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**DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE
MICROORGANISMS MUDBALL MATERIAL FOR
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND MOSQUITO'S
LARVAE CONTROL**

by

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(In The Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
THESIS DECLARATION	i
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiv
ABSTRAK	xv
ABSTRACT	xvi

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Wastewater Problem	1
1.2 Effective Microorganism	3
1.3 Wastewater Treatment	4
1.4 Mosquitoes Larval Problem	6
1.5 Scope of Study	8
1.6 Problem Statement	9
1.7 Objective of The Study	10

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CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Effective Microorganism	11
2.1.1 Major Types of Effective Microorganisms	12
2.1.1.1 Lactic Acid Bacteria	13
2.1.1.2 Saccharomyces cerevisiae	14
2.1.1.3 Actinomycetes	15
2.1.1.4 Phototrophic Bacteria	16
2.1.2 Different type of EM	18
2.1.2.1 EM-1	18
2.1.2.2 EM-A (Activated EM)	19
2.1.2.3 EM Ceramics (Improving water quality)	19
2.1.2.4 EM Bokashi	20
2.1.3 Microorganisms in Cow's Rumen	21
2.1.3.1 Type of Microorganisms in Cow's Rumen	22
2.1.4 Isolating of Microorganisms from Rumen	25
2.1.5 Identification of Microorganisms	26
2.2 Environmental Problems Issues	27
2.2.1 EM Mud ball	29
2.2.2 Application of EM	44
2.2.2.1 Agriculture	30
2.2.2.2 Environmental management and Wastewater Treatment	33
2.2.2.3 Animal Husbandry	35
2.2.2.4 Human Health	36
2.2.3 Effect of EM Mudball in Wastewater Treatment	37
2.2.3.1 Dissolved oxygen, DO	37

2.2.3.2 Biological oxygen demand, BOD	37
2.2.3.3 Chemical Oxygen Demand, COD	40
2.2.3.4 Turbidity, NTU	40
2.2.3.5 pH	41
2.2.4 Previous Analysis Study on Wastewater Treatment by Using Effective Microorganisms	43
2.3 Biological control for mosquito	44
2.3.1 Malaysia's Herbs for EM mudball Ingredient	46
2.3.2 Previous Analysis Study on Phytochemical compounds contains in Malaysia's Herbs	56

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CHAPTER 3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Preparation the stock culture of Effective microorganisms (EM) from cow rumen	58
3.2 Extraction of cow rumen	59
3.2.1 Material and method	60
3.3 Culturing Effective Microorganisms (EM) from fresh cow rumen	60
3.3.1 Nutrient Agar Media Preparation	60
3.3.2 Screening and Isolation of the Microorganisms	61
3.3.2.1 Spread plate method	61
3.3.2.2 Streaking plate method	61
3.3.3 Identification of Microorganisms	62
3.3.3.1 Staining Technique	62
3.3.3.2 Microscopic observation	63
3.4 Preparation of ulam herbs extract	63
3.5 EM Mudball Preparation	64
3.5.1 Step of making EM mud ball	64
3.5.2 Step of making Biolarvacide EM mud ball	64
3.6 Application of EM Mudball for wastewater treatment	65
3.6.1 Design of testing tank	67
3.6.2 Analytical analysis	69
3.6.2.1 Dissolved oxygen, DO and Biological oxygen demand, (BOD)	69

3.6.2.2 Chemical Oxygen Demand, COD	70
3.6.2.3 Turbidity, NTU	72
3.6.2.4 pH	72
3.7 Application of EM BiolarvacideMudball for mosquito larvae killing's purpose	72

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CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Identification of Effective microorganisms	73
4.2 EM Mudball Preparation	79
4.3 Biolarvacide EM Mudball Preparation	80
4.4 Application of EM Mudball on Environmental Problem	81
4.4.1 Effect of EM mud ball for wastewater treatment	82
4.4.1.1 Effect of EM Mudball on Dissolved oxygen, DO	83
4.4.1.2 Effect of EM Mudball on Biological oxygen demand, BOD	86
4.4.1.3 Effect of EM Mudball on Chemical Oxygen Demand, COD	88
4.4.1.4 Effect of EM Mudball on Turbidity	90
4.4.1.5 Effect of EM Mudball on pH	94
4.5 Effect EM mud ball in killing the mosquito larvae	96

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Conclusion	101
5.2 Research Recommendation and Future Work	104
REFERENCES	108
APPENDIX A	130
APPENDIX B	131
APPENDIX C	136
APPENDIX D	140
APPENDIX E	144
APPENDIX F	146
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	147
LIST OF AWARDS	160

