1% dan lama perendaman 20 menit merupakan perlakuan yang optimal, dengan sifat papan pelepah salak yaitu kerapatan  $0,732 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , pengembangan tebal 50,71%, penyerapan air 94,88%, kadar air 7,027%, keteguhan rekat internal 0,264 MPa, modulus patah 16,26 MPa, dan modulus elastisitas 3,407 GPa.

Kata kunci : perlakuan NaOH, pelepah salak, konsentrasi NaOH, lama perendaman, asam sitrat .

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**EFFECTS OF NAOH CONCENTRATION AND TREATMENT TIME ON  
THE PROPERTIES OF SALACCA (*SALACCA sp.*) FROND COMPOSITE  
BOARD WITH CITRIC ACID AS ADHESIVE**

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**ABSTRACT**

Salacca frond contains high cellulose which makes it potential to be used as raw material for composite board. Fiber modification by alkali treatment can be intended to increase its mechanical strength and dimensional stability. Concentration of alkali, treatment time, and type of adhesive can affect the quality of boards. The use of natural adhesive such as citric acid, has never been done in the manufacture of composite board with alkali treatment. This study aimed to know the effect of alkali concentration, treatment time to physical and mechanical properties of composite board from salacca frond with citric acid adhesive. This research used completely random design with two factorials, i.e. alkali (NaOH) concentration (1% and 2%) and treatment time (20 minute, 40 minute, and 60 minute). Salacca frond fibers obtained from water retting process and then mechanically treated using an horse comb to separate fibers from the bark and epiderm layer. Composite board made from salacca frond fibers in the length of 2.5 cm randomly and the dimention of composite board was 25 cm x 25 cm x 0,7 cm with the target density was 0.8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. The mats were pressed at specific pressure of 3.5 MPa with a temperature of 180°C for 10 minutes. Physical and mechanical properties test were performed according to JIS (*Japan Industrial Standart*) A 5908. The result showed that interaction between alkali concentrations and treatments time did not significantly affected to all test parameters. Based on that, combination of 1% NaOH and 20 minutes of treatment was the optimum treatment. The properties of those salacca frond composite board were density of 0.732 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, thickness swelling of 50,71%, water absorbtion of 94.88%, moisture content of 7.027%, internal bond strength of 0.264 MPa, modulus of rupture (MOR) 16.26 MPa, and modulus of elasticity (MOE) 3.407 GPa.

**Keyword :** NaOH treatment, salacca frond, concentration of NaOH, treatment time, citric acid.

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