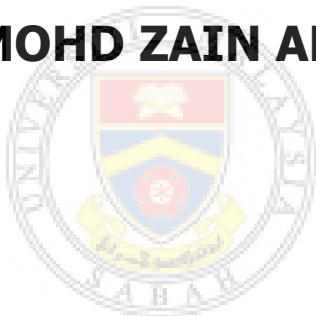


# **A BLADE CUTTER DESIGN FOR AN EFFECTIVE OIL PALM FRONDS CUTING PROCESS**

**MOHD ZAIN ABDULLAH@JOIN BIN GOROB**



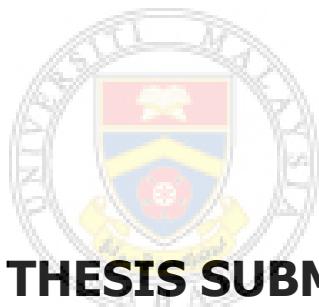
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**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH**

**2023**

# **A BLADE CUTTER DESIGN FOR AN EFFECTIVE OIL PALM FROND CUTTING PROCESS**

**MOHD ZAIN ABDULLAH@JOIN BIN GOROB**



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**THESIS SUBMITTED IN FULFILMENT OF  
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ENGINEERING**

**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH  
2023**

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I, Mohd Zain Abdullah@Join Bin Gorob, hereby declare that the thesis presented here is submitted to the Postgraduate Academic Council of the University Malaysia Sabah as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. I confirm that this thesis has not been submitted to any other university for any master's degree. I further declare that the work described in this thesis is solely my own, except for citations and summaries from duly recognise sources.

This thesis may be made available in the university library and can be photocopied, loaned, or accessed from other libraries for reference purposes.

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Mohd Zain Abdullah@Join Bin Gorob  
MK1621035T



## CERTIFICATION

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FIELD : **MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**  
VIVA DATE : **15 DECEMBER 2022**



1. **MAIN SUPERVISOR**  
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2. **CO-SUPERVISOR**  
Dr. Azlan Bin Ismail

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Thank you.

Mohd Zain Abdullah@Join Bin Gorob

15 December 2022

## ABSTRACT

This study aimed to design an improved crosscut blade for fronds cutting in the oil palm industry, considering the cutting vector  $X-Y-Z$  axis and testing different blade designs based on various Kerf-Sets tooth trigonometrical patterns. The research consisted of two stages; the development of a statistical laboratory test rig platform to analyze the cutting timeline in the Straight-Tooth sections, and a High Accelerated Life Test (HALT) conducted in real field conditions to assess reliability and tooth fracture-wear. The results showed that blade type "F" met the technical design requirements, achieving a Hardness Rockwell of 127HRC per  $1\text{mm}^2$ . The N14TP14 Kerf-Sets tooth size provided the fastest fronds cutting, powered by 100V, with a recorded timeline of 00:15.7 seconds per 6.5 kg pressing drag mass cutting against  $29\text{ cm}^2$  fresh fronds specimens. These findings contribute to the development of an improved crosscut blade design, with blade type "F" N14TP14 tooth configuration being the most effective, exhibiting high Hardness Rockwell and no fractured tooth blades. The large Kerf-Set tooth sizing facilitated strong cutting force, and the correct Pitch Pressure Angle design Type B at Cosine  $10^\circ$  to  $15^\circ$  contributed to prolonged sharpness quality.

*Keywords:* Oil Palm Industry, X-Y-Z Axis Cutting Vectors, Technical Reliability, Motions and Inertia, Statistical Static-State, (HALT) High Accelerated Life Test, Hardness Rockwell, Kerf-Sets Sizing, N14TP24 Tooths Trigonometry Dimensions, Pitch Pressure Angle Type B.



## **ABSTRAK**

### **REKABENTUK PEMOTONG BILAH UNTUK PROSES PEMOTONG PELEPAH KELAPA SAWIT YANG BERKESAN**

*Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mereka bentuk bilah potong silang yang lebih baik untuk pemotongan pelepas dalam industri kelapa sawit, dengan mengambil kira paksi vektor pemotongan paksi X-Y-Z dan menguji reka bentuk bilah yang berbeza berdasarkan pelbagai corak trigonometri gigi Kerf-Sets. Penyelidikan terdiri daripada dua peringkat; pembangunan platform pelantar ujian makmal statistik untuk menganalisis garis masa pemotongan dalam bahagian Gigi Lurus, dan Ujian Hayat Dipercepatkan Tinggi (UHDT) yang dijalankan dalam keadaan lapangan sebenar untuk menilai kebolehpercayaan dan kehausan patah gigi. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa jenis bilah "F" memenuhi keperluan reka bentuk teknikal, mencapai Kekerasan Rockwell 127HRC setiap  $1mm^2$ . Saiz gigi N14TP14 Kerf-Sets memberikan pemotongan pelepas terpantas, dikuasakan oleh 100V, dengan garis masa yang direkodkan 00:15.7 saat setiap 6.5 kg pemotongan jisim seretan menekan terhadap spesimen pelepas segar  $29cm^2$ . Penemuan ini menyumbang kepada pembangunan reka bentuk bilah potong silang yang lebih baik, dengan konfigurasi gigi jenis bilah "F" N14TP14 adalah yang paling berkesan, mempamerkan Kekerasan Rockwell yang tinggi dan tiada bilah gigi yang patah. Saiz gigi Set Kerf yang besar memudahkan daya pemotongan yang kuat, dan reka bentuk Sudut Tekanan Pitch yang betul jenis B pada Cosine  $10^\circ$  hingga  $15^\circ$  menyumbang kepada kualiti ketajaman yang berpanjangan.*

