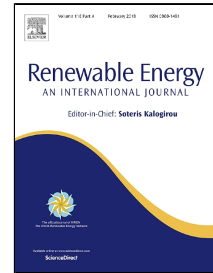


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Characteristics of briquettes developed from rice and coffee husks for domestic cooking applications in Uganda

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**Highlights**

- Rice and coffee husk briquettes were developed with cassava starch and clay as binders
- The type of binder affected the physical properties, calorific values and drop strengths
- Heating values for briquettes developed with cassava starch binder ranged from 21.9-23.0 MJ/kg for coffee husks and 15.9-16.6 MJ/kg for rice husks.
- For coffee and rice husk briquettes developed with clay binder, average higher heating values ranged from 13.0-19.5 MJ/kg and 9.5-13.8 MJ/kg, respectively.
- Cassava starch binder imparted higher drop strengths (over 94%) onto the briquettes than clay binder material.

1 **Characteristics of briquettes developed from rice and coffee husks for domestic cooking**  
2 **applications in Uganda**

3  
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10  
11 **Abstract**

12  
13 The goal of this study was to develop briquettes from coffee and rice husks agricultural wastes as  
14 sustainable fuel sources for domestic cooking applications. Clay and cassava starch were used as  
15 binders. Physial properties of the coffee husks and rice husks as well as the developed briquettes  
16 were determined using Thermogravimetric analysis. Higher heating value (HHV) results were  
17 determined using bomb calorimetry. Drop test method was used to determine the mechanical and  
18 storage integrity of the developed briquettes. The results showed that the type of binder used in  
19 the development of the briquettes significantly affected both their physical properties and calorific  
20 values. Average higher heating values for briquettes developed with cassava starch binder ranged  
21 from 21.9-23.0 MJ/kg for coffee husks and 15.9-16.6 MJ/kg for rice husks. For coffee and rice  
22 husk briquettes developed with clay binder, average higher heating values ranged from 13.0-19.5  
23 MJ/kg and 9.5-13.8 MJ/kg, respectively. Generally, cassava starch binder imparted higher drop

1 strengths (over 95%) onto the briquettes than clay binder material. The characteristics were  
2 influenced by the physical properties of the raw biomass material as well as the high SiO<sub>2</sub> ash in  
3 the clay binder.

4 **Key words:** Binder; Briquettes; Coffee and Rice husks; Physical Properties; Drop strength

## 6 **1. Introduction**

7  
8 Fuel for domestic cooking applications in Uganda, like most of sub-Saharan Africa, is dominated  
9 by firewood (31.0%-Urban; 85.2%-Rural) and charcoal (58.2%-Urban; 11.8%-Rural) (Uganda  
10 Bureau of Standards (UBOS), 2016). This has resulted in a 46% loss in Uganda's forest cover  
11 between 1990 and 2013 (UBOS, 2015). The effect of this has been a change in the climatic pattern  
12 which has affected farming communities due to either extended droughts or excessive flooding  
13 and rainfall variability (Brown et al. 2011; Shiferaw et al. 2014). Uganda's deforestation rate now  
14 stands at 1.8% per annum (UBOS, 2015). This implies that carbondioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) capture and  
15 storage provided by forest cover will continue to substantially decline, hence promoting climate  
16 change and its negative impacts (Okello et al., 2013a; Okello et al., 2013b). Uganda's population  
17 is growing at a rate of 3% per annum. Demand for biomass energy is expected to increase in the  
18 short term to match this growth. This increase in demand is typical for developing countries where  
19 biomass represents 80% of the total energy supply mix. Therefore, there is an increasing need to  
20 source alternative fuels, especially for cooking so as to reduce deforestation as a result of trees  
21 being cut for both charcoal production and firewood (Yank et al., 2016).

22

1 One potential fuel source that is yet to be exhaustively tapped in Uganda are wastes from  
2 agricultural production and processing. These wastes can be used to produce modern energy of  
3 comparable or better heating value than both charcoal and firewood (Government of Uganda  
4 (GoU), 2007; Yank et al., 2016). A decade old Government of Uganda report documents that over  
5 1.2 million tons of agricultural wastes are generated annually (GoU, 2007). This figure is expected  
6 to have increased as agricultural production has become both more commercialized and  
7 mechanized. Two agricultural wastes are the focus of this study: (1) Rice husks; and, (2) Coffee  
8 husks. Rice has become a staple food in Uganda and coffee remains one of Uganda's main cash  
9 crops (UBOS, 2015). Therefore, their production is expected to increase for the foreseeable future.  
10 Rice production has grown at a rate of over 9% per annum (Food and Agriculture Organization  
11 (FAO), 2015); whereas, coffee continues to play a leading role in the economy of Uganda,  
12 contributing 18% of export earnings between the year 2000 and 2010 (Ahmed 2012). However,  
13 the disposal of rice and coffee husks agricultural residues generated during processing is  
14 problematic. The most common method of disposal is burning in open fields which has negative  
15 ecological impacts (Lim et al., 2012; Thao et al., 2011).

16  
17 Therefore, the utilization of rice and coffee husks agricultural wastes in the development of an  
18 alternative domestic cooking fuel will: (1) reduce on the rate of deforestation for charcoal  
19 production and firewood for domestic cooking applications; and, (2) enhance waste management  
20 by the utilization of the rice and coffee husks (Das et al., 2016). These advantages in combination  
21 enhance climate change mitigation and reduce environmental degradation and pollution (Okello  
22 et al., 2013a; Thao et al., 2011). Additionally, rice and coffee husks generated in Uganda have an  
23 energy potential of 0.58PJ/year and 2.86PJ/year, respectively (Okello et al., 2013a). Therefore, the

1 development of rice and coffee husk briquettes provides a sustainable way of utilizing this energy  
2 potential in the production of a domestic cooking fuel that will provide potentially more energy  
3 per unit volume when compared to both charcoal and firewood (Ndindeng et al., 2015).

4  
5 The technological process involved in briquetting is relatively well known (Bhattacharya et al.,  
6 1989). Over the last decade a number of studies have demonstrated the development of briquettes  
7 from agricultural wastes (Amaya et al., 2007; Barargan et al., 2014; Blesa et al., 2001; Chen et al.,  
8 2009; Chou et al., 2009a; Chou et al., 2009b; Gangil, 2014; Haykiri-Acma et al., 2013; Hu et al.,  
9 2015; Kaliyan and Morey, 2009a; Kaliyan and Morey, 2009b; Kaliyan and Morey, 2010a; Kaliyan  
10 and Morey, 2010b; Liu et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2014; Lubwama and Yiga, 2017;  
11 Muazu and Stegemann, 2015; Mwampamba et al., 2013; Oladeji, 2010; Srivastava et al., 2014;  
12 Stelte et al., 2011; Stolarski et al., 2013; Wilaipon, 2007; Wilaipon, 2008; Wilaipon, 2009). Even  
13 yet, these and more studies remain few given the amount of wastes generated from agricultural  
14 production and processing. Differences in hydrogeological conditions from one region to another  
15 imply that physical properties of agricultural wastes must be geo-specific (Muazu and Stegemann,  
16 2015; Vassilev et al., 2010). Due to biomass variability, a continuous effort must be applied to  
17 development and characterization of biomass briquettes for sustainable energy development  
18 (Muazu and Stegemann, 2015).

19  
20 Typical agrobased fibers like rice husks and coffee husks are three dimensional bio-polymers  
21 composed mainly of cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin (Bekalo and Reinhardt, 2010; Vassilev et  
22 al., 2012). Inorganic constituents of chemical ash compositions show the dominant presence of  
23 silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) and potassium oxide ( $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ) (Vassilev et al., 2010). A comparison of the

1 organic and dominant chemical constituents between Rice husks and coffee husks is shown in  
2 Table 1. Cellulose content is generally higher for rice husks compared to coffee husks. Higher  
3 percentages of cellulose is generally associated with a rigid structure and stiffness. Rice husk ash  
4 also have a higher percentage of  $\text{SiO}_2$  at 94.38% compared to that of coffee husks at 14.65%  
5 (Vassilev et al., 2010). Silica is also associated with the formation of rigid micro-structures that  
6 enhance structural stability and rigidity of the plant structure (Vassilev et al., 2012). These  
7 differences imply that the properties of briquettes developed from rice and coffee husks will be  
8 affected by these inherent differences in the raw materials under consideration.

9  
10 More specifically, extremely few studies have been done on briquettes developed from rice husks  
11 and coffee husks. Arewa et al., (2016) characterized and compared rice husk briquettes developed  
12 with cassava peels and cassava starch as binders. Burning rate and water boiling test results  
13 indicated that rice husk briquettes combustion was improved with the use of both binders.  
14 However, properties of the rice husk briquettes made with cassava peels as a binder resulted in  
15 better performance. Ndindeng et al., (2015) produced briquettes from rice husks in combination  
16 with rice bran using palm press fiber, palm press sludge and clay as binders. Briquettes with rice  
17 husks and rice bran only were also developed. Results showed that incorporation of bran and other  
18 forms of binders produced rice husk briquettes with sufficient hardness and calorific value for  
19 cooking applications. However, inclusion of clay binder during rice husk briquette development  
20 had negative performance indicators including lower calorific value, higher ash content, lower  
21 flame temperature and higher specific fuel consumption (Ndindeng et al., 2015). Yank et al.,  
22 (2016) investigated the effect of binders, water content and bran content on physical properties of  
23 briquettes developed from rice husks. Briquettes made with rice dust (a waste by-product produced

