GREEN-CO :BIODIESEL PRODUCTION FROM CHLORELLA VULGARIS AND N-HEXANE USING ULTRASONIC METHOD

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Abstract

Biodiesel, as a renewable fuels is one of the most important discovery to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions and microalgae is an organism who plays a big role in the process of making biodiesel. Microalgae Chlorella vulgaris has high oil content amount for about 57%. Therefore, Chlorella vulgaris is a very potential material for biodiesel. This research was conducted by 6 processes: Lipid extraction (added N-Hexane solvent), Ultrasonication, Viscosity test, Density test, Acid number test, and Saponification number test. The lipid extraction process was conducted 2 times. The ultrasonication process resulting a nanoparticle size (smaller size) of extraction which are more effective to the biodiesel quality. The ratio of Chlorella vulgaris and N-Hexane are 1:4 and 1:8. This research resulted the ratio of 1:8 is more effective than the ratio of 1:4 to become the raw material for biodiesel production.

Keywords: Biodiesel, Microalgae, Chlorella vulgaris, Ultrasonication

INTRODUCTION

The human populations would be increase every year. Meanwhile, humans are social creatures who need to mobilize. To fulfill their need of mobility, humans need transportation. Currently, transportation fuels are dominated by non-renewable fuels such as petroleum. In recent years, due to various environmental issues caused by fossil fuels and worldwide quest to increase use of renewable biofuels, microalgae have attracted tremendous attention in biotechnology research with regard to biofuel production, such as methane, biodiesel and biohydrogen (Chisti, 2007). Intensive consumption of non-renewable fuels can lead to scarcity someday. If no new reserves are found, oil supplies in Indonesia are expected to run out in the next nine years. Greenhouse gas emissions will increase, global warming will become more prevalent, climate change will occur, the environment will be massively polluted, and public health will be affected.

Biodiesel, an alternative fuel that is low in producing CO, CO2, NO, SO, and hydrocarbon emissions, can be a solution for this problems. Biodiesel is a renewable fuel oil, a renewable monoalkyl ester derived from natural materials, such as plant oils and animal through fats. the process of transesterification process (Abbaszaadeh et al., 2012; Demirbas, 2010). Biodiesel is produced from vegetable oils that can be taken from plants or microalgae. Microalgae, small photosynthetic organisms that can grow rapidly in water or other media. Microalgae are a very promising feedstock for biodiesel

production. Microalgae are single-celled photosynthetic organisms, it use light energy and carbon dioxide, with higher photosynthetic capacity more efficient than biomass production. Microalgae are microscopic organism with diameters between 3-30 µm. Microalgae is one of the vegetable oil-producing materials that is widespread in Indonesia. Microalga has various advantages over conventional oil crops plants. The oil content also reaches 70% of dry weight and does not require fertile soil to grow, making microalgae one of the materials that can be utilized as a raw material for biodiesel. The oil productivity of microalgae exceeds that of the best oilproducing plants (Converti et al., 2009).

Microalgal-based biodiesel is a renewable potential resource for displacement liquid transport fuels derived from petroleum (Christi, 2008). Microalgae is an autotrophic organisms that are able to photosynthesize such as high level plants, so they can also automatically reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions because the CO2 will be used in the photosynthesis photosynthesis process. From the process, solar energy can be converted into chemical energy, one of which is stored in the form of lipids.

There's an interesting species of microalgae to investigate, which is *Chlorella vulgaris.Chlorella vulgaris* has high oil content amount for about 57%. Therefore, *Chlorella vulgaris* is very potential material for biodiesel.

Table 1. Chemical content of various	
microalgae species in dry biomass (%)	

Microalgae species	Lipid content (%biomass)
Chlorella emersonii	25-63
Chlamydomonas	57
minotissima	
Chlorella sp.	10-48
Chlorella vulgaris	5-58
Dunaleilla salina	6-25
Dunaleillaprimolicta	23
Dunaliella sp.	17-67
Nanochloris sp.	20-56
Nanochloropsis sp.	12-53
Schizochytrum sp.	50-77
Skelotonemacostatum	13-51
Pavtova salina	30
Pyrrosialeavis	69
Zitzschia sp	45-47

Source: Kawaroe et.al, MikroalgaPotensi dan Pemanfaatannya untuk Produksi Bio Bahan Bakar, (Bogor :IPB Press, 2010), hlm. 15.

