

9. RECOMMENDATION

The rubber plantation wastes themselves have negative value. The use of these wastes in a productive manner is therefore highly recommended. Feasibility study aiming to energy production revealed that the rubber plantation waste is an interesting energy source. Its potential is 5.8283×10^{16} J/year which is equivalent to $1,364.9 \times 10^3$ toe/year. The availability is plentiful but handling is the major problem. In conclusion this study recommends that,

a) Energy from the wastes should be obtained in the form of carbonized leaf briquettes rather than briquettes of the dry leaves.,

b) Comprehensive economic analysis is needed for the production of carbonized leaf briquettes. Appendix B gives a preliminary discussion on this aspect only.,

c) Other products made from the leaves such as fertilizer, filler in particle board manufacturing should receive attention.,

d) It is anticipated that the real problem in the use of rubber plantation wastes is the difficulties in the acquisition of the wastes. This merely because of the weed and irregularity of the

plantation surface. It has to be clearly demonstrated that the collecting technology is proven before committing further actions.