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 Newsprint from mixtures of Philippine hardwoods

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9. ABSTRACT
 This report presents the results of a study of the suitability of Philippine hardwoods for the manufacture of newsprint paper. Newsprint of acceptable quality was made from 100 percent Philippine hardwoods consisting of (1) 70 percent thermomechanical pulp and 30 percent kraft, and (2) 80 percent thermomechanical pulp and 20 percent long-fiber sulfite pulp. The three conclusions of the study: Acceptable newsprint can be made from 100 percent tropical hardwoods for the local markets, but may require the addition of a small quantity of long-fiber pulp for the world market. The hardwood thermomechanical pulp requires bleaching for use in newsprint, and the newsprint furnishes need to be dyed to approach the tint of North American newsprint. The printability and optical properties of the newsprint are better with higher levels of thermomechanical pulp.

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NEWSPRINT FROM MIXTURES OF PHILIPPINE HARDWOODS

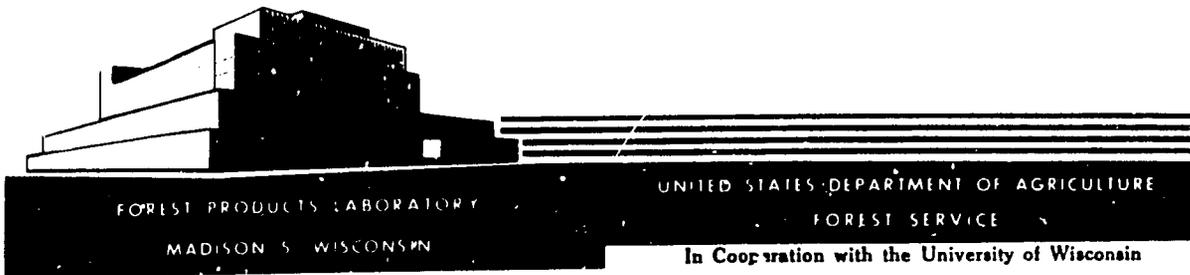
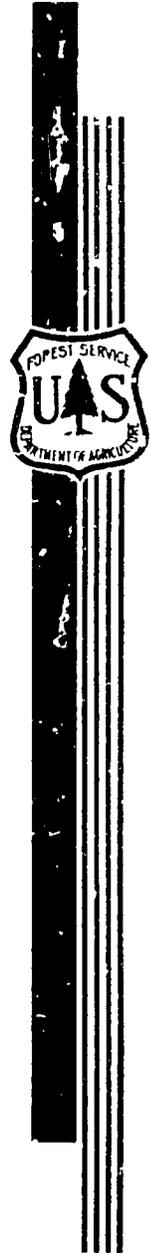
By,

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NEWSPRINT FROM MIXTURES OF PHILIPPINE HARDWOODS

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Summary

This report establishes the suitability of Philippine hardwoods for the manufacture of newsprint paper. Acceptable quality newspaper was made from (1) 100 percent Philippine hardwoods consisting of 70 percent thermomechanical pulp and 30 percent kraft and (2) 80 percent hardwood thermomechanical pulp and 20 percent long-fiber sulfite pulp.

Experimental

Wood Mixtures

Fifty species of Philippine hardwoods were used to make pulps for the newsprint paper machine trials. The chips were made from bark-free

¹Maintained in Madison, Wis. in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin.

wood in a commercial size, four-knife chipper. The nominal length of the chips was 5/8 inch and the fines and oversize were removed prior to blending of the individual species to obtain the mixtures. The mixture used to make the kraft pulp contained equal amounts (dry-weight basis) of 47 species listed in Table 1. As shown in Table 2, two different mixtures were used to make thermomechanical pulps. The first mixture contained equal amounts of the three lightest colored species while the second mixture contained equal amounts of the next five lightest colored species.

Kraft Pulping

Preliminary kraft pulping studies were made with mixtures of all 50 species combined in three different specific gravity distributions. Based on the results of these preliminary trials (see AID Report No. 1) the following conditions were chosen to make the pilot-scale digestions:

- (a) 16.0 percent active alkali
- (b) 25 percent sulfidity
- (c) 4-to-1 water-to-wood ratio
- (d) 90 minutes to raise the temperature to 170° C.
- (e) 90 minutes at 170° C.