Recently, integrated approaches that overcome the technologicaleconomic limitations of the current microalgal biodiesel production process, such as simultaneous harvesting/cell disruption using nanoparticles (Lee et al., 2014b). Nannoparticle can be used as disruption agents and catalysts in the production of biodiesel from microalgae. Disruption agent means as a disruptor of the microalgae cell wall so that the lipids contained in it can be extracted more easily. Catalyst means to accelerate the reaction that converts lipids into biodiesel. Thus, the use of nanoparticles can increase the efficiency of lipid extraction from microalgae and its conversion into biodiesel. Some recent studies also suggest that engineered nanoparticles can transport DNA and chemicals into algae cells and it has been found that the size of nanoparticles is inversely proportional to the number of molecules present. Nanoparticles have a size range below 100 nm so that they can increase the growth and lipid production of microalgae. This paper will discuss the effectiveness comparison of Chlorella

vulgaris microalgae mixed with nhexane by ratio of 1:2, 1:4, and 1:8 as feedstock for nanoparticle-based biodiesel.

Research Purpose

- 1. Knowing the number of viscosity and density from the Microalgae Chlorella vulgaris with N-Hexane Solvent in the ratio of 1:4 and 1:8 compared with SNI Rate.
- Knowing the acid number and saponification number from the Microalgae Chlorella vulgaris with N-Hexane Solvent in the ratio of 1:4 and 1:8 compared with SNI Rate.
- 3. Analyze the the effect of amount from N-Hexane mixed with microalgae Chlorella vulgaris as solvent.
- 4. Analyze the most effective ratio of microalgae Chlorella vulgaris mixed with N-Hexane solvent in making biodiesel.

METHOD AND EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Time and Place

This research was conducted on July 2023 until November 2023. Held at Researcher's house and STIFAR (Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Farmasi) Semarang.

Research Type

The type of our research are quantitative and qualitative. While, our research methodology is Experimental which include ultrasonication process, viscosity, density, acid number, and saponification number test.



The chemical N-Hexane has analytical quality/specification (PA). Nhexane has been proven to be more optimal as a solvent extraction than Methanol. Resulting in a yield of 30.14 gr/ml while Methanol only produce 29.02 gr/ml. Therefore, N-hexane solvent can extract algae oil better than methanol solvent. This is because the nature of oil where it will be more soluble to non-polar solvent components, where n-hexane is more non-polar than methanol. The solubility is due to the Van Der Wall attractive force between the solvent and the solute. as with other alkane compounds, nhexane is insoluble in water.

The experimental procedure was as follows: Preparing *Chlorella Vulgaris* powder as much as 80 g. The ultrasonic extraction device was assembled and placed with the algae mixed with the extraction solvent in a round bottom flask at 50 degrees Celcius and with an operating time of 1 hour.



Picture 1. The sample documentation after being ultrasonicated Source : Researcher's documentation

In the ratio of 1:4, N-Hexane that was used is 320 mL. While In the ratio of 1:8, N-Hexane that was used is 640 mL. Then, it followed with the tests of viscosity, density, acid number, and saponification number.

Viscosity is the resistance of a fluid to changes in shape or movement of adjacent parts relative to one another. To summarize, viscosity is a measure of a fluid's resistance to flow. The acceptable viscosity range for biodiesel according to SNI is between 2,0 - 4.5 mm2/s (cp). To define the viscosity, an Ostwald Viscometer was used to determined the concentration of microalgae.