1 when rice kernels are milled to produce flour) as binder had the highest durability and compressive  
2 strength, while briquettes made with cassava starch as binder had the greatest density (Yank et al.,  
3 2016). Oladeji (2010) characterized briquettes produced from corncobs and rice husk residues.  
4 Results showed better performance for briquettes developed from corncobs compared to those  
5 developed from rice husks. Corncob briquettes had higher volatile matter percentages (86.53) and  
6 higher heating values (20890 kJ/kg) whereas volatile matter and heating values for rice husk  
7 briquettes were 67.98% and 13389 kJ/kg, respectively. Amaya et al., (2007) developed activated  
8 carbon briquettes from wood and rice husks. Addition of low quantities of rice husk were observed  
9 to improve the mechanical properties of the prepared briquettes. However, thermogravimetric  
10 analysis indicated that the addition of rice husks in briquette development decreased their  
11 combustibility (Amaya et al., 2007). Hu et al., (2015) developed briquettes from rice husk char  
12 using different binders. Briquettes developed with starch binder showed good hydrophobicity, but  
13 exhibited low volume density and mechanical strength. Briquettes developed with sodium  
14 hydroxide (NaOH) as binder showed highest compressive strength and hygroscopicity. Briquettes  
15 developed with lignin and calcium hydroxide ( $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ ) exhibited more desirable characteristics  
16 for use as biofuels (Hu et al., 2015). Muazu and Stegemann (2015) developed composite briquettes  
17 from rice husks and corn cobs with a mixture of starch and water as binder. Starch and water  
18 addition were required for attaining adequate briquette strength. Chou et al., (2009a)  
19 characterized briquettes made from rice straw with rice bran used as binding material. An  
20 optimized development process using different types of binders has also been described (Chou et  
21 al., 2009b). Liu et al., (2013) investigated the properties of briquettes made by mixing bamboo and  
22 rice straw. With regards to briquettes made from coffee husks even fewer studies have been done.  
23 The potential of coffee husk briquettes has been documented for countries in South America,



1 particularly, Brazil and Cuba (Felfi et al., 2011; Suarez et al., 2003). However, Gil et al., (2010)  
2 noted that briquettes developed from coffee husks had the least durability of all the raw material  
3 sources used. These limited studies indicate that further research should be done on briquettes  
4 developed from rice and coffee husks.

5  
6 Therefore, in this study briquettes were developed from rice and coffee husks using cassava starch  
7 and bentonite clay as binder material. Cassava starch is composed of amylose and amylopectin  
8 and both play a role in enhancing strength of briquettes following gelatinization and retrogradation  
9 (Dureja et al., 2011; Muazu and Stegemann, 2015; Oladunmoye et al., 2014). Previous studies  
10 have utilized clay as a binder for the purpose of increasing the density and hardness of the  
11 developed briquette (Ndindeng et al., 2015). When dispersed in water, bentonite clay breaks down  
12 into small plate-like particles that become negatively charged on the surface and positively charged  
13 on the edges. This unique ion exchange is responsible for their binding action (Lu et al., 2014).  
14 The briquettes were developed using both low pressure after carbonization and high pressure  
15 development techniques. Thermogravimetric analysis was used to determine the physical  
16 properties and the weight loss-time profiles for the briquettes. The higher heating values for the  
17 briquettes were determined using bomb calorimetry. Drop strength results were used to evaluate  
18 the mechanical integrity and durability of the briquettes. The total cumulative time for ignition and  
19 water boiling were also determined for application to domestic cooking.

## 20 21 **2. Experimental**

### 22 23 **2.1 Briquette Development**

1  
2 Coffee husks and Rice husks raw material were sun dried for 6 - 8 hours. The dried coffee and rice  
3 husks were then fed into a carbonizer. The carbonizer was made from a steel drum onto which  
4 holes of 0.02m diameter were inserted . The holes serve an air regulation purpose. The carbonizer  
5 drum was of 200 litre volume capacity with height 1m and diameter 0.5m. These drums are locally  
6 available on the market. Ignition of the waste raw material takes place from the top of the  
7 carbonizer drum after which the top of the drum was covered (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017). During  
8 the carbonization process these holes were covered with mud/clay to limit the amount of air  
9 available for complete combustion in the carbonizer as the waste material reduces due to pyrolytic  
10 processes until bio-char was formed (Bazargan et al., 2014; Hu et al., 2015; Lubwama and Yiga,  
11 2017; Tsai et al., 2012). Schematic drawings of the briquetting process have been presented  
12 elsewhere (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017)

13  
14 Bio-char was then measured into 1000g portions which were mixed with 30, 40, 50, 60 and 100g  
15 of cassava starch binder; Bio-char was also measured into 1000g portions which were mixed with  
16 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500g of clay binder. The starch binder was prepared by mixing 30, 40 50,  
17 60 and 100g of cassava flour in water and bringing to boil in order to obtain a uniform starchy  
18 binder (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017; Rezanian et al., 2016; Yank et al., 2016). The clay binder was  
19 prepared by adding 100g of water to each of the grams of solid clay and stirring to obtain a uniform  
20 solution. The cassava starch and clay binder were then mixed with the biochar and placed in  
21 cylindrical molds. The resulting briquette was a black solid of 0.05m diameter and 0.05m height.

22

1 For high pressure briquette development, rice and coffee husk raw material were first sun dried for  
2 6-8 hours. Materials were dried to 10%-15% moisture content before being fed into an automated  
3 feed section that transferred it to the hopper by a screw mechanism run by an electric motor  
4 (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017). From the hopper the raw material flows to meet a shaft of 5.5 cm  
5 diameter and 40 cm length. The shaft is connected to a piston that gets mechanical energy from  
6 the rotary motion of wheels that are run by a motor at 1470 rpm. A compaction pressure of 230  
7 MPa was maintained throughout the entire process. The formed briquette passed through a cooling  
8 conveyor (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017). High pressure briquette development was used to produce  
9 briquettes using coffee husks (1000g) without any binder. Development of rice husk briquettes  
10 under high pressure completely failed because of its high ash content. Processing parameters used  
11 in the development of rice husk and coffee husk briquettes are shown in Table 2.

12

## 13 **2.2 Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and bomb calorimetry.**

14

15 An Eltra Thermostep Thermogravimetric analyzer was used to determine the physical properties  
16 of the developed briquettes. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was used to determine the  
17 moisture content, ash content, fixed carbon and volatile matter content for the developed briquettes  
18 (Fernandez et al., 2012; Lubwama and Yiga, 2017). TGA analysis was also used to represent the  
19 weight loss, first derivative and temperature evolution profiles versus time for each of the rice and  
20 coffee husk briquettes developed (Avelar et al., 2016; Gil et al., 2010; Hu et al., 2015; Liu et al.,  
21 2014; Virmond et al., 2012). Higher heating values for the rice and coffee briquettes were  
22 determined using an oxygen bomb calorimeter (IKA C 2000) (Lubwama and Yiga, 2017).

23

### 1    **2.3 Mechanical Characterization**

2  
3    Drop test method was used to determine the compaction integrity of the briquettes for the purpose  
4    of gaining an understanding about their durability. In order to determine the drop strength, the  
5    briquettes were elevated up to 2m and then dropped onto a thick steel plate (Fengmin and  
6    Mingquan, 2011; Ndindeng et al., 2015). The ratio of the weight after dropping to the weight  
7    before dropping was recorded as the drop strength. Drop strength is an indicator as to whether the  
8    briquettes will retain their form during packaging, storage and transportation (Fengmin and  
9    Mingquan, 2011; Finney et al., 2009).

10

### 11    **2.4 Water boiling tests**

12  
13    In order to evaluate the performance of the developed briquettes for domestic cooking supply the  
14    total time taken to ignite the briquettes and boil 1 liter of water using 200g of briquettes was  
15    determined (Chen et al., 2016; Lubwama and Yiga, 2017; Tumutegereize et al., 2016). A  
16    traditional cook stove (locally called a '*sigiri*' or '*jiko*') was used.

17

### 18    **3. Results and discussion**

19

20    Structural characteristics between the pre-carbonized raw material and resulting bio-char after  
21    carbonization are very similar, though more particle disintegration was observed for coffee husks  
22    (See Figure 1). This observation is not surprising due to the high reactivity reported for coffee  
23    during the mass loss stage characterized by oxidative degradation (Gil et al., 2010). Also, coffee

1 husks have higher percentages of volatile matter and lower percentages of ash content compared  
2 to rice husks which affects structural evolution during carbonization (Vassilev et al., 2010). For  
3 rice husks similarity in the structural morphology is typical for carbonization processes for rice  
4 husk samples where the reaction ratio of pyrolysis is low (Hu et al., 2008).

5  
6 Some samples of briquettes developed under both low pressure after carbonization and high  
7 pressure techniques are shown in Figure 2. Only coffee husk briquettes were developed under high  
8 pressure without any binding material. The development of rice husk briquettes under high  
9 pressure was unsuccessful. In previous studies where rice husks briquettes were developed under  
10 high pressure either a binder was used or heated water was applied during the process (Amaya et  
11 al., 2007; Hu et al., 2015; Muazu & Stegemann, 2015; Ndindeng et al., 2015). The major limitation  
12 in the briquetting of rice husks is the high ash content consisting of mainly  $\text{SiO}_2$  (see Table 1 and  
13 Table 3). For the coffee husk briquettes developed under high pressure it was observed that the  
14 surface of the briquettes generally had a smooth texture but lateral cracks were evident along the  
15 circumferential diameter of the briquettes along their entire length. However a cross-sectional view  
16 of the coffee husk briquettes developed under high pressure showed relatively good internal  
17 bonding. The smooth surface finish, lateral cracking notwithstanding, was expected as a result of  
18 the high pressure utilized during densification. Solid bridge bonding mechanisms are expected to  
19 have occurred as a result of the influence of both high instantaneous pressure and temperature  
20 during the compression stage of briquette development. Crystallization and chemical reactions of  
21 the lignin in the coffee husk raw material due to instantaneous high pressure and temperature  
22 ensure that solid bridges are developed to permeate any gaps between the coffee husks (Kaliyan  
23 and Morey, 2009a; Kaliyan and Morey, 2010a). However the formation of lateral cracks clearly

1 indicates that the solidification of melted components during the cooling phase was irregular from  
2 the center of the briquette to its circumferential exterior, hence the formation of the circumferential  
3 lateral cracks (Kaliyan and Morey, 2010a; Kong et al., 2012). Briquettes developed after  
4 carbonization generally had micro-pores across the entire circumferential area. This is expected  
5 because the pressures exerted during their formation are low implying that micro-spaces between  
6 the raw materials are not completely filled with the binder material. This bonding is characterized  
7 by short range forces due to intermolecular hydrogen bonds between amylose and amylopectin  
8 components of starch, van der Waals' forces and mechanical locking (Kaliyan and Morey, 2009a;  
9 Kaliyan and Morey, 2010a; Muazu and Stegemann, 2015; Stelte et al., 2011; Tako and Hizukuri,  
10 2002).