LIST OF TABLES

NO.		PAGE
2.1	Summary on Type of microorganisms inside cow's rumen	22
2.2	Previous Analysis Study on Wastewater Treatment by Using Effective Microorganisms	43
2.3	Previous Analysis Study on Phytochemical compounds contains in Malaysia's Herbs	56
4.1	Percentage of larvae died by different type of Effective Microorganism Mudball	97
4.2	Percentage of larvae died by different percentage of added Ulam's herbs extract for biolarvacide EM Mud ball	98

LIST OF FIGURES

NO.		PAGE
2.1	Flow chart representing gram staining technique	22
3.1	Cow's rumen that taken for EM's stock preparation	59
3.2	Tasek Melati, Perlis (Sample 1)	66
3.3	Untreated resident's waste from Indah water, Perlis (Sample 2)	66
3.4	Palm oil mill effluent from Nonstar Palm Oil Mill Sdn. Bhd (Sample 3)	67
3.5	Design tank for wastewater treatment test	69
4.1	<i>Lactic acid bacteria sp.</i> staining structure of view under High Resolution Light Microscope (150x of resolution)	74
4.2	<i>Actinomycetes sp.</i> staining structure of view under High resolution Light Microscope (150x of resolution)	75
4.3	<i>Yeast sp.</i> staining structure of view under High Resolution Light Microscope (150x of resolution)	76
4.4	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> staining structure of view under High Resolution Light Microscope (150x of resolution)	77
4.5	<i>Bacillus sp.</i> staining structure of view under High Resolution Light Microscope (150x of resolution)	78
4.6	EM mudball	79
4.7	Biolarvacide EM Mudball	80
4.8	The changed of Dissolved oxygen (DO) in all sample over the time (day).	83
4.9	Effects of EM mudball on Biological oxygen demand, (BOD) in all 3 Sample over the time (day)	88

4.10	Effects of EM mudball on Chemical oxygen demand, (COD) in all 3 Sample over the time (day)	90
4.11	Effects of EM mudball on Turbidity in all 3 Sample over the time (day)	93
4.12	Effects of EM mudball on pH in all 3 Sample over the time (day)	95
4.13	Graph of percentage of larvae died by different percentage of added Ulam's herbs extract for biolarvacide EM Mud ball	99
4.14	Linear regression and R^2 value for percentage of died mosquito larvae against different percentage of added Malaysia's herbs extract.	100

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EM	Effective Microorganisms
INFRC	International Nature Farming Research Center
IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
BOD	Biological oxygen demand
DO	Dissolved oxygen
POME	Palm oil mill effluent
R-Strategist	Species that reproduce early in their life span and produce large numbers of usually small and short-lived offspring in a short period.
BTI	Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis

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Kajian Penciptaan Bahan Bebola Lumpur Mikroorganisma Berkesan untuk Rawatan Air Sisa dan Kawalan Larva Nyamuk