Picture 2. Viscometer Ostwald Source : Researcher's documentation

b. Viscosity Measurement for the ratio of 1:4

Table 2. Viscosity Measurement Data for the Ratio 1:4

No	Sample	I	Ш	III	∑ Time
1.	Aquadest	63	64	63	63,33
		second	second	second	second
2.	Sample X	72	72	74	72,66
		second	second	second	second
Wat	er density	= 0.9	998 g/mL		
Sam	ple X's dens	ity = 0.6	6590 g/mL		
ηwa	ater	= 0.8	89 cp (Han	dbook Of	
Pharmaceuticals Exipients, 766)					
η Sample X = $\frac{t.Sample \ x \ \rho \ Sample}{t.water \ x \ \rho \ water} x$ ηwater					
$= \frac{72.66 \ second \ x \ 0.6590 \ g/mL}{63.33 \ second \ x \ 0.998 \ g/mL} x \ 0.89 \ cp$ $= \ 0.7576 \ cp$					

c. Viscosity Measurement for the ratio of 1:8

Table 3. Viscosity Measurement Data for the Ratio 1:4

No	Sample	I	II	III	∑Time
1.	Aquadest	63 second	62 second	63 second	62.67
					second
2.	Sample X	47 second	48 second	47 second	47.33
					second
Water density = 0.9		98 g/mL			
Sample X's d			= 0.6	674 g/mL	
	No 1. 2. ty S	No Sample 1. Aquadest 2. Sample X ty = 0.99 Sample X's c	No Sample I 1. Aquadest 63 second 2. Sample X 47 second ty = 0.998 g/mL Sample X's density	No Sample I II 1. Aquadest 63 second 62 second 2. Sample X 47 second 48 second ty = 0.998 g/mL Sample X's density = 0.60	No Sample I II III 1. Aquadest 63 second 62 second 63 second 2. Sample X 47 second 48 second 47 second ty = 0.998 g/mL Sample X's density = 0.6674 g/mL

η water = 0.89 cp (HandbookOf Pharmaceuticals Exipients, 766) $η \text{ SampleX} = \frac{t.Sample x \rho Sample}{t.water x \rho water} x η \text{ water}$ $= \frac{47.33 \text{ second } x 0.6674 \text{ g/mL}}{62.67 \text{ second } x 0.998 \text{ g/mL}} x 0.89 \text{ cp}$ = 0.4494 cp

Density is a measure of the density or compressibility of a substance, which is a comparison between the mass and volume of the substance itself (Rahim and Indah, 2017). Based on SNI 7182:2015 Biodiesel, the density value must be below 0.850-0.890 g/mL. In this research, we measure the density number by using Pycnometer



Picture 2. Pycnometer Source : Researcher's Documentation

a. Density Measurement for the ratio of 1:4

Weight of empty Pycnometer = 10.5269 g Weight of Pycnometer + Aquadest = 21.0726g Weight of Pycnometer + Sampel X = 17.4908g Waterdensity at 20 degree Celcius = 0.998 g/mL (Indonesian Pharmacopoeia III edition, 96)

Determine the volume density of a pycnometer					
Weight of Pycnometer + Aquadest	= 2	1.0726g			
Weight of empty Pycnometer	= 1	0.5269 <u>g</u> _			
Weight ofAquadest	= 1	0.5457g			
Vol. Pycnometer = Vol. Water = $\frac{Weight of water}{\rho water} = \frac{10,5457 g}{0,998 g/ml}$	=	10.5668 <i>mL</i>			
Determine the Density and Specific W	leigl	ht of			
Sample X					
Weight of Pycnometer + Sample	= 1	7.4908 g			
Weight of empty Pycnometer	= 1	0.5269 q			
Weight ofAquadest	=	6.9639 g			
$\rho \text{ Sample} = \frac{Weight \text{ of Sample}}{Vol.Pycnometer} = \frac{6.9639 \text{ g}}{10.1122 \text{ mL}} = 0.6590 \text{ g}$	/mL				
Sample specific gravity $= \frac{\rho Sampel}{\rho Air} = \frac{0.6590 g/mL}{0.998 g/mL} = 0$.660)			

b. Density Measurement for the ratio of 1:8

Weightof empty Pycnometer = 11,6444 gWeight of Pycnometer + Aquadest = 21,7364 gWeight of Pycnometer + Sampel X = 18,3933 gWaterdensity at 20 degree Celcius = 0.998 g/mL (Indonesian Pharmacopoeia III edition, 96)

