

PRODUCTION OF C V 50 USING HIGH VISCOSITY RUBBER LATICES FROM SMALLHOLDER

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Smallholders latex collected from Mawanella consists mainly of the latex from the clone PB 86 which gives mainly tough rubber of high Mooney Viscosity. Conversion of this latex into constant viscosity block rubber (SLR 5 C V) by hydroxyl amine hydrochloride results in a constant viscosity rubber of viscosity above 60 units. C V rubber with Mooney Viscosity 55 - 65 units amounts to over 95% of constant viscosity rubbers which commands a premium and is the most popular latex grade among the block rubbers.

For this reason there is commercial interest for an inexpensive and simple way of reducing the viscosity of tough rubbers from such latex in order to produce this economically attractive latex grade. Hence a systematic investigation was carried out to reassess the feasibility of using the peptiser Ranacit VII for this purpose. This paper discusses the results obtained from this investigation.