Using 140 pounds (dry weight) of chips for each, five pilot-scale digestions were made. At the end of cooking the digester was blown, and the resulting pulp was washed, screened through a 0.012-inch slotted flat screen, and wet lapped. The blend of the five pulps had a kappa number of 22.8.

Thermomechanical Pulping

The two mixtures of light-colored chips were converted into thermomechanical pulps at the pilot plant of C. E. Bauer, Springfield, Ohio. Both

chip mixtures were given an initial two-minute steaming at 30 p. s. i. g. , and then fiberized to about 400 Canadian Standard freeness in a 418-pressurized refiner. These high-freeness pulps were returned to the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) after the initial fiberizing in order for us to have better control and more flexibility in developing optimum properties of these pulps for use in newsprint.

Preliminary atmospheric refining trials made with these high-freeness pulps in a 36-inch disk mill indicated that it was necessary to lower the freeness to about 125 Canadian Standard freeness in order to develop optimum properties. Consequently, the larger batches of pulp for the paper machine trials were refined to about this freeness. Because the brightness of both pulps was too low for use in newsprint, they were bleached with hydrogen peroxide before being used in the paper machine trials.

Bleaching

The Philippine hardwood kraft pulp was semibleached to a brightness of 76.4 percent in a 3-stage bleach consisting of chlorination, extraction, and hypochlorite. The conditions of this bleach are given in Table 3.

The thermomechanical pulps made from the three- and the five-species mixtures were bleached to brightnesses of 66.1 and 67.2 percent, respectively, using a one-stage bleach of hydrogen peroxide. The conditions of these bleaches are given in Table 4. During the pressurized thermomechanical fiberizing stage, stresses are developed in the fibers. A recommended procedure for relieving these stresses is heating of the pulp slurry above 70° C. and agitating until a constant freeness is obtained. This "latency" was effectively removed from these thermomechanical pulps under the conditions used to make the bleaches.

Papermaking

Newsprint weighing 32 pounds/3000 square feet (52 grams/square meter) was produced on an experimental Fourdrinier paper machine from furnishes containing the thermomechanical pulps and either the Philippine hardwood kraft pulp, a western hemlock sulfite pulp, or a combination of these two pulps. The sulfite pulp, obtained from a West Coast newsprint manufacturer, was refined in a pump-through disk refiner to a Canadian Standard freeness of 600 milliliters and the Philippine hardwood kraft pulp was refined in the same equipment to 450 milliliters. For some of the runs the thermomechanical pulps were refined further in the pump-through in an attempt to improve the opacity and close up the sheet. The processed pulps were blended in the machine chest and the pH of the furnish adjusted to 4.5-5.0 with sulfuric acid and alum. Dye was added to the different furnishes approaching the "tint" of commercial news. Without the dye the sheets had a distinct yellow characteristic attributed to the thermomechanical pulp.

Evaluations

All tests were conducted according to TAPPI methods unless otherwise indicated in the tables. Printability of the newsprint was evaluated at the laboratory of a commercial newsprint manufacturer and is expressed in terms of print quality and strike-in.

Results

Pulp Properties

The handsheet properties of both the unbleached and semibleached Philippine hardwood kraft pulps are given in Table 5. As was found in

previous work with other tropical hardwood mixtures, the quality of these pulps was far better than that of kraft pulps made from North American hardwood mixtures. Bleaching of the Philippine hardwood kraft pulp with CEH lowered all strength properties only slightly. As shown in Table 6, the strength properties of the commercial western hemlock sulfite pulp were about equal to those of the bleached Philippine hardwood kraft pulp.

The handsheet properties of the bleached thermomechanical pulps are given in Table 7. Good quality pulps were made from both chip mixtures. The pulp made from the three-species mixture is lower in bursting and tensile strengths primarily because of its higher freeness which was lowered for the paper machine runs by additional refining.

Newsprint

Results for the various experimental newsprints are presented in Table 8. Samples of the papers are included in the report. For comparison, properties of commercial newsprint from the Philippines, Canada, and the United States have been included in the table.

