Effect of Biodiesel B100 and Ethanol Blends on the Performance of Small Diesel Engine

A small diesel engine is a machine that has high efficiency but causes a high level of pollution. The most widely used fuel so far is fossil energy which is an unsustainable energy. The fruit of the Calophyllum inophyllum plant has great potential to be developed as alternative energy for small diesel engines. In this study, the test fuel used was D100, B100, E5, E10, and E15. The small engine diesel used was TG-R180 Diesel with a compression ratio of 20:1 at engine turns 1500, 1800, 2100, and 2400 rpm, and the breaking load at a constant prony disc brake is 1.5 kg/cm². The result of the study using E10 fuel can improve engine performance and can reduce the opacity of the exhaust gas. The highest power in the D100 fuel at 2100 rpm is 8.06 PS. The highest thermal efficiency of E10 fuel is 50.29%. The use of Calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel (B100) can reduce exhaust gas opacity in small diesel engines when compared to the use of D100. E10 fuel has the lowest exhaust gas opacity rate of 4.1%.

Keywords: Calophyllum Inophyllum Biodiesel, Ethanol, Small Diesel Engine

1. INTRODUCTION

Calophyllum inophyllum plants are widely grown throughout Indonesia from Sumatera to Papua with an area of 255,3 thousand ha [1]. The advantage of using calophyllum inophyllum as an alternative energy is that this plant can be productive for up to 50 years, the oil content in calophyllum inophyllum fruit is around 40-73%, does not compete with feed needs (non-edible), has a high calorific value [2], The oil yield of the calophyllum inophyllum plant is 4680 kg/ha [3]. Biodiesel calophyllum inophyllum has a much lower exhaust gas opacity than diesel fuel [4].

Calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel and ethanol are alternative energy that can be used to reduce the use of fossil energy as fuel. The raw materials for making bioethanol come from natural resources in the form of plants or biomass containing sugar, starch and cellulose [5]. Ethanol is an alternative fuel that has a number of advantages over fossil fuels [5]. Ethanol can be used as a mixture of diesel fuel which can reduce exhaust emissions [6]. The addition of 10% and 15% ethanol to diesel fuel can reduce the performance of diesel engines due to the low calorific value of ethanol, but can reduce CO exhaust emissions [7]. The addition of ethanol to diesel fuel and biodiesel can reduce exhaust gas opacity [8]. The addition of 40% ethanol has a higher thermal efficiency than diesel fuel due to the high cetane number and enthalpy of evaporation [9]. The addition of ethanol can affect the viscosity of the fuel. The increase in the fuel rate is offset by the supply of air for the oxidation process which can make the flame higher [10].

The research needs to be done to determine the optimum exhaust gas performance and opacity in a diesel engine using a blend of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel and ethanol.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Characteristics of Biodiesel Calophyllum Inophyllum and Ethanol blends fuels

The calophyllum inophyllum plants used are from the Semarang city, Jawa Tengah. The proses of making biodiesel used degumming, esterification and transesterification methods [2]. The test fuels in this study were D100 (100% diesel fuel), B100 (100% calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel), E5 (95% calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel + 5% ethanol), E10 (90% calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel + 10% biodiesel), ethanol)
and E15 (85% calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel + 15% ethanol). The ethanol used in this study uses 99.6% ethanol and diesel fuel using Pertamina Dex.

2.2 Machine Installation Preparation

The test was carried out with the TG-R180 small diesel engine with specifications as shown in Table 1. Single cylinder, 4 stroke small diesel engine. Use of prony disc brake to determine the torque in the engine. Smoke tester to determine exhaust gas opacity. Research machine installation in Figure 1.

![Research Installation](image)

**Figure 1:** Research Installation

### Table 1: Small diesel engine specifcation

| Specifications          | Detail |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bore                    | 80 mm  |
| Stroke                  | 80 mm  |
| Cylinder volume         | 402 cc |
| Compression Ratio       | 20:1   |
| Gasket Thickness        | 1.8 mm |

Variations of fuel used D100, B100, E5, E10 and E15 at an engine compression ratio of 20:1. Engine speed variations 1500, 1800, 2100 and 2400 rpm. The prony disc brake is constant at 1.50 kg/cm2. The parameters measured at the time of testing each fuel include the time of fuel consumption, the force generated on the prony disc brake scales and the exhaust gas opacity.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The results of this study include the properties of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel fuel, performance and exhaust gas opacity from a blend fuel of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel and ethanol.

**Properties biodiesel calophyllum inophyllum**

The characteristics of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel were tested and compared to biodiesel Bachtiar [10] and Atabani [11]. The difference in these characteristics can be seen in Table 2.