11  
12 In order to gain an in-depth understanding of the thermal degradation behaviour of the developed  
13 briquettes, TGA was used to obtain weight loss vs. time profiles as shown in Figure 3 to Figure 8.  
14 Results for the weight loss for both coffee and rice husk raw materials are shown in Figure 3a) and  
15 3b) respectively. Initial weight loss of about 13% and 11% were recorded for coffee and rice husk  
16 raw materials, respectively. This is attributable to the loss of adsorbed moisture related to the  
17 moisture content in the raw materials being expended (Saegnar et al., 2001; Vassilev et al., 2013;  
18 Werther et al., 2000). The following rapid increase in weight loss corresponded to initiation of  
19 thermal degradation of the raw material. This weight loss corresponds to combustion of organic  
20 matter and burning of some residual char (Vassilev et al., 2013). During this period the drying  
21 phase changes to biomass volatilization where volatile matter, due to hemicellulose (190 °C – 320  
22 °C), cellulose (280 °C – 400 °C) and lignin (320 °C – 450 °C) decomposition, is released (Avelar  
23 et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2012; Fernandez et al., 2012).

1

2 The measured weight losses during the devolatilization phase in Figure 3a) and 3b) correspond  
3 exactly to the percentage of volatile matter in the coffee and rice husks. The residual mass  
4 corresponds to the ash content of coffee and rice husks (See Table 3). A very interesting trend in  
5 weight loss was observed for coffee husk briquettes with cassava starch binder as shown in Figure  
6 4. The specific weight loss during the volatilization stage was much lower in comparison to the  
7 mass loss for the coffee husk raw material. Therefore, it is possible to attribute the reduction of  
8 volatile matter in the briquettes to the carbonization pre-treatment process prior to briquetting  
9 (Fernandez et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2013; Park et al., 2012). No significant difference in weight loss  
10 was observed for coffee husk briquettes with 30-60g of cassava starch binder. However, for coffee  
11 husk briquettes with 100g of cassava starch binder a higher weight loss margin was observed  
12 because of the lower ash content in these briquettes due to the significance of the amount of binder  
13 present which reduces on the ash content of these briquettes (See Table 3) (Tharise et al., 2014).

14

15 The thermal degradation behaviour for rice husk briquettes with cassava starch binder is shown in  
16 Figure 5. The results clearly show that the presence of cassava starch binder in the rice husk  
17 briquettes and prior carbonization processes reduce the devolatilization stage significantly when  
18 compared to the thermal degradation of rice husk raw material. However, when the thermal  
19 degradation of the rice husk briquettes was compared to ascertain the influence of increasing the  
20 cassava starch binder from 30-100g very minimal changes to weight loss were observed. This  
21 suggests that carbonization pre-treatment is highly responsible for the reduction of weight loss  
22 during devolatilization. This behaviour is explained by the increase in ash content (see Table 3) as  
23 well as high level of SiO<sub>2</sub> in rice husks inherently (Vassilev et al., 2010). Heating rice husks may

1 produce several effects that hinder combustion such as formation of silica ash, formation of silicon  
2 carbide and the strengthening of Silica-Carbon bonds (Amaya et al., 2007).

3  
4 The influence of clay binder on coffee husk and rice husk briquettes is shown in Figure 6 and  
5 Figure 7, respectively. From Figure 6 it is clearly observed that as the amount of clay binder is  
6 increased from 100-500g, devolatilization reduces. Clay itself is a mainly inorganic material, which  
7 implies that the volatile content contribution from the clay binder is very small (Onchieku et al.,  
8 2012). It is also expected that the presence of ash in the briquettes will increase as the amount of  
9 clay binder increases. This combination of factors combines to reduce on the weight loss recorded  
10 for coffee husk briquettes with clay binders during the devolatilization stage. A similar trend is  
11 observed for rice husk briquettes with clay binder. Devolatilization is reduced further and ash  
12 content is expected to increase due to the combination of  $\text{SiO}_2$  in rice husks and clay binder  
13 (Ndindeng et al., 2015; Onchieku et al., 2012). The thermal degradation results of the non-  
14 carbonized coffee husk briquettes developed under high pressure (see Figure 8) were very similar  
15 to the thermal degradation behaviour of coffee husk raw material.

16  
17 The results of the thermal degradation investigation tally very well with the results obtained for  
18 the physical properties for rice and coffee husk briquettes shown in Table 3. A number of general  
19 observations can be made. Firstly, the moisture content in both the coffee and rice husk briquettes  
20 with both cassava starch and clay binder is lower than the moisture content percentage in coffee  
21 and rice husk raw material. Carbonized briquettes adsorb less moisture due to the destruction of  
22 hydroxyl groups, which are hydrophilic, in the carbonization process (Liu et al., 2013). The  
23 carbonization process inhibits moisture adsorption which is a necessary aspect for increased shelf



1 life and storage of the briquettes by preventing rotting and decomposition (Fernandez et al., 2013;  
2 Liu et al., 2013). Secondly, the developed briquettes have a lower percentage of volatile matter  
3 compared to the coffee and rice husk raw material. Low volatile matter implies that the ignitability  
4 of the briquettes will be reduced, but once they ignite, then combustion will produce little or no  
5 smoke with a clean flame (Ivanov et al., 2003). Thirdly, all of the developed briquettes had higher  
6 percentages of ash content compared to their respective parent raw material. Fourthly, all of the  
7 briquettes developed after carbonization have higher fixed carbon percentages as a result of  
8 volatilization processes that occur during pyrolysis and reactions between steam and carbon leading  
9 to elimination of heteroatoms and an increment in the relative amount of ash (Amaya et al., 2007).  
10 These results are similar to results obtained in previous studies where rice and coffee husk  
11 briquettes were developed (Amaya et al., 2007; Muazu and Stegemann, 2015; Ndindeng et al.,  
12 2015; Yank et al., 2016).

13  
14 More specific observations can be made from Table 3. Moisture content is lower for the rice husk  
15 briquettes compared to the coffee husk briquettes irrespective of the binder material used. Also,  
16 volatile matter percentage was higher for coffee husk briquettes with both cassava starch and clay  
17 binder compared to rice husk briquettes with cassava starch and clay binder. These results are  
18 directly related to the moisture content and volatile matter in the parent raw material as shown in  
19 Table 3. The percentage of ash is highest for rice husk briquettes with clay binder. Although ash  
20 content was also high for rice husk briquettes with cassava binder and coffee husk briquettes with  
21 clay binder. This is due to  $\text{SiO}_2$  ash in both rice husks and clay binder (Ndindeng et al., 2015;  
22 Onchieku et al., 2012). The highest percentage of fixed carbon was observed for coffee husk  
23 briquettes with cassava starch binder followed by rice husk briquettes with cassava starch binder.

1 Briquettes developed with clay binder had lower percentages of fixed carbon. This result is similar  
2 to other studies where clay binder was also used (Onchieku et al., 2012). However, the presence  
3 of the clay binder may be advantageous in prolonging cooking time by its low heat release and  
4 fuel saving effects (Onchieku et al., 2012).

5  
6 The results for the heating values for the developed briquettes are shown in Table 4. The highest  
7 heating value (HHV) results were obtained for coffee husk briquettes with cassava binder at 23  
8 MJ/kg. The results suggest that as the amount of cassava starch binder is increased to 100g, the  
9 heating value drops to an average of 21.0 MJ/kg. This value is still higher than the heating value  
10 recorded for all of the other briquettes. Cassava flour has low amounts of ash content (Tharise et  
11 al., 2014). However as the amount of cassava starch binder is increased then a cumulative  
12 increment in the amount of ash is expected. Hence the drop in heating value for coffee husk  
13 briquettes when 100g of cassava starch binder is considered. Coffee husk briquettes with 100g and  
14 200g of clay binder had the next average higher heating values at 19.5 MJ/kg and 17.2 MJ/kg.  
15 These results imply that utilization of up to 200g of clay binder in coffee husk briquettes could be  
16 acceptable for domestic cooking applications with greater values of clay binder not very useful  
17 (Onchieku et al., 2012). These results were followed by rice husk briquettes with cassava starch as  
18 binder. The lowest values for heating values were obtained for rice husk briquettes with clay  
19 binder. This is due to the high levels of ash content in these briquettes which negatively affects  
20 their energy content (Amaya et al., 2007; Ndindeng et al., 2015; Onchieku et al., 2012). The HHV  
21 for non-carbonised coffee husk briquette developed under high pressure was 15.2 MJ/kg. This  
22 implies that it is possible to develop low cost carbonized briquettes that have higher energy content  
23 than more costly high pressurized briquettes. This result is of extreme importance in sub-Saharan

1 countries where cost limitations and lack of data are noted as reasons for low uptake of briquette  
2 production (Mwampamba et al., 2013).

3

4 Nested single factor analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to determine the statistical  
5 significance of the effect of binder proportion on the physical properties and HHV. Statistical  
6 analysis showed that there was a high level of significance ( $p < 0.05$ ) in the relationship between  
7 binder proportion and most response factors. This included results for the effect of binder  
8 proportion of fixed carbon and volatile matter percentages in both coffee and rice husk briquettes  
9 with cassava starch and clay binders where all P-values were below 0.05 at 95% confidence  
10 interval (see Table 5). High levels of significance were also shown for the effect of binder  
11 proportion on; Moisture content in both coffee and rice husk briquettes with clay binder; Ash  
12 content in coffee briquettes with clay binder; Ash content in rice husk briquettes with both cassava  
13 starch and clay binder; and, HHV for coffee husk briquettes with clay binder. The lack of statistical  
14 significance in the effect of binder proportion to HHV for all of the developed briquettes, except  
15 for coffee husks with clay binder, is due to comparable energy content of the developed briquettes.  
16 There was no statistical significance for the effect of binder proportion on moisture content for  
17 rice and coffee husk briquettes with cassava starch binder as well as ash content for coffee husks  
18 with cassava starch binder. This is similar to results obtained by Tumutegyereize et al. (2016) and  
19 Akowuah et al., 2012.

