Producing medium density fibreboard based on bamboo-willow

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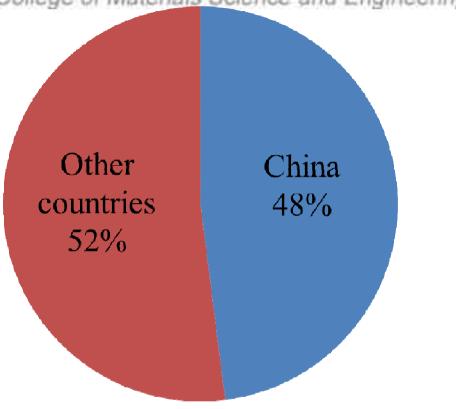
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- ☐ China has been the largest country in the world for WBP production and exportation.
- ☐ Raw material supply is the big issue for the sustainable development of wood industry in China.
- ☐ Fast-growing tree plantation will be the only solution.



Global WBP production in 2013



- □ 6 years ago, Bamboo-willow was introduced into China.
- ☐ It grows faster than poplar

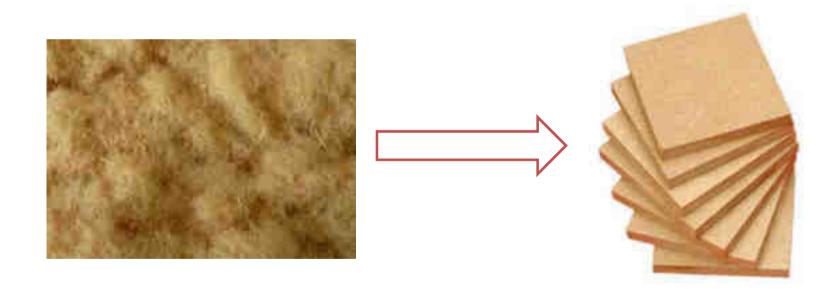




Bamboo-willow plantation in China



The aim of this study is to study the possibility of using fibers made from bamboo-willow to produce MDF.

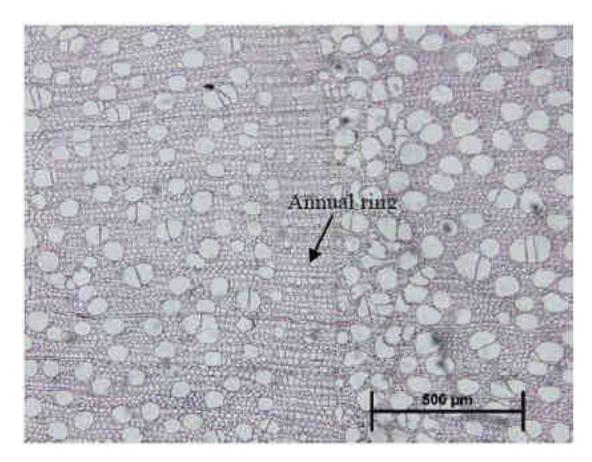




Micro-structure and Wettability of bamboo-willow wood



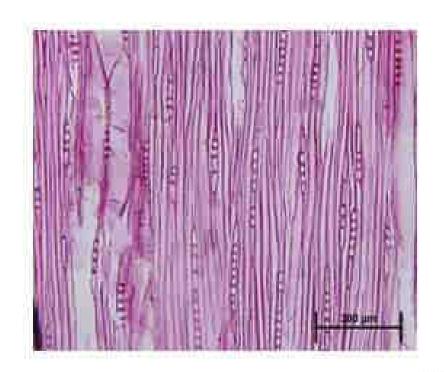
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Cross-sectional detailed micro-structure of bamboo-willow wood



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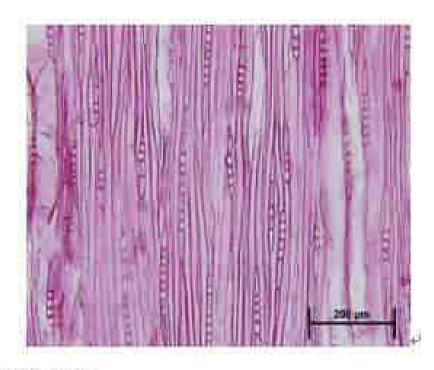