The newsprint papers with the Philippine hardwoods had good strength characteristics generally in the range of the commercial papers. Acceptable newsprint was made from 100 percent of these hardwoods. Machine run 7107A with 70 percent thermomechanical pulp and 30 percent hardwood kraft had good strength properties and opacity. While its opacity was not as high as the commercial paper, it was somewhat higher in brightness. However, in terms of scattering power (scattering coefficient) it was as good as the newsprint from Canada and the United States. Its printing characteristics and smoothness were in the range of the commercial sheets.

Replacing part of the hardwood kraft with commercial softwood sulfite pulp (machine run 7109) had little or no effect on strength but did adversely affect printability, opacity, and smoothness. This sheet was comparable in strengths to the paper made with 80 percent thermomechanical pulp and 20 percent sulfite (machine run 7106). The printability and optical properties were better with the higher thermomechanical pulp level. The paper (machine run 7110A) with 88 percent thermomechanical pulp (remainder sulfite) did not have as good strengths as the other experimental papers, but its optical properties were the highest.

Refining the thermomechanical pulp in a third stage in the pump-through disk refiner resulted in a slight improvement in opacity. However, this did cause a slight loss in tearing strength. This did not seem to seriously alter the drainage characteristics on the paper machine.

Conclusions

1. It appears that acceptable newsprint can be made from 100 percent tropical hardwoods for the local markets but may require the addition of a small quantity of long-fiber pulp for the World market.
2. The hardwood thermomechanical pulp requires bleaching for use in newsprint and the newsprint furnishes need to be dyed to approach the tint of North American newsprint.
3. Printability and optical properties are better with higher levels of thermomechanical pulp.

Table 1.--Names and Specific Gravities of the Philippine
Hardwood Mixture Used to Make Kraft Pulp

Common name	Botanical name	Specific gravity
Tangisang-bayauak	: <i>Ficus variegata</i>	: 0.236
Binuang	: <i>Octomeles sumatrana</i>	: .242
Kapok	: <i>Ceiba pentandra</i>	: .244
Balilang-uak	: <i>Meliosma macrophylla</i>	: .260
Kaitana	: <i>Zanthoxylum rhetsa</i>	: .296
Ilang-ilang	: <i>Cananga odorata</i>	: .308
Anabiong	: <i>Trema orientalis</i>	: .319
Hamindang	: <i>Macaranga bicolor</i>	: .324
Balanti	: <i>Homalanthus populneus</i>	: .356
Mayapis	: <i>Shorea squamata</i>	: .366
Matang-arau	: <i>Melicope triphylla</i>	: .381
Malasantol	: <i>Sandoricum vidalii</i>	: .394
White lauan	: <i>Pentacme contorta</i>	: .401
Tulo	: <i>Alphitonia philippinensis</i>	: .422
Tangile	: <i>Shorea polysperma</i>	: .429
Pahunan	: <i>Mangifera altissima</i>	: .435
Apanit	: <i>Mastixia philippinensis</i>	: .447
Lago	: <i>Pygeum vulgare</i>	: .451
Antipolo	: <i>Artocarpus blancoi</i>	: .469
Bagtikan	: <i>Parashorea plicata</i>	: .478
Sakat	: <i>Terminalia nitens</i>	: .485
Red Lauan	: <i>Shorea negrosensis</i>	: .510
Itangan	: <i>Weinmannia luzoniensis</i>	: .526
Piling-liitan	: <i>Canarium luzonicum</i>	: .549
Palosapis	: <i>Anisoptera thurifera</i>	: .554
Lomarau	: <i>Swintonia foxworthyi</i>	: .559
Malabetis	: <i>Madhuca oblongifolia</i>	: .560
Dangkalan	: <i>Calophyllum obliquinervium</i>	: .568
Panau	: <i>Dipterocarpus gracilis</i>	: .576
Katmon	: <i>Dillenia philippinensis</i>	: .592
Batitinan	: <i>Lagerstroemia piriformis</i>	: .597
Katong-lakihan	: <i>Amoora macrophylla</i>	: .608
Narig	: <i>Vatica mangachapoi</i>	: .618
Miau	: <i>Dysoxylum euphlebioides</i>	: .623
Apitong	: <i>Dipterocarpus grandiflorus</i>	: .623

Table 1.--Names and Specific Gravities of the Philippine
Hardwood Mixture Used to Make Kraft Pulp--cont.