### Table 2: Comparison of the characteristics of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel

| Properties          | SNI 7182:2015[12] | Bachtiar[10] B100 | Atabani[11] B100 | Result Biodiesel |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Densitas 40°C (kg/m$^3$) | 850 - 890        | 843               | 866              | 887             | 880   | 877   | 869   |
| Viskositas 40°C (cSt)   | 2.3 – 6.0        | 4.88              | 5.53             | 5.98            | 5.93  | 4.55  | 3.93  |
| Nilai kalor (Cal/gr)    | -                | 9448.9            | -                | 5105.3          | 4792.18 | 4595.45 | 4693   |
Table 2 describes the characteristics of the fuel including its density at 40°C, viscosity at a temperature of 40°C and calorific value. The characteristics of calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel based on standard SNI 7182: 2015 biodiesel parameters can be used as an alternative fuel. The resulting calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel has a higher density and viscosity than Bachtiar [10] and Atabani [2]. The biodiesel produced in this study also has a lower heating value than Bachtiar [10]. Differences in fuel characteristics can be caused by differences in esterification and transesterification processes as well as differences in the use of catalysts. The factors that influence the transesterification process are the amount of alcohol and catalyst, reaction temperature, pressure and time [13]. Addition of ethanol to calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel can reduce viscosity, density and calorific value.

**Performance and Emissions**

From the test results on a diesel engine fueled by a mixture of biodiesel and ethanol with variations in engine speed, the effective power, efficiency and opacity of the exhaust gas were obtained.

![Figure 2. Graph of engine speed – effective power](image)

Fig. 2 describes the relationship engine speed and effective power resulting in variations in fuel, indicating that the effective power of all types of fuel increases to a maximum point at 2100 rpm then decreases. These results are consistent with research conducted by Setyadji [14] and Robiul [15]. At 2400 rpm the effective power is getting smaller due to the weakened torque due to the moment of inertia on the engine [14]. Torque and effective power at high speed decreases due to greater mechanical losses and engine capacity [15].

D100 fuel has the greatest effective power compared to B100 and a blend of biodiesel calophyllum inophyllum and ethanol. The peak at 2100 rpm D100 produces an effective power of 8.06 PS. The lowest rated effective power is E15 fuel. This is because D100 fuel has the highest calorific value.

E10 fuel has a greater effective power than B100 fuel. In the results of this test there is a discrepancy with the research conducted by Can [7]. It is stated that the addition of ethanol can reduce the effective power generated due to reduced calorific value. However, this research correlates with the research conducted by Putrasari [16] and Gnamamoorithi [9]. It is stated that a suitable ethanol mixture in biodiesel can improve diesel engine performance due to higher fuel viscosity, lower cethane number and higher enthalpy of fuel evaporation [5], [9]. The viscosity of the fuel can affect the fluidity of the fuel [11]. An increase in the fuel rate offset by the supply of air for the oxidation process can cause a higher flame [10].

Fig. 3 is the resulting thermal efficiency generated for each test fuel at various engine speeds. Thermal efficiency has increased until 2100 rpm engine speed then decreased at 2400 rpm. Thermal efficiency at high rotation decreases because the machine experiences a lot of mechanical losses and the effective power...
generated at high rotation is getting smaller due to the moment of inertia.

**Figure 3.** Graph of engine speed – efficiency thermal

E15 fuels have the lowest thermal efficiency trend. The effective power generated at low E15 combustion is due to the low calorific value of the fuel. E10 fuel has an efficiency rate of 50.29%. This thermal efficiency is the highest compared to other fuels. The results of this test are in accordance with previous research conducted by Gnanamoorthi [9]. The addition of ethanol to biodiesel can increase thermal efficiency in diesel engines. The addition of ethanol can also reduce fuel use or be more economical [5]. Apart from the high viscosity of the fuel, the cetane number, and the enthalpy of evaporation are also high because the blend of ethanol and fuel can cause micro-explosions [17], [18]. The micro explosion in combustion causes the secondary atomization of a fuel and causes combustion to accelerate and combustion is more complete, this is because the breakdown of fuel when combustion occurs into small particles that makes evaporation faster, so that the mixing of fuel and air is faster and combustion to be faster [17].

**Figure 4.** Graph of engine speed - opacity

Fig. 4 describes the relationship of engine speed to the opacity of the exhaust gas produced. Opacity of
kalophyllum inophyllum biodiesel is lower than diesel fuel at engine speed. The highest opacity on the D100 fuel at 1500 rpm is 60.2%. Biodiesel kalophyllum inophyllum forms less soot, lower residual content and fatty acids contained in biodiesel are easier to be completely oxidized [14]. This research is in accordance with previous research conducted by Nayak [4] and Fanani [19]. While the lowest opacity is on E10 fuel at 2400 rpm, which is 4.1%. In this fuel the exhaust gas opacity drops dramatically compared to D100 fuel, this is because the oxygen content in ethanol fuel and the micro-explosion in ethanol fuel also makes combustion more perfect [17], [18].

4. CONCLUSIONS
Calophyllum inophyllum Biodiesel fuel can be used as an alternative fuel as a substitute for fossil fuels. The use of a 10% ethanol blend percentage in calophyllum inophyllum biodiesel can improve engine performance and can reduce the opacity of the exhaust gas. The highest power on the D100 fuel at 2100 rpm engine speed is 8.06 PS. The highest thermal efficiency of E10 fuel is 50.29%. The use of biodiesel kalophyllum inophyllum (B100) can reduce exhaust gas opacity in diesel engines when compared to the use of D100 and E10 fuel has the lowest exhaust gas opacity rate, which is 4.1%.

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