**Mechanical Properties of Thai Dendrocalamus Bamboo Column Joints**

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**Abstract**—The Joint is considered an essential component in construction. In the paper, study the compressive strength tests of standard-sized of the Thai Dendrocalamus Giganteus bamboo laminated columns that connected in 3 different joints. The test results show that column type 3 joints can withstand the highest compressive strength of 12333 kgf. From the test results show that bamboo columns that are connected. The force is reduced by approximately 90 percent compared with the column without the joint.

**Keywords**—Dendrocalamus Giganteus; joint ; compressive strength

I. INTRODUCTION

Thai Dendrocalamus Giganteus (TDG) Bamboo is the giant bamboo in Thailand that can grow anywhere around Thailand. TDG bamboo at age 3-years form Ta Wong Pa district of Nan province, cut from the bottom 6 meters long and divided into 3 parts bottom middle and top each part cut 2 meters long. The physical properties of the 3-year-old TDG bamboo, the test results as following by [1][2][3][4][5] can be summarized as follows

1. TDG bamboo at the bottom part with an average circumference of 48.64 centimeters and an average thickness of 2.86 centimeters.
2. TDG bamboo in the middle part of the bamboo with an average circumference of 43.42 cm and an average thickness of 1.43 cm.
3. TDG bamboo in the top part of the bamboo with an average circumference of 39.27 cm and an average thickness of bamboo of 0.97 cm.

TDG bamboo laminated have been studied by [6][7][8] the analysis of the mechanical properties; compressive strength, bending and shear according to the test by ASTM D143-09 [9] and DPT 1221-51 [10] the test results can be summarized as follows

A. Compressive strength of TDG laminated column

TDG bamboo laminated column for this paper study the factor of temperature and moisture that affect the compressive strength. [7] The compressive strength of bamboo column size standard 50x50x200 mm total 3 pieces test the factor that affects the compressive strength in 2 cases; sink in the water for 48 hours. The results of the test shown that TDG column got the water absorption very slow, as shown in table 1. MA2 code for the specimens without a soak in the water with moisture content 7% compared with the MA1 sink in the water 24 hours the moisture content to 21.20% and MA3 sink the water 48 hours with the moisture content 26.30%. For this study, the results of the increased moisture content affect the load properties because of the failure of the adhesion. Another case study of temperature affects the bearing capacity of bamboo poles; found that the temperature at 0 degrees Celsius and 60 degrees Celsius is not very different. Then shows that the change of temperature does not affect the strength of bamboo. The study found that TDG bamboo laminated column can be classified as a hardwood.

Table 1. Average of the test result of TDG bamboo laminated column

| Type  | Weight | Density | Moisture | Load | Stress |
|-------|--------|---------|----------|------|--------|
|       | g      | g/cm³   | %        | kgf  | kg/cm² |
| MA1   | 299    | 0.60    | 21.20    | 13450.00 | 538.00 |
| MA2   | 336    | 0.67    | 7.10     | 15479.57 | 619.18 |
| MA3   | 335    | 0.67    | 26.30    | 13950.00 | 558.00 |

B. Shear strength of TDG laminated column

The mechanical properties of bamboo are based on ASTM D143-09 and Standard for the wood test in Thailand (DPT 1221-51);[11] The details of the specimen’s size 63x50x50mm with a different part of bamboo the results as shown in table 2 the best results shown that TDG bamboo laminate at the bottom part can handle the best load and classified as a hardwood.
Table 2. Average of the test result of TDG bamboo laminated column

| Type   | Weight (g) | Density (g/cm³) | Moisture (%) | Load (kgf) | Stress (kg/cm²) |
|--------|------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| TOP    | 99.50      | 0.69            | 9.07         | 1319.30    | 52.77           |
| Middle | 95.50      | 0.66            | 9.60         | 1385.76    | 55.43           |
| Bottom | 87.33      | 0.60            | 9.20         | 2504.26    | 100.17          |

C. Bending strength of TDG laminated column

The bending strength of TDG laminated [12] tested with the size standard; found that the TDG beam-type NFR and FR fit in the categories of the hardwood. Average of the modulus of elasticity; TDG beam coated with resin 270140.87 kg/cm², TDG beam without coated with resin 159457.74 kg/cm². TDG bamboo beam classified as a hardwood. From the study of mechanical properties of processed TDG bamboo, found that bamboo can be used to replace wood in the future. Therefore, this research studied the joint of structural bamboo columns. So that TDG bamboo can be used widely.

II. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The scope of a study; TDG bamboo used for experimental taken from Tha Wang Pha district of Nan province, at age 3 years. The TDG culms measured above 6 meters from the bottom culms and cut into 2 meters long set the code to 3 part; bottom middle and top. In this paper, the TDG bamboo laminated column made from the bottom part. The design of the TDG column lay with horizontal fiber as shown in fig 1.

Fig 1 the TDG bamboo column laminated design

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this study, TDG bamboo aged 3 years immersed in water for 10 days and dry them with the solar kiln house 1-2 months. After the bamboo turns into yellow color, cut the bamboo to make the strip as shown in fig. 2 the size of the strip width 3 cm and long 2 meters.