Common name	Botanical name	Specific gravity
Bok-bok	Xanthophyllum excelsum	0.639
Kamatog	Erythrophloeum densiflorum	.650
Dalingdingan	Hopea foxworthyi	.667
Katilma	Diospyros nitida	.679
Yakal	Shorea astylosa	.718
Kamagong	Diospyros philippinensis	.720
Katong-Matsin	Chisocheton pentandrus	.725
Manaring	Lithocarpus soieriana	.736
Ipil-ipil	Leucaena leucocephala	.737
Bolong-eta	Diospyros pilosanthera	.743
Makaasim	Syzygium nitidum	.778
Alupag-amu	Litchi philippinensis	.793

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Table 2.--Names and Specific Gravities of the
Philippine Hardwood Mixtures Used
to Make Thermomechanical Pulps

Common name	Botanical name	Specific gravity
3-SPECIES MIXTURE		
Rarang	: Erythrina subumbrans:	0.264
Gubas	: Endospermum peltatum:	.316
Dita	: Alstonia scholaris :	.316
5-SPECIES MIXTURE		
Binuang	: Octomeles sumatrana :	.242
Kapok	: Ceiba pentandra :	.244
Balilang-uak	: Meliosma macrophylla:	.260
Kaitana	: Zanthoxylum rhetsa :	.296
Ilang-ilang	: Cananga odorata :	.308

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Table 3.--Bleaching of Philippine Hardwood Kraft Pulp Used
in Newsprint Trials

Stage	:	:	:
-----	:	:	:
Stage	:	Chlorination	Extraction : Hypochlorite
-----	:	-----	-----
Chemical - name.....:	Cl ₂	:	NaOH : NaOCl
- amount applied.....pct.:	6.30	:	2.0 : 1.75
- amount consumed.....pct.:	6.24	:	--- : 1.62
Temperature.....°C.:	21	:	70 : 38
Consistence.....pct.:	2.7	:	10.2 : 11.0
Duration.....min.:	60	:	60 : 240
pH - initial.....:	3.5	:	11.4 : 10.6
- final.....:	3.2	:	11.2 : 9.4
Brightness.....pct.:	---	:	--- : 76.4

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Table 4.--Bleaching of Philippine Hardwood Thermo-
mechanical Pulps for Use in Newsprint
Trials

Species mixture	:	3	:	5
Chemical ¹ - name.....	:	H ₂ O ₂	:	H ₂ O ₂
- amount applied.....pct.:		.72	:	.84
- amount consumed.....pct.:		.64	:	.79
Temperature.....°C.:		71	:	72
Consistence.....pct.:		9.8	:	10.1
Duration.....min.:		120	:	120
pH - initial.....	:	10.0	:	10.0
- final.....	:	9.0	:	9.0
Brightness - original.....pct.:		54.7	:	51.5
- final.....pct.:		66.1	:	67.2

¹Additional chemicals used were 3 percent NaSiO₃, 2 percent NaOH, and 0.05 percent MgSO₄.

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Table 5.--Handsheet Properties of Unbleached and Semibleached Mixed
Philippine Hardwoods Kraft Pulps Used in Newsprint
Trials

	Unbleached				Semibleached			
Beating time.....min.:	0	14	27	42	0	11	25	33
Freeness (CSF).....ml.:	615	505	390	240	570	490	350	255
Burst factor.....:	32	54	70	82	26	48	64	70
Tear factor.....:	116	121	115	108	117	117	108	108
Breaking length.....km.:	6.8	9.7	10.6	12.3	5.1	7.9	9.7	10.4
Apparent density.....g./cc.:	.56	.62	.66	.70	.60	.65	.69	.72
Brightness.....pct.:	25.1	---	---	---	76.3	---	---	---

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Table 6.--Handsheet Properties of Commercial Western Hemlock
Sulfite Pulp Used in Newsprint Trials