20

21 The drop strength results for the developed briquettes are shown in Figure 9. The results clearly  
22 indicate that briquettes developed with cassava starch as binder had higher drop strengths (over  
23 94%) than the briquettes developed with clay binder. This implies that the increment of starch

1 provided by the cassava starch binder allowed for better compaction. Starch is a polysaccharide  
2 and is a good binding agent due to its chemical and structural properties (Muazu and Stegemann,  
3 2015). Addition of water and heat to starch granules causes swelling, which results in the formation  
4 of intermolecular hydrogen bonds between amylose and amylopectin components of starch,  
5 followed by the loss of the individual crystalline structure of the two components (Tako and  
6 Hizukuri, 2002). This leads to the formation of a viscous solution that undergoes retrogradation  
7 during cooling or storage. The viscosity of hydrated starch increases its shear and tensile strengths  
8 and gives it the ability to occupy void spaces present within and between biomass particles, thus  
9 forming solid bridges that increase in strength during air cooling and storage (Muazu and  
10 Stegemann, 2015; Tako and Hizukuri, 2002). It is also observable that the drop strength increases  
11 as the amount of clay binder is increased in both coffee and rice husk briquettes. This was also  
12 noted by Ndindeng et al., (2015). However a marginally better drop strength performance was  
13 observed for rice husk briquettes with clay binder than coffee husk briquettes with clay binder.  
14 This is due to Silica in the rice husk, which is also associated with the formation of rigid micro-  
15 structures that enhance structural stability and rigidity of the plant structure (Vassilev et al.,  
16 2012). The drop strength for the non-carbonised coffee briquette developed under high pressure  
17 was 90% and less than the drop strength for the carbonized briquettes. This indicates that the  
18 pressure applied during densification was inadequate for the complete formation of solid bridges  
19 to occur. The circumferential crack observed on the surface of the non-carbonized briquettes were  
20 obvious points for failure to occur once the drop test was applied. Suarez et al., (2003) developed  
21 coffee husk briquettes using a vertical 10 tonne hydraulic press for applying a load to a heated die  
22 of 80 mm internal diameter and 140 mm length in which the briquette was formed. This implies

1 that if no binder is to be used then considerations on application of heat, extremely high loads or a  
2 combination of both have to be made.

3

4 The results for the total ignition and water boiling time for 1 liter of water using 200g of developed  
5 briquette are shown in Table 4. The tests were performed using a traditional cook stove because  
6 they are majorly used for domestic cooking applications in Uganda due to the perceived notion  
7 that improved cook stoves are expensive despite efforts to enhance their diffusion among rural  
8 communities (Shrimali et al., 2011). Additionally, performance of field studies of improved cook  
9 stoves are inconclusive mainly due to the numerous designs on the market (Jetter and Kariher,  
10 2009). Lowest total times for ignition and boiling 1 liter of water were observed for coffee husk  
11 briquettes with 60g cassava starch binder at 13 minutes and rice husk briquettes with 100g clay  
12 binder at 15 minutes. Ndindeng et al. 2015 noted that 4 kg of rice husk char boiled 5 liter of water  
13 but were unable to boil 10 liters even after 1 hour. Tumutegyereize et al. (2016) recorded times of  
14 between 31.5 to 52.5 minutes to boil 8 to 10 liters of water in 2 liter intervals using briquettes  
15 developed from matooke peels. The results obtained in the water boiling test were influenced by  
16 the amount of briquettes used that were less than what is described in other similar studies. This  
17 meant that the total cumulative heat energy generated was less. The use of a traditional cook stove  
18 in order to align the study with what consumers actually use also affected the results because  
19 traditional cook stoves do not conserve heat and heat loss due to conduction, convection and  
20 radiation occurs much faster to the environment. However, the results for total times for ignition  
21 and water boiling highlight the possibility of applying less amounts of briquettes for cooking which  
22 translates into savings in domestic energy use.

23

#### 1 4. Conclusions

2

3 The utilisation of agricultural wastes is very important for sustainability of domestic cooking fuels  
4 in Uganda and sub-Saharan Africa. This study investigated the physical properties, thermal  
5 degradation weight loss behaviour, heating values and drop strengths of briquettes developed from  
6 rice and coffee husk agricultural wastes with cassava starch and clay as binders. Thermal  
7 degradation results showed a decrease in mass loss for all of the developed carbonized briquettes.

8 The physical properties showed that the moisture content and volatile matter in the carbonized  
9 briquettes were lower than the moisture content percentage in coffee and rice husk raw material.

10 All of the carbonized briquettes had higher percentages of ash content and fixed carbon compared  
11 to their respective parent raw material. These results were due to devolatilization processes having  
12 occurred during pyrolysis pre-treatment prior to briquette development. The highest heating value  
13 results were obtained for coffee husk briquettes with cassava binder at 23 MJ/kg. Also, as the  
14 amount of cassava starch binder is increased to 100g, the heating value drops to an average of 21.0  
15 MJ/kg. Coffee husk briquettes with 100g and 200g of clay binder had the next average higher  
16 heating values at 19.5 MJ/kg and 17.2 MJ/kg. These results imply that utilization of up to 200g of  
17 clay binder in coffee husk briquettes could be acceptable for domestic cooking applications with  
18 greater values of clay binder not very useful. The lowest values for heating values were obtained  
19 for rice husk briquettes with clay binder. This is due to the high levels of ash content in these  
20 briquettes which negatively affects their energy content. The HHV for non-carbonised coffee husk  
21 briquette developed under high pressure was 15.2 MJ/kg. Briquettes developed with cassava starch  
22 as binder had higher drop strengths (over 94%) than the briquettes developed with clay binder.  
23 This implies that the increment of starch provided by the cassava starch binder allowed for better

1 compaction. The drop strength for the non-carbonised coffee briquette developed under high  
2 pressure was 90% and less than the drop strength for the carbonized briquettes. This indicates that  
3 the pressure applied during densification was inadequate for the complete formation of solid  
4 bridges to occur. Lowest total times for ignition and boiling 1 liter of water were observed for  
5 coffee husk briquettes with 60g cassava starch binder and rice husk briquettes with 100g clay  
6 binder. The results for total times for ignition and water boiling highlight the possibility of  
7 applying less amounts of briquettes for cooking which translates into savings in domestic energy  
8 use.

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## Figures

Figure 1: Picture of rice husk and coffee husk raw material, before (a and c) and after (c and d) carbonization

Figure 2: Samples of briquettes developed under low pressure after carbonization (a) and non-carbonized under high pressure development

Figure 3: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of coffee husk (a) and rice husk (b) raw material

Figure 4: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of coffee husk briquettes with 30 g (a), 40 g (b), 50 g (c), 60 g (d) and 100 g (e), of cassava starch binder

Figure 5: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for rice husk briquettes with 30 g (a), 40 g (b), 50 g (c), 60 g (d) and 100 g (e), of cassava starch binder

Figure 6: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for coffee husk briquettes with 100 g (a), 200 g (b), 300 g (c), 400 g (d) and 500 g (e), of clay binder

Figure 7: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for rice husk briquettes with 100 g (a), 200 g (b), 300 g (c), 400 g (d) and 500 g (e), of clay binder

Figure 8: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of non-carbonized high pressure developed coffee husk briquettes

Figure 9: Drop strength for different developed briquettes



Figure 1: Picture of rice husk and coffee husk raw material, before (a and c) and after (c and d) carbonization



Figure 2: Samples of briquettes developed under low pressure after carbonization (a) and non-carbonized under high pressure development

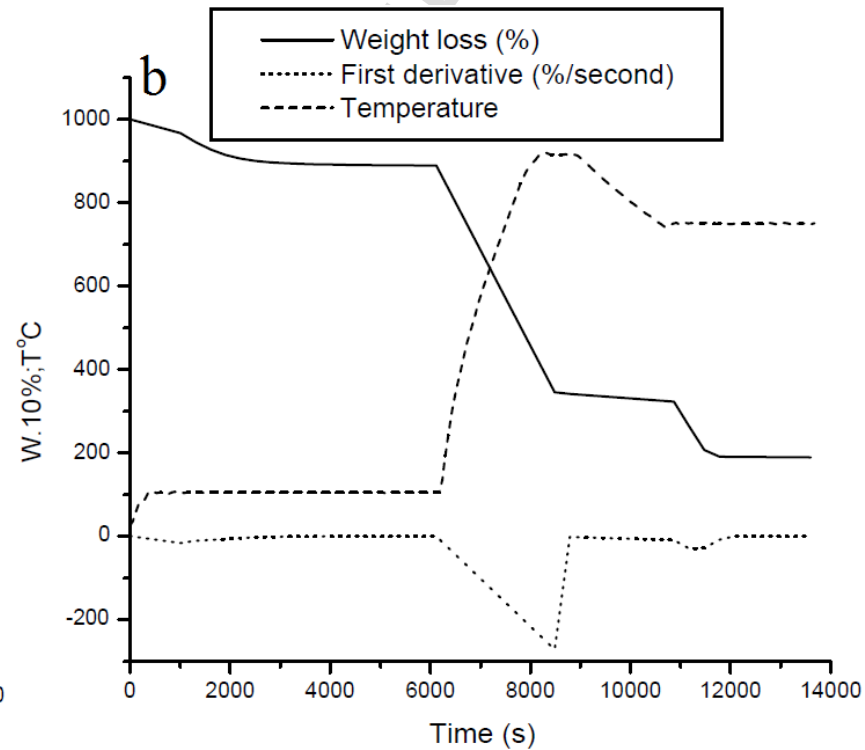
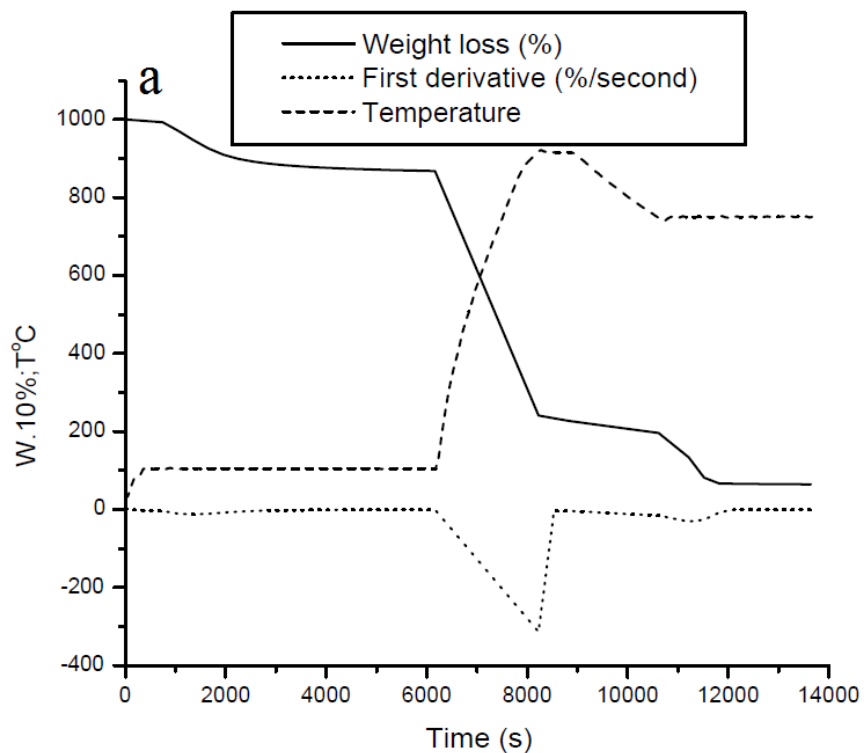