Determine the volume density of a pycnometer					
Weight of Pycnometer + Aquadest	= 21,7364 g				
Weight of empty Pycnometer	<u>= 11,6444 g</u>				
Weight ofAquadest	= 10,0920 <i>g</i>				
Vol. Pycnometer = Vol. Water = $\frac{Weight of water}{\rho water}$ = $\frac{10,0920 g}{0,998 g/ml}$	$\frac{1}{L}$ = 10,1122 mL				
Determine the Density and Specific W	leight of				
Sample X					
Weight of Pycnometer + Sample	= 18,3933 g				
Weight of empty Pycnometer	= 11,6444 g				
Weight ofAquadest	= 6,7489 g				
$\rho \text{ Sample} = \frac{Weight \text{ of Sample}}{Vol.Pycnometer} = \frac{6,7489 \text{ g}}{10,1122 \text{ mL}} = 0,6674 \text{ g}.$	/mL				
Sample specific gravity = $\frac{\rho Sampel}{\rho Air} = \frac{0.6674 g/mL}{0.998 g/mL} = 0$,669				

Acid number is a number that indicates the amount of free fatty acids contained in a fat or oil, which is usually associated with the hydrolysis process of the fat or oil (Fitri and Fitriana, 2019). As stated in SNI, the value of acid number should not exceed 0,5 mg-KOH/g. The total acid number is determined by titrating the sample dissolved in an organic solvent (ethanol: Chloroform 1:1) Using KOH 0.1 N, PP indicator. Acid number measurement in this study was determined by a several process. First process is Determine the Level of Acid Number. This process begin by weighed carefully 10 grams of sample put in erlenmeyer, add 20 ml of neutral ethanol, added 3 drops of 1% PP indicator, and titrate it with 0.1N KOH solution. The second process is the process of Standarization KOH by Oxalic Acid. This process begin by pipetting 10.0ml of 0.0999N Oxalic Acid solution into Erlenmeyer, add 40ml of CO2-free distilled water, add 1% PP indicator, then titrate it with 0.1N KOH solution.

a. Acid Number Measurement for the ratio of 1:4

KOH Standarization with Oxalic Acid

Table 4. KOH Standarization with Oxalic Acid Data for the Acid Number Measurement

		(Ratio 1:4)	
NO	Oxalic Acid Volume	Titrant volume readings	Titrant volume
1	10.0	0,00 - 10.50	10.50
2	10.0	0,00 – 10.45	10.45
3	10.0	0,00 - 10.50	10.50

Average titrant volume : 10.48 mL

Sample rate determination with KOH 0,1 N

Table 5. Sample rate determination with KOH0.1 N for the Acid Number Measurement

	(Ratio 1:4)						
NO	Weight of weighted bottle + substances	Weight of weighting bottle + remnant	Weight of substance	Titrant volume reading	Titrant volume	Rate %	
1	42.1225	32.1211	10,0014	0,000- 2.600	2.600	0.14	
2	41.2474	31.2254	10,0220	0,000- 2.600	2.600	0.14	
3	43.4929	33.1653	10,3276	0,000- 2.600	2.600	0.13	

Calculation

1. Standarization

V1 x C1 raw primary = V2 x C2 raw secondary 10.0ml x 0.1000N = 10.48mLx C2 C2 = 0.0954 N

2. Rate Determination

SAMPEL 1 = $(V \times N)KOH \times BM KOH \times 100\%$ Mg Sampel = $(2.600 \times 0.094) \times 56.1 \times 100\%$ 10001.4 = 0.14% Average rate = (0.14+0.14+0.13)/3= 0.14% Therefore, the sample contains Acid Number 0.14% (SNI Requirements cannot be more than 5.0 %)

- b. Acid Number Measurement for the ratio of 1:8
 - KOH Standarization with Oxalic Acid

Table 6.	KOH	Standarization	1 with	Oxalic	Acid
		(Ratio 1:8)		

NO	Oxalic Acid Volume	Titrant volume readings	Titrant volume
1	10.0	0.00 – 11.70	11.70

