Alternative Energy

Edited by

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Table of Contents	v
Preface	viii
Chapter 1	
The Impact of energy utilization on environment	1
M.N.A. Hawlader	
Chapter 2	
Desalination of Seawater to provide fresh water	9
M.N.A. Hawlader	
Chapter 3	
A solar assisted desalination system using heat pump	
M.N.A. Hawlader, Leong Chiing Yang	
Chapter 4	
An experimental study of a phase change storage system	
M.N.A. Hawlader and Smita Panga	
Chapter 5	
Moisture migration in a grain column subjected to drying	
M.N.A. Hawlader and Md. Shafique J. Chowdhury	
Chapter 6	
Solar Drying of Guavas, Papayas and Apples	
M.N.A. Hawlader and Lee Hwee Peng	
Chapter 7	
Drying under inert environment: the quality of Mango and Rockmelon	
M.N.A. Hawlader and Pan Jiahe	
Chapter 8	
A low temperature flat plate solar collector	53
M.N.A. Hawlader, M. Zakir Ullah and Maung Than Htut	
Chapter 9	
Optimization of an integrated solar heat-pump system	60
M N A Hawlader and Ye Shaochun	
Chapter 10	
Comparative study of performance characteristics using Jatropha Oil Methyl H	
Biodiesel and Diesel	
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Azan Mohd	
Chapter 11	
Comparative Study of Emission Characteristics using Jatropha Oil Methyl Este	
and Diesel	74
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Azan Mohd	
Chapter 12	
Waste Cooking Oil Utilization for Biodiesel Production	
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel Adeyemi	
Chapter 13	
Flow Characteristic of Mixing Impeller for Liquid-Liquid Mixing	85
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel Adeyemi	
Chapter 14	
Solar Energy Management for Poverty Alleviation and Income Generating Act	.ivities91
A.K.M. Mohiuddin	

Table of Contents

Chapter 15
Turbulence model for axial mixing impeller in unbaffled vessel
A.K.M. Mohiuddin, Nabeel Adeyemi and Muhamad Husaini
Chapter 16
Optimization and economic analysis of a solar assisted heat pump drying system
M.N.A. Hawlader, S. M. A. Rahman and K.A. Jahangeer
Chapter 17
A solar heat pump water heater for rural hospitals
M.N.A. Hawlader and M. Zakir Ullah
Chapter 18
A solar heat-pump system for air-conditioning, water heating and drying
M N A Hawlader, K A Jahangeer, Ye Shaochun and Choy Tack Hoon
Chapter 19
Engineering design – An approach to the development of creativity
M.N.A. Hawlader
Chapter 20
Analysis of Engine Performance with NGV
Sany Izan Ihsan, Nabila Sulaiman, AKM Mohiuddin and Maizirwan Mel
Chapter 21
Analysis of Engine Performance with Enhanced Fuel
Sany Izan Ihsan, Khairussani Farid, Maizirwan Mel, and AKM Mohiuddin
Chapter 22
CFD analysis of an evacuated solar still
Ahmad F. Ismail, Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr
Chapter 23
Developments on Solar Operated Water Desalination
1000000000000000000000000000000000000
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers and freezers 169 M.M. El-Awad, M.I. Ahmed Chapter 25 Preliminary investigation of biodiesel reactor optimization using combine CFD-Taguchi method method 179 A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel A Adeyemi Chapter 26 Alternative mixing strategy for biodiesel production: mixed flow impeller characterization 188 A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel Adeyemi Chapter 27 Experimental Investigation of a Multistage Evacuated Solar Still 197 Yousif. A. Abakr, Ahmad F. Ismail1 and Mirghani I. Ahmed Chapter 28 Modelling of electronics heat sink – Influence of the wake function generation on the accuracy of CFD analysis 203 M. I. Ahmed, A. F. Ismail, Y. A. Abakr
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers
Mirghani I. Ahmed, Yousif A. Abakr and Ahmad F. Ismail Chapter 24 Theoretical and experimental evaluation of LPG as refrigerant for domestic refrigerators and freezers and freezers 169 M.M. El-Awad, M.I. Ahmed Chapter 25 Preliminary investigation of biodiesel reactor optimization using combine CFD-Taguchi method method 179 A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel A Adeyemi Chapter 26 Alternative mixing strategy for biodiesel production: mixed flow impeller characterization 188 A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Nabeel Adeyemi Chapter 27 Experimental Investigation of a Multistage Evacuated Solar Still 197 Yousif. A. Abakr, Ahmad F. Ismail1 and Mirghani I. Ahmed Chapter 28 Modelling of electronics heat sink – Influence of the wake function generation on the accuracy of CFD analysis 203 M. I. Ahmed, A. F. Ismail, Y. A. Abakr

Sulaiman Al-Zuhair, Yousif A. Abakr and Mirghani I. Ahmed Chapter 30
Thermal analysis of a micro device used for detection of colorectal cancer
Chapter 31
Performance of different photovoltaic cells operating under the meteorological conditions of Singapore
M.N.A Hawlader, Lee Poh Seng and Chua Kok Kiang
Chapter 32
Analyses of motion and drag coefficient of water droplets in a natural draught cooling tower
Liu Baomin and M. N. A. Hawlader
Chapter 33
A solar assisted heat pump system for desalination
Chapter 34
Comparative study of combustion characteristics using Jatropha oil methyl esters biodiesel and diesel
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Azan Mohd
Chapter 35
Performance of evaporator collector and air collector in a solar assisted heat pump dryer.

S. M. A. Rahman and M. N. A. Hawlader

Chapter 12

Waste Cooking Oil Utilization for Biodiesel Production

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INTRODUCTION

Vehicular emission effect has been targeted to be reduced by 2012 for most ASEAN countries as a result of fossil fuel. This, along with other ecological, political and economic concerns over fossil fuel, which is the single largest industry in terms of dollar value on earth, are factors shifting biodiesel production as an alternative energy source for automobile. The comparative advantage of biodiesel is as a result of the similarity in vegetable physio-chemical characteristic. Consequently, growth rate of plantations for vegetable oil is expanding, as much as 5% per year from palm oil. The growth of the oleo-chemical industry has also resulted in exponential growth and demand, creating an entire value chain to become one of the world's most valued crops. It has been suggested using food-oils for biodiesel/ biofuel production will have a negative consequence for human. Hence a reconsideration of the use of food-grade oil is being undertaken, particularly as the cost of biodiesel is about 70–75% of the total cost of raw material. Of the available sustainable raw materials been pursued for biodiesel production, waste cooking oil is seen as more versatile and less prone to high cost and scarcity. This work presents the use of WCO to produce high quality biodiesel by varying physical internal configuration of the reactor.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

WCO Characterization and Evaluation of FFA

Analysis of WCO for fatty acid and glycerides was carried out using reference standards of FAMEs containing C16:0, C18:0, C18:1, C18:2 FAMEs (2 to 4% relative concentrations = 0.2 to 0.4 mg/mL per FAME). The Triglyceride (T), Diglycerides (DG), Monoglyceride (MG) and free glycerin (G) were quantified using GC MS biodiesel (MSTFA derivatization kit, 10 x 1 mL ampoule) kit containing glycerin, monoolein, diolein, triolein (ASTM D6548 solutions), butanetriol and tricaprin (internal standard #1 &2 #, 44918U) at concentrations specified according to ASTM D6584/ 6751. Laboratory grade Potassium hydroxide (KOH). Isopropyl alcohol and phenolphthalein were used for the FFA