**Mechanical Properties of Hydrothermally Treated Rubberwood in Different Buffered media**

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*Abstract:* The mechanical properties of hydrothermally treated rubberwood (*Hevea brasillensis*) in different buffered media (Acidic buffer- pH 4, 6), alkaline buffer- pH 8, 10) and tap water (pH 7.43) with different temperatures (1600C, 1800C and 2000C) for 2 hrs were studied. Among the mechanical properties mainly-modulus of elasticity (MOE), modulus of rupture (MOR), compression parallel to the grain (PCII) and hardness were investigated. The results indicate that all the investigated parameters decreased in different buffered media as the treatment temperature increased and it was found in superiority in pH 4, tap water and pH 6 compared than that of pH 8, 10. The maximum loss of strength properties were visible in pH 4 whereas the minimal decrements of these properties were observed in pH 8 and 10, respectively at low temperatures. So, it may be well said that hydrothermal treatment in weak alkaline media can be prevented the strength loss compared to others treatment media especially in acidic and tap water by controlling the destructive effect of acids formed by degradation of wood components on mechanical properties. Therefore, the treated wood samples can be suggested to use for load bearing application as well as making furniture.

*Keywords: Rubberwood, mechanical properties,hydrothermally, buffered media*