2	10.0	0.00 – 11.80	11.80
3	10.0	0.00 – 11.70	11.70

Average titrant volume : 11.75 mL

Sample rate determination with KOH 0.1 N

Table 7. Sample rate determination with	n KOH 0.1 N
for the Acid Number Measurement (Ratio 1:8)

NO	Weight of weighted bottle + substances	Weight of weighting bottle + remnant	Weight of substance	Titrant volume reading	Titrant volume	Rate %
1	44.3250	34.1516	10.1734	0.000- 6.000	6.000	0.28
2	43.8729	33.7723	10.1006	0.000- 6.700	6.700	0.32
3	34.4580	24.2881	10.1699	0.000- 6.400	6.400	0.30

Calculation

1. Standarization Data V1 x C1 raw primary = V2 x C2 raw secondary 10.0mLx 0.0999N = 11.75ml x C2 C2 = 0.0850 N

2. Rate Determination Data

SAMPEL 1= <u>(V x N)KOH x BM KOH x 100%</u>
Mg Sampel
= <u>(6.000 x 0.0850)x 56.1x100%</u>
10173.4
= 0.28%
Average rate = (0.28+0.32+0.30)/3
= 0.30%
Therefore, the sample contains Acid Number 0.30% (SNI Requirements cannot be more than 5.0 %)

Saponification number is the number of milligrams of KOH needed to saponify 1 gram of biodiesel sample (Dogra et al. 2005). Saponification rate measurement in this study was determined by a several method. The first method is the method of determine the rate. Begin by : Weighed carefully 10 grams of sample put in Erlenmeyer, add 20.0 ml of 0.5N KOH, then reflux it for 15 minutes then cooled, add 2 drops of 1% PP indicator, and titrate it with 0.5N HCl until the exact pink colour disappeared. Blank titration was performed. The second method is Standarization Method. It begin by carefully pipetted 10.0 ml of Na2B4O7 solution was put in Erlenmeyer, add 40 ml of CO2-free distilled water, add 2 drops of MR1% inductors, titrate it with 0.5N HCl solution until orange colour. And the last method is Blanko Titration

Method. It begin by pipetted 20.0 ml of 0.5N KOH into Erlenmeyer, reflux it for 15 minutes then cooled, add 2 drops of 1% PP indicator, then titrate it with 0.5N HCl solution until the exact pink colour disappeared

a. Saponification Number Measurement for the ratio of 1:4

1. Standarization Data

Table 8. Sample rate determination for the Saponification Number Measurement (Ratio 1:4)

(1001011)							
NO	Na2B4O7	Titrant	Titrant Volume				
	Volume	volume					
		reading					
1	10.0 mL	0.00 - 10.10	10.10				
2	10.0 mL	0.00 - 10.10	10.10				
3	10.0 mL	0.00 - 10.10	10.10				

Titrant Volume Average = 10.10 ml

2. Rate Determination Data

Table 9. Sample rate determination data for the Saponification Number Measurement (Ratio 1:4)

			(
NO	Weighed Bottle Weight & Substance S	Weighed Bottle Weight & Residual	Weight of Substances	Titrant Volume Reading	Titrant Volume	Rate
1	38.7314	28.7124	10.0190	0,00 – 16.90	16,00	16.90
2	35.1922	25.1098	10.0824	0,00 - 17.30	15,90	17.30
3	37.4301	27.1123	10.3178	0,00 - 17.40	15,90	17.40

Calculations

1. Standarization Data

V1 x N1 raw primary = V2 x N2 raw secondary 10.0 x 0.5000 = 10.10 x N2

N2 = 0.5000 N

The real normality of HCL is 0.4964 N

2. Rate Determination Data

Saponification Number = $\frac{Blanko Vol-Sample Vol x N HCL x 56,1}{Gram Sample}$

$=\frac{(16.10 - 16.00) \times 0.5000 \times 56.1}{\frac{56.1}{= 1.33}}$ So, the sample's saponification number is =

2.21

b. Saponification Number Measurement for the ratio of 1:8

2. Standarization Data

Table 10. Sample rate determination for the Saponification Number Measurement (Ratio 1:8)