Figure 3: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of coffee husk (a) and rice husk (b) raw material

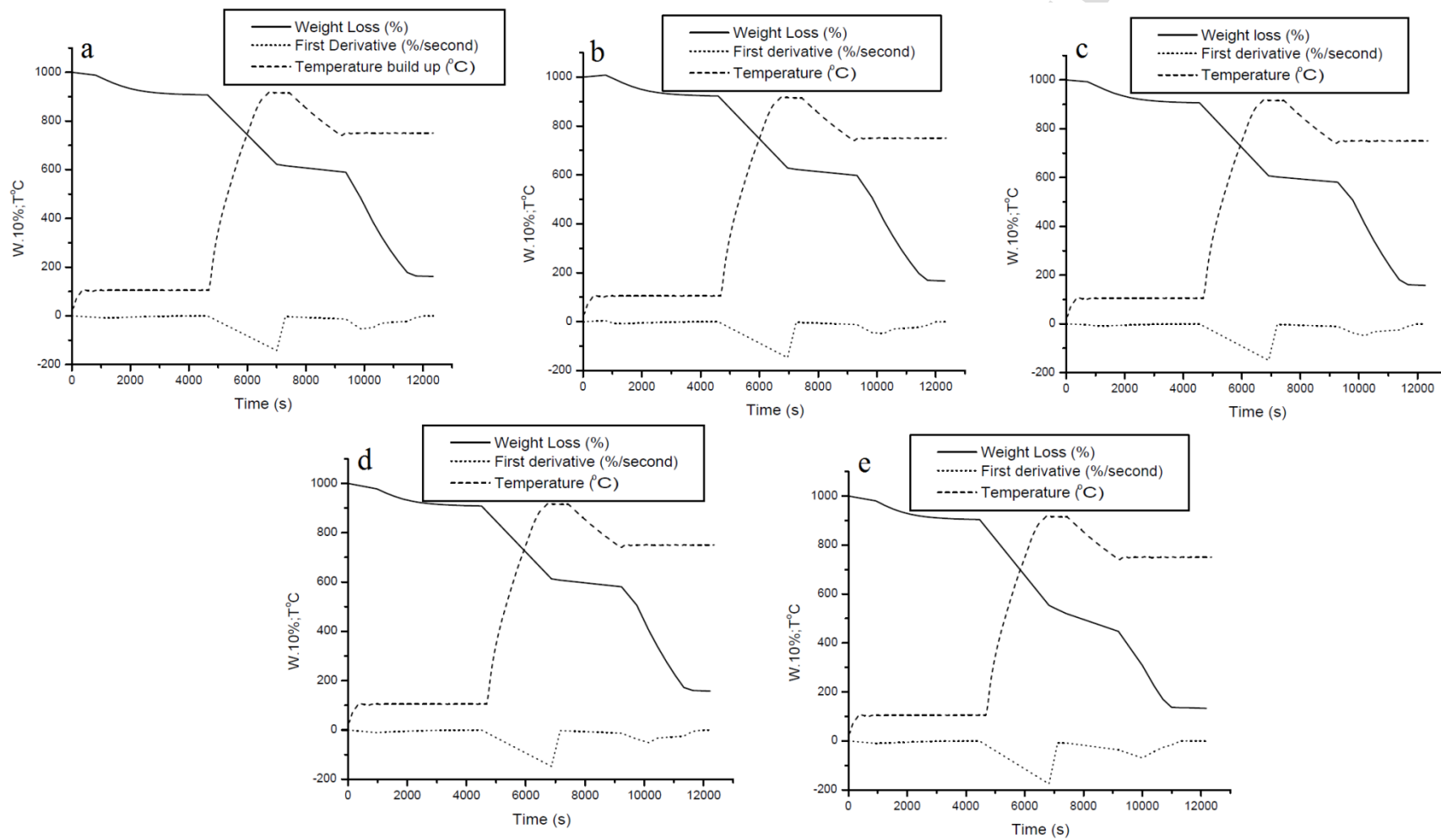


Figure 4: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of coffee husk briquettes with 30 g (a), 40 g (b), 50 g (c), 60 g (d) and 100 g (e), of cassava starch binder

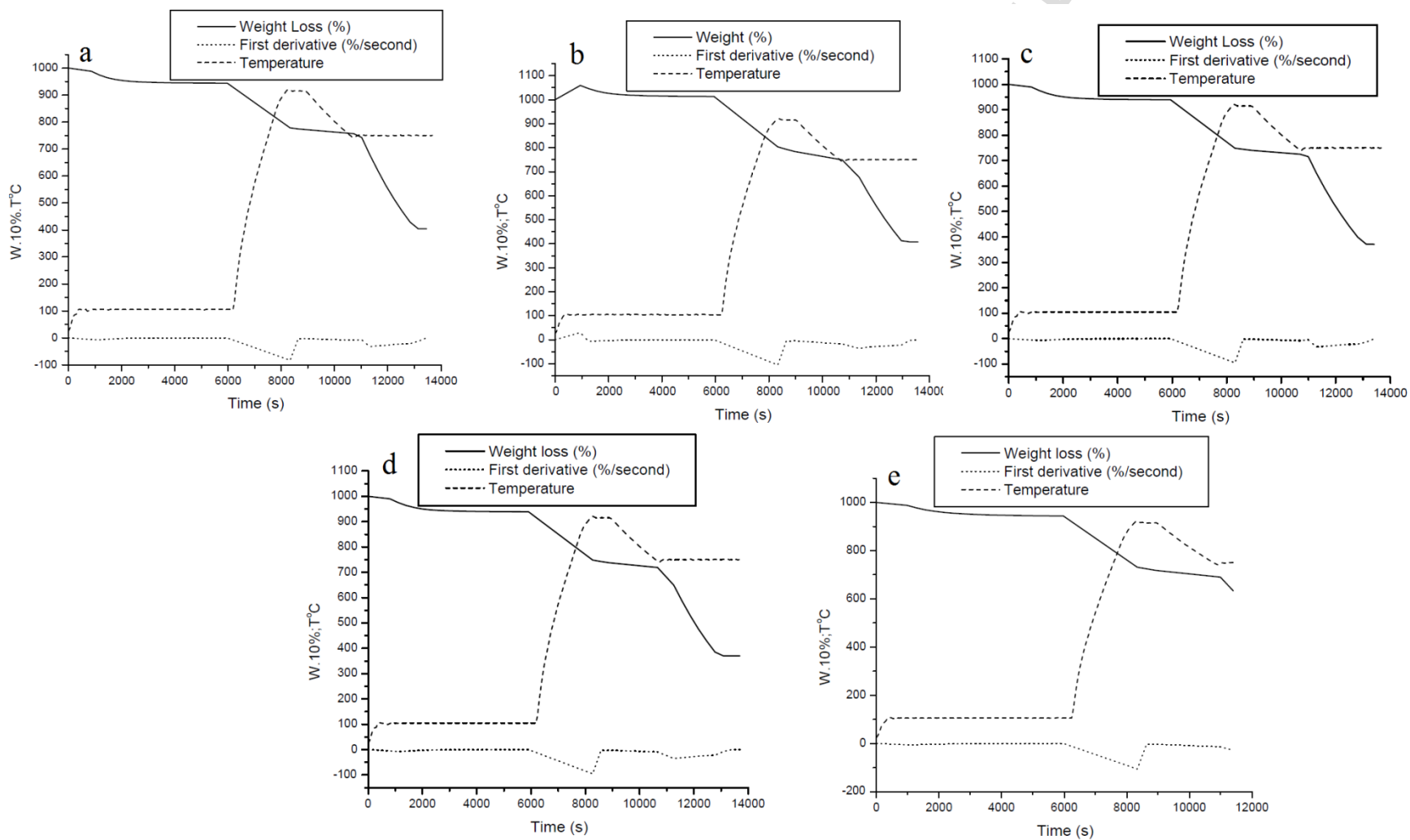


Figure 5: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for rice husk briquettes with 30 g (a), 40 g (b), 50 g (c), 60 g (d) and 100 g (e), of cassava starch binder



