

**EFFECT OF BIOMASS BOILER WOOD ASH ON THE
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF RUBBER COMPOUND IN
THE PNEUMATIC TIRE MANUFACTURING
PROCESS.**

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This thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Master
of Science in Material Science

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May 2025

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Acknowledgement

First of all, my thanks should go to department head of Material Science and Engineering Mr.V.Sivahar for providing all necessary facilities and sharing his vast knowledge in material science.

My special thanks should goes to Mr.S.V.Udayakuamara for providing me guidance, help and support as my project supervisor. Without that guidance and help project would never been completed. Also, I wish to thank Mr. Devapriya Perera and Mr. Chamika Kumara for the industrial technical guidance and support provided me to complete the project.

During some of the activities of the research, several testing had been conducted in the analytical laboratory in Materials Sciences and Engineering department, University of Moratuwa. Fist I would like to thank to head of the department Mr.S.V Sivahar for providing the permission to conduct the testing. Also, I would like to thank for Prof. (Mrs) G. A Sewwandi who is senior lecturer and Dr.Dinesh Attygalle who is course coordinator in the department for the support and guidance.

I must be grateful to all academic staff and management staff in Faculty of Engineering University of Moratuwa for their contribution & commitment given to teach me to the vast knowledge I got through this course period.

I would like to thank Staff at Michelin Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Midigama Plant for their support and guidance given for the project works. All the practical and testing were conducted in technical center in Michelin Lanka (pvt) Ltd. I would like to thank to laboratory manager Mr.Prageeth Fernando, Compound specialist Miss Menaka Pietersz and all other Technical Centre team for providing the support in each activity during this research.

I am also thankful my wife and family members for the encouragement and support given in various ways during this hard period.

Abstract

Processing and materials recovery of waste is an important aspect of environmental policy. Ash is waste in terms of legislation, but it is also a material that can be reused. Various works proposed with wood ash (WA) from biomass as an inorganic fertilizer. In this study, the effect of adding biomass WA on the mechanical properties of TSR/SBR type rubber material that is used for the industrial pneumatic tire manufacturing process was investigated. The particle size of WA was observed to be 30 to 50 μm . The composition of WA was characterized by Elemental analysis, Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS), and Fourier-transformed infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). Five different compounds were prepared by adding 3, 5, 8, and 10 phr WA to the filler and additive materials in the general composition. Influence of the addition of WA on the cure characteristics (minimum torque – M_L , maximum torque – M_H , Optimum cure time t_{90} , scorch time t_{s2}), mechanical properties (tensile strength at break – TS_b , elongation at break – E_b and hardness), physical, dynamic properties, and resistance to aging were investigated. The fracture surface of the compound and the shape and morphological distribution of the fillers in the rubber matrix were examined using Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM). Production costs of the new compound proposed were compared between themselves.

As a result of experimental studies, it was found that the new compound has a good level of mechanical properties and can be used as a partial replacement of filler in the tire industry.

Key words: wood ash, Mechanical properties, compound

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