**Kata kunci:** Industri Kelapa Sawit, Vektor Pemotong paksi X-Y-Z, Kebolehpercayaan Teknikal, Pergerakan dan Inersia, Keadaan Statik Statistik, Ujian Hayat Dipercepatkan Tinggi (UHDT), Kekerasan Rockwell, Saiz Set Kerf, Dimensi Trigonometri Gigi N14TP24, Sudut Tekanan Pitch Jenis B.

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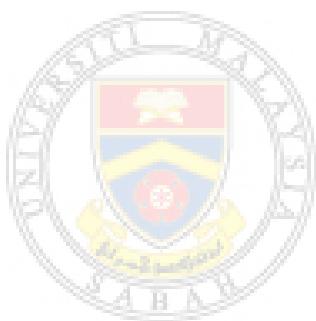


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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

<b>mm</b>	- Millimeter
<b>Cm</b>	- Centre meter
<b>m</b>	- Meters
<b>(ha) m2</b>	- Hectare
<b>2.47 Acre</b>	- 1 Ha
<b>kg</b>	- Kilogram
<b>MT</b>	- Metric Ton
<b>Hp</b>	- Horse power
<b>kWh</b>	- Kilowatt hour
<b>V</b>	- Voltage
<b>m/s<sup>2</sup></b>	- Speed velocity
<b>Newton N</b>	- Force
<b>N/m<sup>2</sup></b>	- Stress
<b>Nm</b>	- Energy
<b>hr</b>	- Hour
'	- Degree
"	- Minute
"'	- Seconds
<b>HRC</b>	- Hardness Rockwell Class "C"
<b>BUE</b>	- Built-Up-Edge
<b>RPM</b>	- Revolution Per Minute.
<b>RPS</b>	- Revolution Per Seconds.
<b>Oil Palm</b>	- Oil Palm.
<b>MPOB</b>	- Malaysian Oil Palm Board.
<b>S</b>	- Straight-Tooth.
<b>SC</b>	- Semi-Circular.
<b>C</b>	- Curve.
<b>M &amp; I</b>	- Motion and Inertia.
<b>HAV</b>	- Health Associated Vibrations.
<b>YAP</b>	- Year After Planting.
<b>M/T/H/M</b>	- Man/Tan/Hectares/Months.
<b>SSSTR</b>	- Statistical Static-State Test Rig.
<b>HRC</b>	- Hardness Rockwell Class "C".

<b>HALT</b>	- High Accelerated Life Test.
<b>UHDT</b>	- Ujian Hayat Dipercepatkan Tinggi.
<b>STBICP</b>	- Statistical Tooth Blade Identified Cutting Performance.
<b>DMG</b>	- Designed Management Guidelines.
<b>DSP</b>	- Demand Side Platform.
<b>SSP</b>	- Supply Side Platform.



## LIST OF SYMBOLS.

<b>F</b>	-	Force
<i>m</i>	-	Mass of the body
<i>v</i>	-	Velocity of the moving body.
<i>f</i>	-	Acceleration
<i>k</i>	-	Dimensionless constant.
<i>r</i>	-	Radius of curvature
<i>w</i>	-	Angular velocity vector.
<i>w</i>	-	Width of Tooth Blade
<i>t</i>	-	Thickness of tooth blade
<i>g</i>	-	The acceleration due to gravity,
<i>h</i>	-	Height of the tooth body above a reference point of the gullet depth.
<i>B</i>	-	Beta
<i>N-m</i>	-	Newton metre
<i>Cos</i>	-	Cosine
<i>PE (Nm)</i>	-	Potential Energy.
<i>K.E. (Nm)</i>	-	Kinetic Energy.
<i>S</i>	-	Distance traveled in meters
<i>V<sub>o</sub></i>	-	Initial velocity in meters/sec
<i>T</i>	-	Time interval in seconds
<i>F<sub>t</sub></i>	-	Acceleration in meters/sec <sup>2</sup>
<i>p</i>	-	pressure in N/m <sup>2</sup>
<i>d</i>	-	diameter of the piston in m <sup>2</sup>
<i>n</i>	-	ratio of connecting rod to crank radius