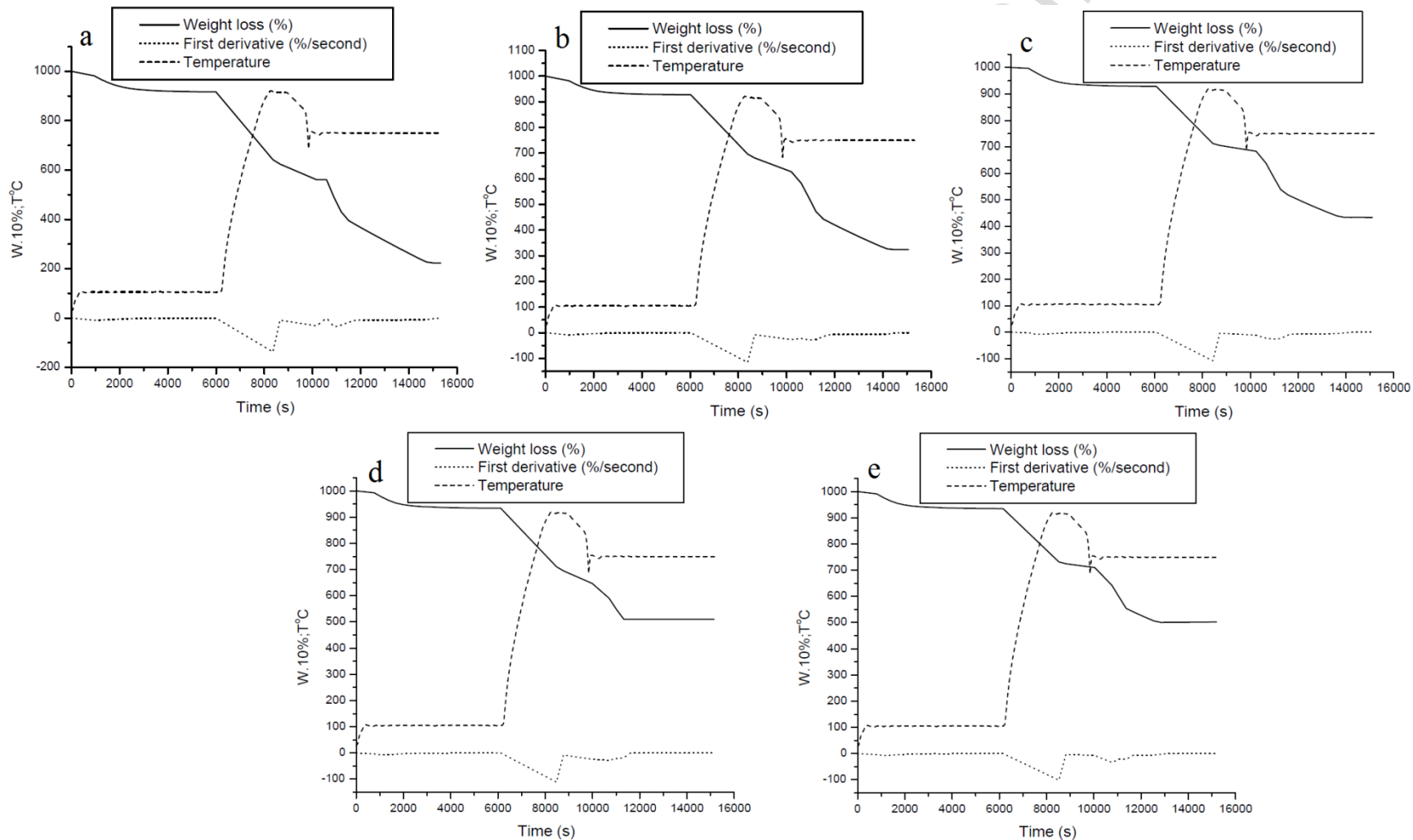


Figure 6: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for coffee husk briquettes with 100 g (a), 200 g (b), 300 g (c), 400 g (d) and 500 g (e), of clay binder

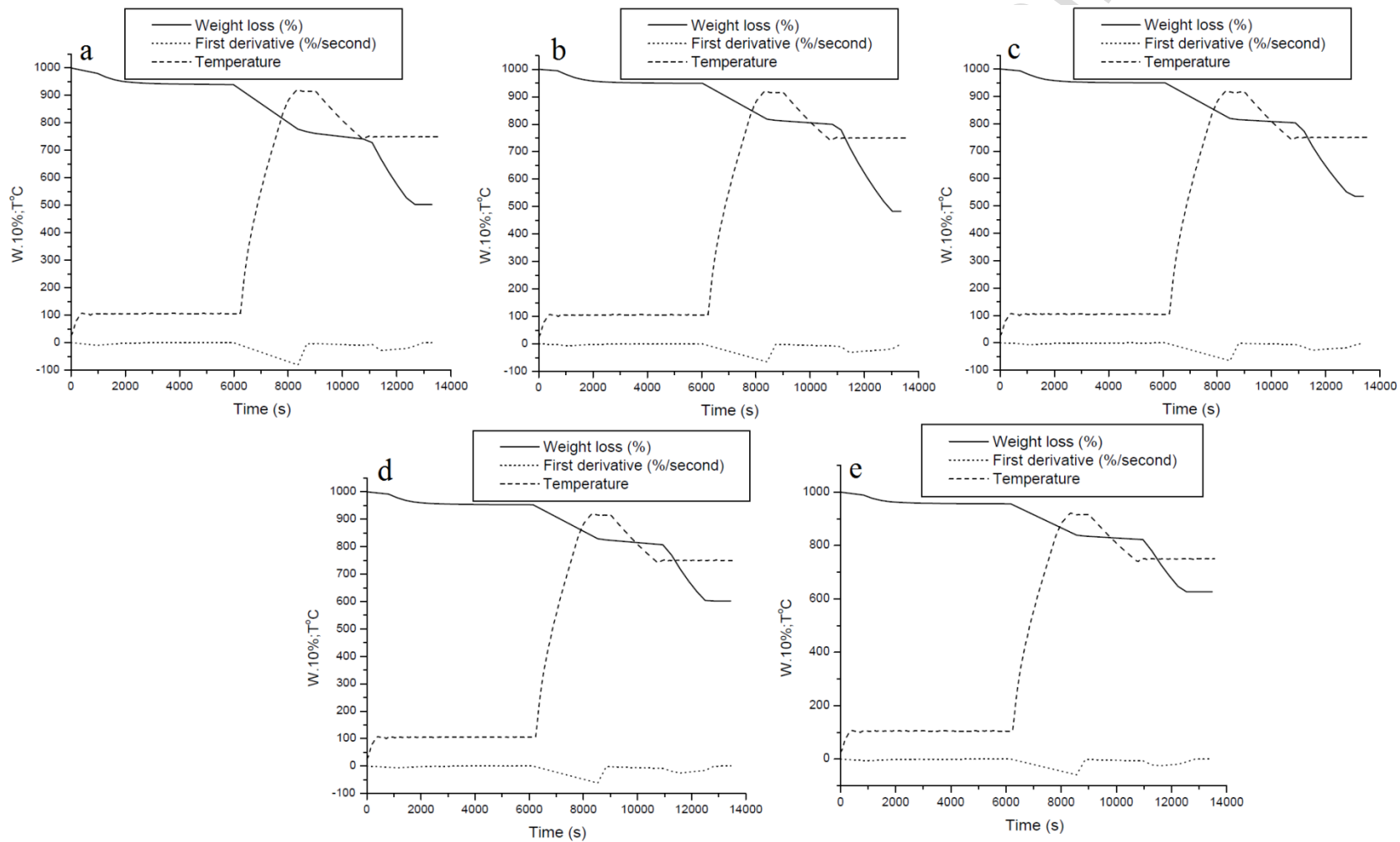


Figure 7: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis for rice husk briquettes with 100 g (a), 200 g (b), 300 g (c), 400 g (d) and 500 g (e), of clay binder

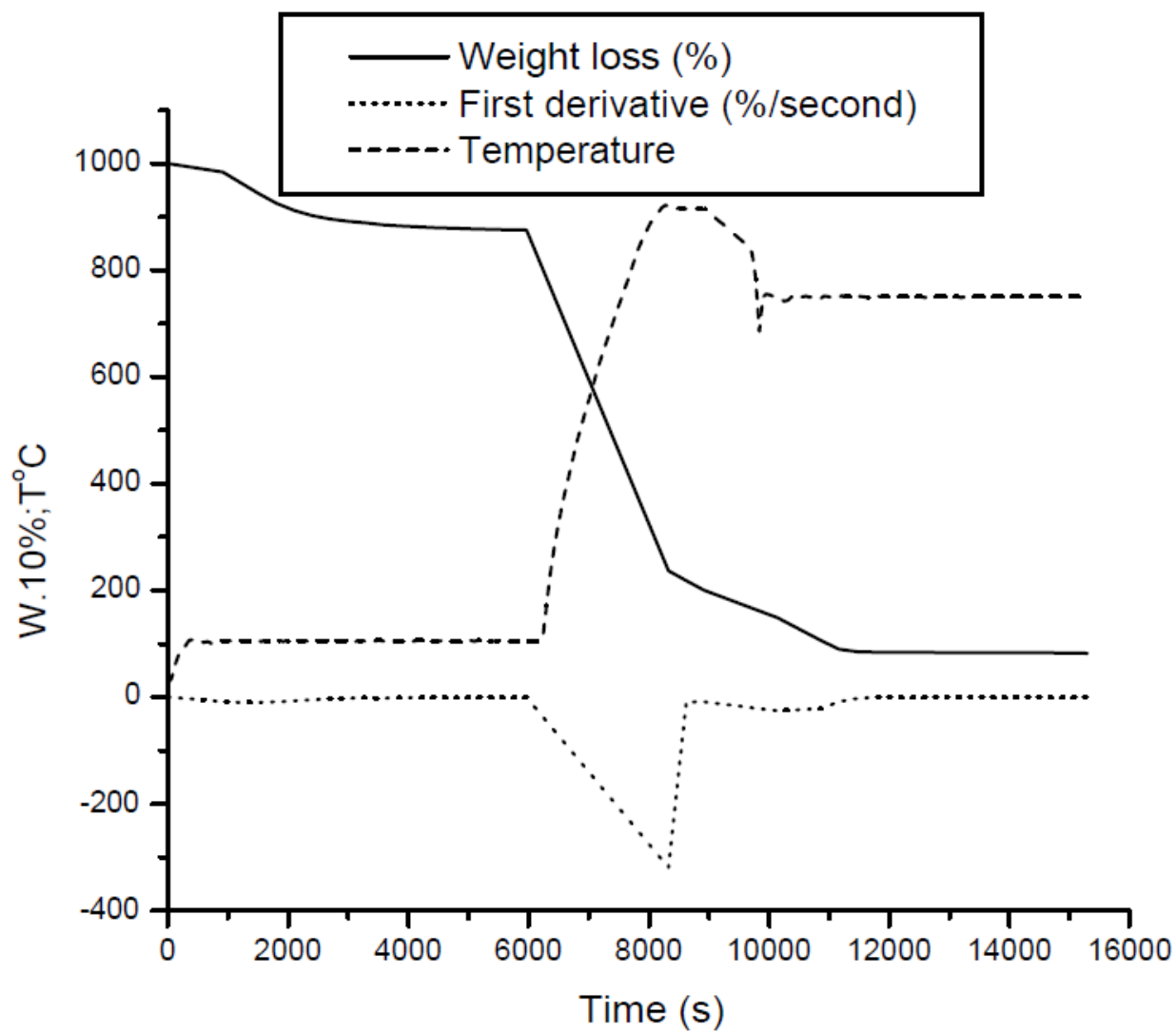


Figure 8: Weight loss, first derivative and temperature build up for TGA analysis of non-carbonized high pressure developed coffee husk briquettes