ABSTRAK

Mikroorganisma Berkesan (EM), yang ditemui oleh Profesor Dr Teruo Higa, terdiri daripada mikroorganisma yang baik, berfaedah dan bukan patogen ditemui sebagai pendekatan yang boleh dipercayai untuk menyelesaikan banyak masalah alam sekitar meliputi sungai-sungai tercemar, parit, kolam, tasik dan banyak lagi. Sehingga hari ini, isu-isu halal berkaitan sumber EM masih tidak jelas disebut oleh pengilang dan menjadi kebimbangan kepada kebanyakan negara islam seperti Malaysia. Sebagai penyelesaian, sumber berasaskan halal dicadangkan dalam menghasilkan Mikroorganisma Berkesan (EM). Prosedur ujian makmal untuk rawatan air sisa telah dijalankan dengan menggunakan tangki rawatan air sisa yang direka bentuk sendiri dengan merujuk kepada reka bentuk kolam air sisa yang biasa digunakan dalam industri yang mampu menampung isipadu sampel sehingga 30 liter. Untuk percubaan ini, tiga sampel air sisa yang sesuai dari air indah (sisa kediaman), (air Lake) Tasek Melati dan minyak buangan kilang sawit (sisa industri) telah digunakan. Hasil daripada kajian tersebut didapati bahawa bebola lumpur EM mempunyai potensi untuk menyelesaikan masalah rawatan air sisa kerana ia secara positif dapat mengurangkan tahap kekeruhan, keperluan oksigen biokimia, keperluan oksigen kimia, selagi juga dapat menghasilkan pH dan oksigen terlarut pada tahap yang sesuai untuk hidupan akuatik. Untuk air tasik, pengurangan peratusan keperluan oksigen biologi, permintaan oksigen kimia dan kekeruhan adalah 75,91%, 77,87% dan 67,29%. Untuk sisa kediaman, pengurangan peratusan keperluan oksigen biologi, permintaan oksigen kimia dan kekeruhan adalah 74.3%, 78,67% dan 52,74% manakala bagi efluen kilang minyak sawit, pengurangan peratusan keperluan oksigen biologi, permintaan oksigen kimia dan kekeruhan adalah 2.78%, 0.48% dan 0.39%. Keputusan yang diperolehi menunjukkan bahawa bebola EM adalah kurang cekap dalam merawat minyak buangan kilang sawit tetapi ia agak berkesan dalam merawat air tasik dan sisa kediaman. Dalam kajian ini, pengubahsuaian bebola lumpur EM asal telah dibuat dengan penambahan ekstrak herba Malaysia kerana melalui kajian telah membuktikan bahawa tumbuhan ini mengandungi sebatian terbitan, dinyatakan sebagai fitokimia yang mempunyai potensi untuk membunuh larva nyamuk dengan bertindak sebagai keracunan makanan kepada mereka. Bebola EM yang ditambahbaikkkan ini boleh membunuh baka nyamuk dalam menyediakan persekitaran yang selamat untuk manusia dan ia telah dijamin selamat untuk semua kehidupan akuatik lain. Eksperimen telah dilakukan untuk menguji kebolehan tiga bebola lumpur EM yang berlainan jenis dalam membunuh larva nyamuk. Kemudian, eksperimen lanjut dijalankan untuk menguji sama ada kuantiti ekstrak herba Malaysia adalah mempengaruhi kecekapan membunuh larva nyamuk. Keputusan yang diperolehi menunjukkan 80% (8 daripada 10 larva nyamuk) larva nyamuk mati untuk 25% ekstrak herba yang ditambah berbanding 40% (4 daripada 10 larva nyamuk) larva nyamuk mati untuk 15% ekstrak herba yang ditambah dan 30% (3 daripada 10 larva nyamuk) larva nyamuk mati untuk 5% ekstrak herba ditambah.

Development of Effective Microorganisms Mudball Material for Wastewater Treatment and Mosquito's Larvae Control

ABSTRACT

Effective Microorganism (EM), discovered by Professor Dr. Teruo Higa, consists of effective, beneficial and non-pathogenic microorganisms was found as the credible approach to solve many environmental problems regarding the polluted rivers, drains, ponds, lakes and so many more. Until today, the *halal* issues caused by the ingredients of EM still are not clearly mentioned by the manufacturer and becomes a concerns to most of the islamic country like Malaysia. As the solution, *halal* based source are suggested in utilization of Effective Microorganism (EM). The laboratory test procedure for wastewater treatment was done by using own design of wastewater treatment tank by referring to common wastewater design pond in industrial which are able to run the samples up to 30 liters. For this experiment, three suitable wastewater samples from Indah Water (residential waste), Tasek Melati (Lake water) and palm oil mill effluent (industrial waste) were used. The result of the experiment shows that EM mudball has the potential to solve the problem regarding treating the wastewater as it positively reducing the level of turbidity, biological oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand, as long as also being able to work with pH and dissolved oxygen of applied sample in getting the level which suitable for aquatic life. For lake water, the percentage reduction of biological oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand and turbidity is 75.91%, 77.87% and 67.29%. For residential waste, the percentage reduction of biological oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand and turbidity is 74.3%, 78.67% and 52.74% while for the palm oil mill effluent, percentage reduction of biological oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand and turbidity is 2.78%, 0.48% and 0.39%. The results obtained shows that EM mudball are not very efficient in treating palm oil mill effluent but it is quite effective in treating lake water and residential waste. In this work, a little modification of original EM mudball was made by the addition of Malaysia's herbs extracts as the finding that this plants contains derivative compounds, stated as phytochemicals which have a potential to killed mosquito's larvae by acts as poisoning food to them. This new modified EM mudball can kill the mosquito's breed in serving the safe environment for human and it is was guaranteed to be safe for all others aquatic's life. The experiment was done by tested the ability of three different type of EM mudball in killing the mosquito larval. Then, the further experiment was runs to test whether the quantity of Malaysia's herbs extracts will influences the efficiency of killing the mosquito larvae. The obtained results has shows for 80% (8 out of 10 mosquito's larvae) of died mosquito's larvae for 25% of herbs extract added compared to 40% (4 out of 10 mosquito's larvae) of died mosquito's larvae for 15 % of herbs extract added and 30% (3 out of 10 mosquito's larvae) of died mosquito's larva for 5% of herbs extract added.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Wastewater Problem

Principally, wastewater is defined as water that already been use for any purpose and it consists of foreign matters such as human waste, food residues, oils, soaps and chemicals. In fact, people used water for almost all in the daily activities includes for cooking, hygiene, and also in businesses and industries. If this used water was not being treated, it will become a big problem for the environment and also people will face with the dearth of clean water sources (Baker and Mooty, 1993).