The stripping process takes approximate 3 months and checks for moisture content in the strip, not over 12 % [13]. The following processes are essential as follows.

A. TDG bamboo laminated column forming process

The strips from the bottom part are glued together to the size standard 50x50x200 mm. The strip glue and clamp for more than 8 hours after that cut to size, as shown in fig 3.

Fig. 3 Column forming process

Fig. 2 the strips making the process

All the specimens after glue let them dry for 1 month before testing the mechanical properties. To allow the glue to dry and complete adhesion. In this paper, Most of the production processes are manual production and general woodworking tools

B. TDG bamboo laminated Joint making process

The joints in the paper design in 3 types. The pattern of the joint design in the paper and draw in the TDG column after that cut to size with a jigsaw along with the pattern as shown in fig 4.

Fig. 4 Joint making process

C. Joint type

The specimens forming for compression test of the TDG laminated bamboo according to DYP 1221-51. Three types of joint with a total of 3 pieces of each type. The total of the specimens 12 pieces. The TDG joint design as shown in fig 5.

Fig. 5 Type of the TDG bamboo joints

The fig 5 the TDG bamboo laminated columns which joint in three different types as follows

1. Lap joint the bamboo column cut and joint half and a half straight. Code this joint as type 1
2. Tongue and Groove joint which joint half and code this common type 2.
3. Mortise & Tenon joint which joint half and code this common type 3.

IV. TESTING AND TESTING STANDARD

The mechanical properties of bamboo are based on ASTM D143-09 and Standard for the wood test in Thailand (DTP 1222-51) [14]. The compressive test setting, as shown in fig 6 with the Universal test machine.
V. EXPERIMENT RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The specimen’s results analysis with computer software. The test results analysis as the following:

A. The test results of the joints Type 1

The lap – joint of the TDG bamboo column laminates without the joint code BNJ with density 0.58 g/cm³ with moisture, 9.40 % can resist the load 12,604.03 kgf with the stress 504.16 kg/cm². The average best result of the column with joints code BA2 can resist the load 12,162.89 kgf with the stress 486.52 kg/cm². The average test results as shown in table 3 and fig 8.

Table 3. The average test of the joints type 1

| Type  | Weight (g) | Density (g/cm³) | Moisture (%) | Load (kgf) | Stress (kg/cm²) |
|-------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| BNJ   | 292        | 0.58           | 9.40         | 12,604.03  | 504.16          |
| BA1   | 303        | 0.61           | 7.60         | 11,658.73  | 466.35          |
| BA2   | 292        | 0.58           | 9.40         | 12,162.89  | 486.52          |
| BA3   | 299        | 0.60           | 6.90         | 11,973.83  | 478.95          |

B. The test results of the joints type 2

The Tongue and Groove joint of the TDG bamboo column laminates without the joint which the code BNJ; density 0.60 g/cm³ and moisture 6.90 % can resist the load 12,444.30 kgf and the stress 497.77 kg/cm². The average best result of the column with joints code BA2 can resist the load 12,379.95 kgf with the stress 495.20 kg/cm². The average results as shown in table 4 and fig 9.

Table 4. The average test of the joints type 2

| Type  | Weight (g) | Density (g/cm³) | Moisture (%) | Load (kgf) | Stress (kg/cm²) |
|-------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| BNJ   | 299        | 0.60           | 6.90         | 12,444.30  | 497.77          |
| BA1   | 299        | 0.60           | 6.90         | 10,004.00  | 400.16          |
| BA2   | 314        | 0.63           | 7.20         | 12,379.95  | 495.20          |
| BA3   | 326        | 0.65           | 8.30         | 10,629.25  | 440.18          |

C. The test results of the joints type 3

Mortise & Tenon joint of the TDG bamboo column laminates without the joint code BNJ with density 0.61 g/cm³ with moisture, 6.90 % can resist the load 11,100 kgf with the stress 444 kg/cm². The average best result of the column with joints code BA2 can resist the load 12,162.89 kgf with the stress 486.52 kg/cm². The average results as shown in table 5 and fig 11.
The failure of the bamboo column joints type 3 (Lap joint) as shown in fig 9 the joint failure with splitting type along the glue line but the specimens still in good condition not broken as shown in fig 12.

**D. Comparison of test results of joints**

From the test results of three types of joints type 1, the capacity load range between 93 - 97 %. Type 2 the capacity load range between 80-99 % .Type 3 the capacity load range between 86-96. The percent of the load, as shown in fig 13. The maximum load of TDG column joint approximate 12,379.95 kgf. The lowest load TDG column joint approximate 10004 kgf as shown in fig 14.

**VI. CONCLUSION**

From the test of the joint in a TDG bamboo column, found that the capacity compressive strength load average approximate 93 percent compared to the bamboo column without the joint. The bamboo column with the joint, much calculated the reduction load for safety. The compressive stress of the bamboo without the joint 500.48 kg/cm² and the worst compressive stress of the bamboo with the joint 400.16 kg/cm² so the safety factor equal

\[ FSC = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma_i} = 500.48/400.16 = 1.25 \]

However, the strength of the joint also depends on other factors such as the meticulousness of the process to make the joints, the time to let the glue dry as well as type of glue used in production.

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