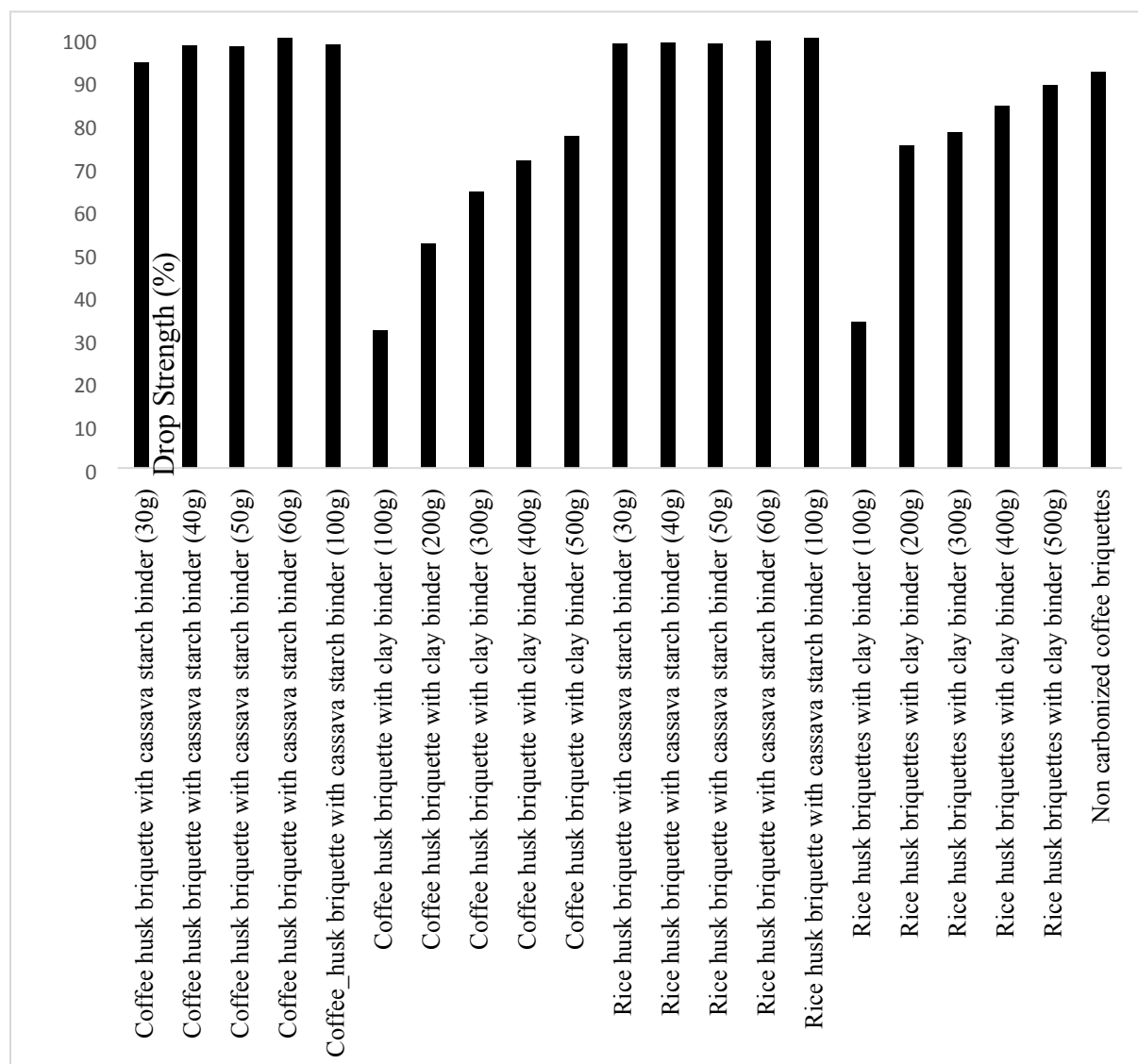


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Table 1: Comparison between organic and dominant chemical ash constituents in rice husks and coffee husks

|                  | Rice Husks | Coffee Husks |
|------------------|------------|--------------|
| Cellulose        | 48.3*      | 19-26**      |
| Hemi-cellulose   | 31.6*      | 24-45**      |
| Lignin           | 24.6*      | 18-30**      |
| SiO <sub>2</sub> | 94.38*     | 14.65*       |
| K <sub>2</sub> O | 2.29*      | 52.45*       |

\*Vassilev et al. 2010

\*\*Bekalo & Reinhardt, 2010

Table 2: Processing parameters used in the development of rice husk and coffee husk briquettes

| Raw material | State of material at briquettes development | Briquette development pressure | Binder Used    | Ratio of raw material to binder |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:3                           |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:4                           |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:5                           |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:6                           |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:10                          |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | clay           | 100:10                          |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | clay           | 100:20                          |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | clay           | 100:30                          |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | clay           | 100:40                          |
| Coffee husks | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | clay           | 100:50                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:3                           |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:4                           |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:5                           |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:6                           |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Cassava starch | 100:10                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Clay           | 100:10                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Clay           | 100:20                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Clay           | 100:30                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Clay           | 100:40                          |
| Rice husks   | Carbonized                                  | $\leq 7$ MPa                   | Clay           | 100:50                          |
| Coffee husks | Non- carbonized                             | 250MPa                         | --             | 1000:0                          |

Table 3: Physical properties (Average  $\pm$  standard deviation) for coffee and rice husk raw materials and coffee and rice husk briquettes with cassava starch and clay binder

| Sample                  | Binder (Amount) | % Moisture Content | % Volatile Matter | % Analytical ash | % Volatiles on dry basis | % Ash on dry basis | % Fixed Carbon |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Coffee Husks            | -               | 13.0 $\pm$ 0.6     | 65.4 $\pm$ 1.0    | 5.9 $\pm$ 0.3    | 73.9 $\pm$ 1.1           | 6.6 $\pm$ 0.4      | 15.7 $\pm$ 1.4 |
| Rice Husks              | -               | 11.3 $\pm$ 0.0     | 56.4 $\pm$ 1.1    | 18.1 $\pm$ 0.1   | 62.8 $\pm$ 1.2           | 20.1 $\pm$ 0.2     | 14.2 $\pm$ 0.9 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Cassava (30g)   | 9.0 $\pm$ 0.5      | 29.6 $\pm$ 0.3    | 15.1 $\pm$ 0.6   | 32.2 $\pm$ 0.2           | 16.4 $\pm$ 0.6     | 46.4 $\pm$ 0.7 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Cassava (40g)   | 8.5 $\pm$ 0.9      | 30.8 $\pm$ 0.5    | 15.5 $\pm$ 0.6   | 33.4 $\pm$ 0.8           | 16.8 $\pm$ 0.5     | 45.2 $\pm$ 0.8 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Cassava (50g)   | 9.3 $\pm$ 0.2      | 31.3 $\pm$ 0.7    | 16.3 $\pm$ 1.1   | 34.2 $\pm$ 0.8           | 17.8 $\pm$ 1.2     | 43.1 $\pm$ 1.6 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Cassava (60g)   | 9.2 $\pm$ 0.3      | 30.9 $\pm$ 0.5    | 16.4 $\pm$ 2.8   | 33.8 $\pm$ 0.6           | 17.9 $\pm$ 3.0     | 43.4 $\pm$ 2.1 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Cassava (100g)  | 9.7 $\pm$ 0.0      | 36.9 $\pm$ 0.8    | 12.6 $\pm$ 0.7   | 40.5 $\pm$ 0.8           | 13.9 $\pm$ 0.8     | 40.7 $\pm$ 1.2 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Cassava (30g)   | 5.8 $\pm$ 0.1      | 18.2 $\pm$ 0.7    | 38.7 $\pm$ 1.5   | 19.2 $\pm$ 0.7           | 40.9 $\pm$ 1.5     | 37.3 $\pm$ 0.7 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Cassava (40g)   | 5.5 $\pm$ 0.0      | 21.2 $\pm$ 2.4    | 38.4 $\pm$ 2.3   | 21.6 $\pm$ 1.4           | 39.2 $\pm$ 0.5     | 38.3 $\pm$ 0.1 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Cassava (50g)   | 6.2 $\pm$ 0.0      | 19.7 $\pm$ 0.5    | 36.6 $\pm$ 0.2   | 20.9 $\pm$ 0.5           | 38.9 $\pm$ 0.2     | 37.4 $\pm$ 0.3 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Cassava (60g)   | 6.3 $\pm$ 0.1      | 20.9 $\pm$ 1.2    | 36.3 $\pm$ 0.1   | 22.3 $\pm$ 1.3           | 38.6 $\pm$ 0.1     | 36.4 $\pm$ 1.4 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Cassava (100g)  | 6.1 $\pm$ 0.3      | 23.1 $\pm$ 0.7    | 36.9 $\pm$ 2.3   | 24.5 $\pm$ 0.8           | 39.2 $\pm$ 2.3     | 33.9 $\pm$ 1.3 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Clay (100g)     | 8.8 $\pm$ 0.6      | 30.2 $\pm$ 0.7    | 22.8 $\pm$ 1.3   | 32.9 $\pm$ 1.0           | 24.8 $\pm$ 1.5     | 38.1 $\pm$ 2.7 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Clay (200g)     | 8.2 $\pm$ 0.8      | 24.7 $\pm$ 0.9    | 32.2 $\pm$ 2.0   | 26.7 $\pm$ 1.0           | 34.8 $\pm$ 2.1     | 35.0 $\pm$ 1.1 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Clay (300g)     | 7.5 $\pm$ 0.2      | 23.3 $\pm$ 1.3    | 40.1 $\pm$ 3.6   | 25.1 $\pm$ 1.4           | 43.1 $\pm$ 3.8     | 29.0 $\pm$ 2.2 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Clay (400g)     | 6.5 $\pm$ 0.5      | 22.1 $\pm$ 1.7    | 47.4 $\pm$ 3.7   | 23.6 $\pm$ 1.7           | 50.5 $\pm$ 4.1     | 23.9 $\pm$ 4.7 |
| Coffee husks briquettes | Clay (500g)     | 7.0 $\pm$ 0.4      | 21.8 $\pm$ 0.5    | 47.6 $\pm$ 2.2   | 23.3 $\pm$ 0.7           | 50.9 $\pm$ 2.1     | 23.7 $\pm$ 1.4 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Clay (100g)     | 5.5 $\pm$ 0.6      | 15.7 $\pm$ 2.2    | 50.5 $\pm$ 2.3   | 16.6 $\pm$ 2.4           | 53.3 $\pm$ 2.2     | 28.3 $\pm$ 1.8 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Clay (200g)     | 5.2 $\pm$ 0.0      | 14.4 $\pm$ 0.3    | 48.2 $\pm$ 1.0   | 15.2 $\pm$ 0.3           | 50.7 $\pm$ 1.1     | 32.2 $\pm$ 1.0 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Clay (300g)     | 5.0 $\pm$ 0.2      | 14.0 $\pm$ 0.4    | 54.6 $\pm$ 2.7   | 14.6 $\pm$ 0.4           | 57.3 $\pm$ 2.7     | 26.5 $\pm$ 2.2 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Clay (400g)     | 5.0 $\pm$ 0.2      | 13.7 $\pm$ 0.6    | 56.5 $\pm$ 4.2   | 14.4 $\pm$ 0.6           | 59.3 $\pm$ 4.4     | 24.8 $\pm$ 3.4 |
| Rice husks briquettes   | Clay (500g)     | 4.6 $\pm$ 0.2      | 12.7 $\pm$ 0.2    | 60.6 $\pm$ 1.3   | 13.3 $\pm$ 0.2           | 63.4 $\pm$ 1.3     | 22.1 $\pm$ 1.3 |



