

Biodegradation and Mechanical Characterization of Glycerin Pitch-Plasticized Starch Films



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Introduction

Plastic waste has a serious negative impact on the environment. On the other hand, biodegradable polymers such as starch are decomposed by microorganisms, and glycerin is often used as their plasticizer. In this research, we used glycerin pitch extracted from used cooking oil. We conducted joint research with a student of Universiti Putra Malaysia and conducted experiments using different oil. Glycerin pitch can be converted into valuable products, providing a sustainable and economically viable solution to waste disposal challenges.

Objective

- 1. To characterize the mechanical properties of glycerin pitch plasticized starch film
- 2. To evaluate the biodegradation behaviour of glycerin pitch plasticized film under controlled composting conditions

Materials

Used canola oil (Yokohama Science Frontier High School), Used palm oil (Universiti Putra Malaysia) Sodium hydroxide, Methanol, Distilled water, Soil, Starch, Petri dish, Tensile strength tester, Glass jar, Weighing scale, Magnetic stirrer