Apart from that above, wastewater also may consist of storm overflow. The majority of people never expects that the rain that runs down the street during a storm are actually being contaminated with harmful substances that wash off roads, parking lots, and rooftops (Baker and Mooty, 1993).

Water bodies that contain impurities which come from irresponsible action when toxic waste was released directly or indirectly into water bodies without a plentiful procedure to eliminate hazardous composition which can influence living things surrounding will cause for water pollution. The consequence of this pollution will give negative outcome to specific species and populations, and also can become harmful to the essential biological societies (Okuda & Higa, 1999).

Bad water quality can result for the unbalance of bionomics and human health. Water pollution not only can turn to become dangerous and executed aquatic life, but also it can transfer affection that can expand rapidly among people, animals and plants. Normally, the death cases caused by diseases of polluted water commonly happen in poor countries such as Africa as people used unprocessed water right from the original sources like river and lake (Water Quality and Treatment, 1990).

The prolonged use of fertilizers and chemicals in farms is also blamed for soil pollution which leads to low crop yield. The sea and other water bodies have not been spared either. Massive oil spills have been witnessed in the recent past. In addition to effluent from industries that finds its way into water bodies, is causing a great imbalance in the water ecosystem. Sea plants are dying as a result of this which in turn affects fish and other sea creatures (Parr & Hornick, 1992).

The presence of so much unwanted materials in polluted water sources served for the poor looked environment with muddy problems and also produce the smelly odors (Parr & Hornick, 1992). Managing human and industrial effluents without danger to human health or offensive harm to the essential environment was the exactly major purpose of solving wastewater problems. Handling wastewater practically needed to face with both disposal and utilization (Natural Resources Management and Environment Department, 1992 & George et al, 2014).

1.2 Effective Microorganism

Lactic acid bacteria, photosynthetic bacteria, yeast, fermenting fungi and actinomycetes are a culture of coexisting beneficial microorganisms which was established as Effective Microorganism (EM) (Namasivayam & Kirithiga, 2010). Chaudhry and Lqupal (2006) had mentioned that there was five genera of organisms, namely Actinomycetes, Ray fungi, Photosynthetic bacteria, Yeasts and Lactic acid bacteria that functioning together to form a group Effective Microorganisms (Chaudhry & Lqupal, 2006).

The concept of Effective Microorganisms was developed by Japanese researcher named Teruo higa from the University of Ryukyus, who has explained on 80 different microorganisms which have positivity influencing in decomposing organic matter. EM may have a number of applications in different field such as agriculture, livestock, gardening landscaping, composting, bioremediation, cleaning septic tanks, and algal control (Higa, 2003).

Nathan and Robert (2003) who studied about EM in wastewater systems had come out with the results which showed that experiment was undertaken to determine if the application of EM may decrease the volumes of sewage sludge produced in on-site wastewater treatment systems (septic tanks).

Diver (2002) has suggested that the main species of EM including Lactic acid bacteria (*Lactobacillus plantarum*, *L. Casei*, *Streptococcus lactics*), Photosynthetic bacteria (*Rhodoseudomonas palustrus*, *Rhodobacters paeroides*), Yeasts (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Candida utilis*), Actinomycetes (*Streptomyces albus*, *S. griesus*) and Fermenting fungi (*Aspergillus oryzae*, *Mucor heimalis*) (Sivanan, et al, 2010).

1.3 Wastewater Treatment

When pollutants was discharged directly or indirectly into water bodies without sufficient treatment to remove harmful compounds it can lead to water pollution which will affects living plants and organisms . By leaving this problems without serious attention may effect for severe damaging not only to individual species and populations, but also to the natural biological communities (Xin Yang et al, 2009).

There are numbers of method and technology that was introduced for solving problem of water pollution including biological treatment process and chemical treatment process (Advanced Waste Treatment, 2002). Application of some chemical reaction to deal with impurities water is known as Chemical treatment. In industry, the most commonly used chemical process is chlorination by a strong oxidizing chemical, named as Chlorine that was used to kill bacteria and to slow down the rate of decomposition of the wastewater. Chlorination may results in killing the bacterial if the vital biological processes are affected by the chlorine.