Beating time.....min.:	0	:	15	:	23	:	30
Freeness (CSF).....ml.:	700	:	485	:	375	:	225
Burst factor.....:	22	:	55	:	61	:	65
Tear factor.....:	148	:	88	:	92	:	80
Breaking length.....km.:	5.2	:	8.9	:	9.6	:	10.0
Apparent density.....g./cc.:	.62	:	.71	:	.71	:	.73
Brightness.....pct.:	47.5	:	---	:	---	:	---

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Table 7.--Handsheet Properties of Mixed Philippine
Hardwoods Thermomechanical Pulps Used
in Newsprint Trials

Species mixture	:	3	:	5
Freeness (CSF).....ml.:	170	:	105	
Burst factor.....:	7.0	:	11.4	
Tear factor.....:	39.6	:	32.6	
Breaking length.....km.:	2.2	:	3.0	
Apparent density.....g./cc.:	.42	:	.45	
Brightness.....pct.:	66.1	:	67.2	
Scattering coefficient.....:	655	:	673	
Opacity.....pct.:	90.0	:	91.4	

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Table 8.--Properties of the Newsprint Papers

Machine: run No.	Furnish ¹				Physical properties															
	Philippine hardwood TMP ²	Western hemlock Kraft ³	Western hemlock sulfite	Weight square:(24x36- meter -500)	Thick- ness	Den- sity	Bursting: strength	Tearing resistance	Tensile strength	Opacity	Scattering coefficient	Bright- ness (Elrepho)	Air resis- tance (Gurley)	Smooth- ness (Bekk)	Printing quality	Strike in				
	3	5	47				Machine: direction	Cross direction	Machine: direction	Cross direction			Wire	Felt	Tones	Solids				
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	G.	Lb.	Mils	G./cc.	Pts.	G.	G.	P.i.w.	P.i.w.	Pct.	Pct.	Sec./100 cc.	Sec.	Sec.		
EXPERIMENTAL NEWSPRINT																				
7106	80	---	---	20	52.2	32.1	3.2	0.54	9.4	19.2	24.0	11.0	5.4	87.4	494	58.1	11.0	19.4:19.6	4.6 : 4.0	12.5
7104A	80 ⁵	---	---	20	51.1	31.4	4.1	.49	8.2	21.6	23.9	10.0	6.0	86.1	505	59.4	7.2	15.2:15.7	---	---
7109	70	---	20	10	49.1	30.1	3.7	.52	8.7	17.8	23.6	13.0	5.5	85.8	504	59.6	8.3	14.8:18.0	5.0 : 4.6	14.9
7105	70 ⁵	---	20	10	50.7	31.2	3.9	.51	9.2	23.3	25.6	11.4	5.3	85.0	489	61.9	6.0	15.8:16.8	4.7 : 4.1	16.7
7107A	70	---	30	---	51.1	31.4	3.6	.55	10.4	17.5	21.4	13.7	5.6	89.8	487	61.4	10.7	20.2:21.4	4.8 : 3.3	13.3
7108	25	25	50	---	52.0	32.0	4.0	.51	10.2	20.2	23.4	13.0	6.0	88.0	540	64.2	10.2	16.4:17.2	4.2 : 3.4	13.3
7110A	---	88	---	12	48.7	29.9	3.9	.49	7.1	12.6	17.8	11.3	5.0	90.8	610	60.9	12.2	16.1:17.2	3.8 : 3.1	12.6
COMMERCIAL NEWSPRINT																				
Philippine					52.0	32.0	3.6	.56	7.5	18.8	21.0	7.8	3.8	96.2	660	45.3	---	-- : --	---	---
Canadian					55.5	34.1	3.5	.62	6.0	14.6	20.8	10.7	4.6	91.2	456	54.6	16.7	25.5:31.0	5.0 : 5.6	12.1
U.S. - Southern - Machine run 5651					59.0	36.3	3.8	.61	9.6	35.0	40.2	12.0	6.3	93.1	486	57.6	55.5	23.2:22.7	7.4 : 7.1	12.8

¹All furnishes contain dye.

²Thermomechanical pulp.

³Refined in pump-through disk refiner to 450 milliliters Canadian Standard freeness.

⁴Refined in pump-through disk refiner to 600 milliliters Canadian Standard freeness.

⁵Not refined. Thermomechanical pulp refined in all other runs to approximately 100 milliliters Canadian Standard freeness in pump-through disk refiner.