

**MUTU KAYU MANGIUM DALAM BEBERAPA
METODE PENGERINGAN
(The Quality of Mangium Wood in Several Drying Methods)**

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ABSTRACT

One of the problems in processing mangium wood (*Acacia mangium Willd*) is its long drying time. During the drying, mangium wood also tends to get warp and/or honeycomb defects. Research has been carried out to investigate the quality of mangium dried with several drying methods such as shed method; combined solar and biomass energy (energy produced from biomass in stove); the shed method and combined solar- biomass energy; and the shed method previously initialized with pre-freezing treatment. The results showed that drying mangium wood with the shed method and combined solarbiomass energy technique was the fastest of all the methods applied. The wood did not get warp or honeycomb either, but its colour became pale. Pre-freezing mangium wood prior to shed drying process produced the brightest color of mangium. However, this particular drying technique was the slowest compared to the other 3 drying methods.

Keywords: Mangium, quality, drying method, freezing

ABSTRAK

Masalah serius yang dikeluhkan dalam pengolahan kayu mangium (*Acacia mangiumWilld*) adalah proses pengeringannya karena berlangsung lama dengan kecenderungan cacat bentuk dan pecah dalam. Penelitian telah dilakukan dengan metode pengeringan shed; metode kombinasi tenaga surya dan energi biomas (panas dari tungku kayu bakar); metode shed dan kombinasi tenaga surya dan energi biomas; kombinasi perlakuan pendinginan dan metode pengeringan shed. Hasilnya menunjukkan pengeringan dengan metode shed dan kombinasi tenaga surya dan energi biomas dapat mempercepat pengeringan tanpa menimbulkan pecah dan cacat bentuk pada kayu mangium namun dari segi warna agak pucat. Mutu warna kayu mangium yang terbaik diperoleh dari hasil pengeringan shed dengan contoh uji dari ruang pendingin, walaupun dari segi waktu lebih panjang dibandingkan dengan ketiga metode yang lain.

Kata kunci: Mangium, mutu, metode pengeringan, pendinginan