Others example for chemical process in treating the water pollutant is oxidizing disinfection, neutralization and coagulation in which oxidizing process used oxidizing agent such as ozone for elimination of unwanted materials while neutralization process needed to adjust pH levels back to neutrality by applying either acid or base (Advanced Waste Treatment, 2002). During coagulation process, insoluble end product that was derived from the addition of a chemical reagent became important aspect that serves to remove substances from the wastewater. Commonly used for coagulation chemicals in wastewater treatment is polyvalent metals while lime, certain iron containing compounds and alum are familiar coagulants that have been used (Utility Management, 2004).

Different from chemical treatment process, biological treatment method are using microorganisms instead of chemical reagents. By applying biological treatment, fitting type of microorganisms that mostly bacteria, was used in the biochemical decomposition of wastewater to stable end products. Theoretically, a portion of the waste that converted to carbon dioxide, water and other end products are depends on quantity of microorganisms, or sludge that contains in the wastewater. In fact, the condition of dissolved oxygen available in the wastewater can be the main count for the biological treatment methods been divided either into aerobic or anaerobic processes (Utility Management, 2004).

Focus on biological treatment methods point of view, many research comes out with the used of microorganisms to treat wastewater and it lead to the finding of Effective Microorganisms (EM) as adequate solution. Begun for over 2 decades ago, there are more than one hundred polluted rivers in Japan that was successfully been cleaned up by using EM technology (Higa & Chinen, 1998).

By the work, it is a concrete proves that EM technology can play positive action in environment management as EM technology can also managed to resuscitate aquatic life, bringing back all the fishes and other water life forms and aquatic plants into the treated rivers (Higa & Chinen, 1998).

1.4 Mosquitoes Larval Problem

It is a fact that the environment will affects human's health. The clean environment not only ensure for life's comfort, but also for well-being of all community. Over the past century where the environment still virgin without polluted and the source of clean drinking water still available, it has become a reason for human average life span has almost doubled compared to human life span nowadays.

It is a fact that environment can give an effect to human health as when a parts of environment such as air and water, or soil become polluted, it can cause to health disorder (Abbot & Guijt, 1998). In the other hands, an unmanageable environment can also lead to the human health's threatening by providing the suitable condition for the breeding of mosquito.

For the ability of spreading dangerous diseases, mosquitoes are classified as one of the most threatening species living on earth (Kumar et al, 2003). Technically, mosquitoes are preferred easily found stagnant water to breed as in buckets, tires, pools, marshes or containers left around a property (Fradin & Day, 2002).

The life cycle of mosquitoes was found in four phases which called complete metamorphosis that consists of stages known as egg larva, pupa and adult. Both the larval and pupa stages are aquatic, so that it is necessary for the mosquitoes to lay their eggs near water. As the mosquito got the wings, it is actually in their adult stage. To ensure that the larval can survive, female mosquitoes will decide for the right spot to lay their eggs (Fradin & Day, 2002).

Mosquito borne disease has been brought under control over the world, but the danger of new and devastating outbreaks is always present for the main reasons that mosquitoes and the pathogens they carry are able to evolve shield to chemical pesticides and drugs. In order to against such shield, consecutive surveillance is necessary, together with the employment of a combination of control measurement including physical, chemical, biological and social (Ng FASc & Yong FASc., 2000). Larval control is a major component in mosquito control programs and the successful of this work can help in reducing the popularities of mosquito that led to the safety condition for human's life.

As to control the population of mosquito, the best effective way is by killing them from the beginning stage of their life's cycle which is at larva stage. It is important to know where they live and breed as it is the key to ensure they were killed before they become old enough to bite. Mosquitoes usually choose areas with standing water as their home. The used of effective microorganisms to kill the mosquito at their early stage of life as it can produces toxins that can be fatal to insects such as mosquitoes (Priest, 1992).

Larvae are feeding on organic material available in water and they may misunderstand the EM spores as their food and consume this traps which pass the toxins to their digestive system and will starving them. EM is safe to others aquatic life, others animal and humans. Without any worries, EM is safe to be applied for all places that others living things are also existed (Subbiah, 2004).

1.5 Scope of Study

This work comes out with the research of producing own isolating Effective Microorganisms from 'halal' based sourced, which is collected from cow's rumen in order to solve environmental problems regarding waste water treatment and to reduce population of mosquito for improving health of human. As effective microorganisms was used and have been proved for its benefits by almost all countries in whole world, further research and more improvement application about this founding should not be stop and need to be practices for more purpose. For examples, in this project, added material was applied together with effective microorganisms to give an effect in killing the mosquito larvae while it was applied for wastewater treatment.