Pom	reaction r (ann	our measurer	mente (ruune
NO	Na2B4O7 Volume	Titrant volume reading	Titrant Volume
1	10.0 ml	0.00 - 10.10	10.10
2	10.0 ml	0.00 - 10.10	10.10
3	10.0 ml	0.00 - 10.10	1010

Titrant Volume Average = 10.10 mL

3. Rate Determination Data

Table 11. Sample rate determination data for the Saponification Number Measurement (Ratio 1:8)

NO	Weighed Bottle Weight & Substances	Weighed Bottle Weight & Residual	Weight of Substances	Titrant Volume Reading	Titrant Volume	Rate
1	27.3159	25.2154	2.1005	0.00 – 16.00	16.00	1.33
2	21.8564	19.7701	2.0863	0.00 – 15.90	15.90	2.67
3	22.5256	20.4074	2.1182	0.00 – 15.90	15.90	2.63

Calculations

3. Standarization Data

V1 x N1 raw primary = V2 x N2 raw secondary

10.0 x 0.5014 = 10.10 x N2

N2 = 0.4964 N

The real normality of HCL is 0.4964 N

4. Rate Determination Data

Saponification Number = $\frac{Blanko Vol-Sample Vol \times N HCL \times 56,1}{Gram Sample}$

$$=\frac{(16.10 - 16.00) x \ 0.4964 x \ 56.1}{2.1005}$$
$$= 1.33$$

So, the sample's saponification number is = 2.21

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 12. Result All Test compared with Stylfate					
No	Test type	Ra	ntio	SNI	
		1:4	1:8		
1	Viscosity Test	0.7576 cp	0.4494 cp	2.0-4.5 mm ² /s	
2	Density Test	0.660 g/mL	0.669 g/mL	0.815-0.88 g/ml	
3	Acid Number Test	0.14%	0.30%	< 5.0 %	
4	Saponification	2.21	2.21	< 500 mg KOH /g	
	Number Test				

Table 12. Result All Test compared with SNI rate

The data that was obtained are :

1. In the experiment of 1:4 (Chlorella vulgaris : N-Hexane solvent) shows =

- Viscosity number of 0.7576 cp. It doesn't fulfill the SNI rate (2.0-4.5 mm²/s).
- Density number of 0.660 g/mL. It doesn't fulfill the SNI rate (0.815-0.88 g/ml).
- Acid number rate of 0.14%. It fulfills the SNI rate (<5.0%).
- Saponification number of 2.21. It fulfills the SNI rate (<500 mg KOH/g).

2. In the experiment of 1:8 (Chlorella vulgaris : N-Hexane solvent) shows =

- Viscosity number of 0.4494 cp. It doesn't fulfill the SNI rate (2.0-4.5 mm²/s).
- Density number of 0.669 g/mL. It doesn't fulfill the SNI rate (0.815-0.88 g/ml).
- Acid number rate of 0.30%. It fulfills the SNI rate (<5.0%).
- Saponification number of 2.21. It fulfills the SNI rate (<500 mg KOH/g).

CONCLUSION

It can conclude that :

1. The number of viscosity and density from the microalgae doesn't fulfill the qualification of SNI that should be required in producing biodiesel. 2. The number of acid and saponification from the microalgae has fulfill the qualification of SNI that should be required in producing biodiesel.

3. The higher ratio of N-Hexane solvent resulting in lower viscosity fluid (low consistency). rate However, the determination of viscosity and density don't significantly give impact to the biodiesel formula wherefore it only shows the measure of a fluid's resistance to flow and the compressibility of a substance which doesn't affect the essence of the formula. Therefore, it needs further treatment to increase the number of viscosity and density.

4. The *Chlorella vulgaris* in the ratio of 1:4 and 1:8 both are effective as a base of biodiesel due to the qualification standard based on SNI of acid number and saponification number are fulfilled but the ratio of 1:8 is more effective to be the material for biodiesel than the ratio of 1:4 because it has higher ratio of acid number than the ratio of 1:4.

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