Table 4: HHV (Average  $\pm$  standard deviation) for Coffee husk and rice husk briquettes with different amounts of cassava starch and clay binder.

| Briquette                        | Binder (Amount) | Higher Heating Value (HHV) MJ/Kg | Total Time taken to ignite and boil 1 l of water (minutes) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Cassava (30g)   | 23.0 $\pm$ 0.8                   | 40   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Cassava (40g)   | 23.5 $\pm$ 0.5                   | 34   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Cassava (50g)   | 22.0 $\pm$ 0.1                   | 20   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Cassava (60g)   | 22.6 $\pm$ 1.4                   | 13   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Cassava (100g)  | 21.9 $\pm$ 0.9                   | 17   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Cassava (30g)   | 16.6 $\pm$ 0.0                   | 23   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Cassava (40g)   | 16.5 $\pm$ 0.1                   | 35   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Cassava (50g)   | 16.4 $\pm$ 0.0                   | 45   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Cassava (60g)   | 15.9 $\pm$ 0.9                   | 32   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Cassava (100g)  | 16.4 $\pm$ 0.1                   | 18   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Clay (100g)     | 19.5 $\pm$ 0.6                   | 26   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Clay (200g)     | 17.2 $\pm$ 0.4                   | 15   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Clay (300g)     | 13.8 $\pm$ 1.4                   | 29   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Clay (400g)     | 13.0 $\pm$ 1.3                   | 25   |
| Coffee husks briquettes          | Clay (500g)     | 13.6 $\pm$ 0.9                   | 24   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Clay (100g)     | 12.0 $\pm$ 0.2                   | 15   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Clay (200g)     | 13.8 $\pm$ 0.3                   | 36   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Clay (300g)     | 12.0 $\pm$ 0.3                   | 43   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Clay (400g)     | 10.2 $\pm$ 0.8                   | 44   |
| Rice husks briquettes            | Clay (500g)     | 9.5 $\pm$ 1.1                    | 44   |
| Non-carbonized coffee briquettes | -               | 15.2 $\pm$ 0.4                   |  |

Table 5: Nested ANOVA for response factors including physical properties and HHV

| Type of briquette | Type of binder | Response Factor  | Source of Variation | SS          | df | MS          | F           | P-value     |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|----|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Coffee husks      | Cassava starch | Fixed Carbon     | Binder proportion   | 71.411956   | 4  | 17.852989   | 6.126045363 | 0.009305478 |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 29.14276331 | 10 | 2.9142763   |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 100.5547193 | 14 |             |             |             |
| Coffee husks      | Clay           | Fixed Carbon     | Binder proportion   | 539.796916  | 4  | 134.949229  | 19.29209234 | 0.000107824 |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 69.9505407  | 10 | 6.995054067 |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 609.747457  | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Cassava starch | Fixed Carbon     | Binder proportion   | 228.2362    | 4  | 57.05904    | 5.003889    | 0.01779     |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 114.0294    | 10 | 11.40294    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 342.2656    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Clay           | Fixed Carbon     | Binder proportion   | 201.7832    | 4  | 50.4458     | 8.426443    | 0.003045    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 59.86607    | 10 | 5.986607    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 261.6493    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Coffee husks      | Cassava starch | Moisture Content | Binder proportion   | 13.40067    | 4  | 3.350167    | 2.159718    | 0.14747     |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 15.51206    | 10 | 1.551206    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 28.91273    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Coffee Husks      | Clay           | Moisture Content | Binder proportion   | 11.51441    | 4  | 2.878603    | 9.893125    | 0.001667    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 2.9097      | 10 | 0.29097     |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 14.42411    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Cassava starch | Moisture Content | Binder proportion   | 0.765711    | 4  | 0.191428    | 2.994326    | 0.072652    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 0.639302    | 10 | 0.06393     |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 1.405013    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Clay           | Moisture Content | Binder proportion   | 3.095791    | 4  | 0.773948    | 10.11524    | 0.001531    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 0.765131    | 10 | 0.076513    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 3.860921    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Coffee husks      | Cassava starch | Volatile Matter  | Binder proportion   | 96.92809    | 4  | 24.23202    | 71.31192    | 2.60E-07    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 3.398033    | 10 | 0.339803    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 100.3261    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Coffee husks      | Clay           | Volatile Matter  | Binder proportion   | 147.0785    | 4  | 36.76962    | 31.79872    | 1.16E-05    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 11.56324    | 10 | 1.156324    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 158.6417    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Cassava starch | Volatile Matter  | Binder proportion   | 39.19587    | 4  | 9.798968    | 17.37456    | 0.000169    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 5.639835    | 10 | 0.563984    |             |             |
|                   |                |                  | Total               | 44.83571    | 14 |             |             |             |
| Rice husks        | Clay           | Volatile Matter  | Binder proportion   | 33.62506    | 4  | 8.406266    | 21.00183    | 7.45E-05    |
|                   |                |                  | Error               | 4.002635    | 10 | 0.400264    |             |             |

|              |                |             |                   |          |    |          |          |          |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|----------|----|----------|----------|----------|
|              |                |             | Total             | 37.6277  | 14 |          |          |          |
| Coffee husks | Cassava starch | Ash Content | Binder proportion | 27.62444 | 4  | 6.90611  | 3.441818 | 0.051375 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 20.06529 | 10 | 2.006529 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 47.68974 | 14 |          |          |          |
| Coffee husks | Clay           | Ash Content | Binder proportion | 1322.798 | 4  | 330.6995 | 45.39514 | 2.22E-06 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 72.84909 | 10 | 7.284909 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 1395.647 | 14 |          |          |          |
| Rice husks   | Cassava starch | Ash Content | Binder proportion | 195.2793 | 4  | 48.81983 | 5.71265  | 0.011705 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 85.45916 | 10 | 8.545916 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 280.7385 | 14 |          |          |          |
| Rice husks   | Clay           | Ash Content | Binder proportion | 371.5774 | 4  | 92.89434 | 13.77019 | 0.000448 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 67.46048 | 10 | 6.746048 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 439.0379 | 14 |          |          |          |
| Coffee husks | Cassava starch | HHV (J/g)   | Binder proportion | 6798209  | 4  | 1699552  | 2.400206 | 0.181436 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 3540430  | 5  | 708085.9 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 10338638 | 9  |          |          |          |
| Coffee husks | Clay           | HHV (J/g)   | Binder proportion | 64106357 | 4  | 16026589 | 15.67081 | 0.004918 |
|              |                |             | Error             | 5113515  | 5  | 1022703  |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 69219872 | 9  |          |          |          |
| Rice husks   | Cassava starch | HHV (J/g)   | Binder proportion | 479637   | 4  | 119909.3 | 0.753082 | 0.596772 |
|              |                |             | Within Groups     | 796123   | 5  | 159224.6 |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 1275760  | 9  |          |          |          |
| Rice husks   | Clay           | HHV (J/g)   | Binder proportion | 22952799 | 4  | 5738200  | 4.813435 | 0.057593 |
|              |                |             | Within Groups     | 5960608  | 5  | 1192122  |          |          |
|              |                |             | Total             | 28913406 | 9  |          |          |          |