

**DETERMINATION OF FACTORS AFFECTING TO
THE TENSILE STRENGTH OF TREAD COMPOUND
OF PNEUMATIC RUBBER TYRE USED IN
INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION**

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By
**HERATH MUDIYANSELAGE LAKSHIKA PRABUDDHI
HERATH**

**Palm & Latex Technology and Value Addition Degree
Programme**

Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture

Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka

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ABSTRACT

There are many factors which affect the tensile strength of pneumatic tyre tread compound. In this experiment, it is focused on mixing process parameters which affect to the tensile strength. The mixing parameters are investigated on an intermesh mixer for selected tyre tread compound. It was identified that the dumping temperature, mastication time, carbon black and silica incorporation temperature and carbon black silica feeding sequence influence the tensile strength of particular compound. The study was conducted to find out the effect of above factors to the tensile strength of tread compound and to identify their appropriate value. For that 1st stage mixing was done under three different dumping temperatures (155 °C, 160 °C, 165 °C) and three different mastication times (0 s, 20 s, 40 s) .using the best combination of mastication time and dumping temperature changed carbon black silica incorporation temperature (120 °C, 140 °C) and carbon silica feeding sequence.

According to the two factor factorial analysis dumping temperature significantly affect to the tensile strength. Experimental results showed that higher and lower dumping temperatures retard the strength but moderate temperature of 160 °C is the optimum. Mastication time also effect for the tensile strength but not significantly. Considering the interaction between mastication time and dumping temperature, we can conclude that it significantly affect for the tensile strength. Best combination of those factors are 40 s and 160 °C .Carbon black and silica dispersion also influence for the tensile strength of tread compound. A minimum temperature of 140 °C is necessary to gain efficient reaction between silica and silane. Feeding silica and carbon black separately avoids the restriction of carbon black against silica - silane reaction.

Key words; Tread Compound, Tensile Strength, Dumping Temperature, Mastication Time, Carbon Black, Silica - Silane