图 3.4 竹柳弦切面。

Tangential section detailed micro-structure of bamboo-willow wood



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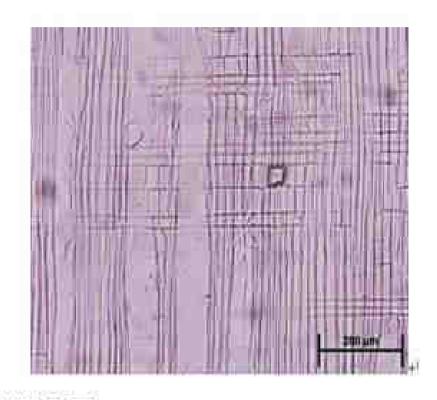
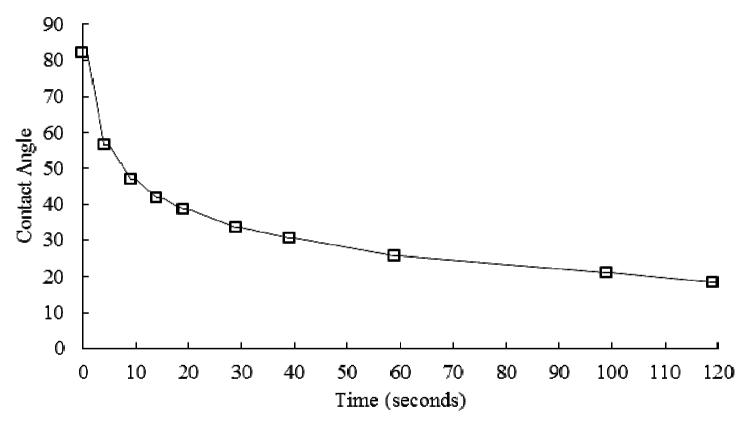


图 3.3 竹柳径切面。

Radial section detailed micro-structure of bamboo-willow wood



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The relationship between wetting time and water contact angle on bamboo-willow



Processing fibres with different morphology

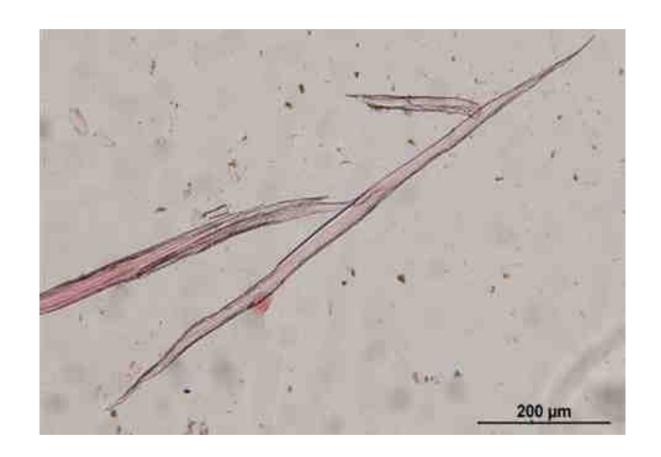


Temperature settings in refining process:

- 1) Room temperature refining (25 °C)
- 2) Pressurized refining (140 °C)
- 3) Pressurized refining (160 °C)



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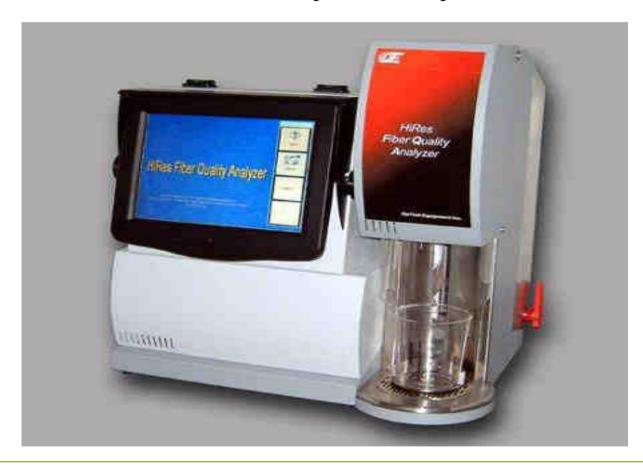


The image of one fibre obtained with FQA



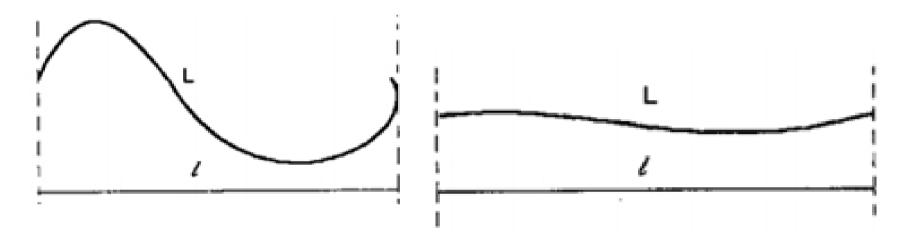
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Fibre Quality Analyser





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The relationship between actual length and projective length of the fibre.

L= actual length;

l= projective length



Curl Index= (L/l)-1

The average length, width and curl index of fibres processed in three temperature conditions in refining process

| Temperature(°C) | Length (mm) | Width (mm) | Curl index |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 25 | 0.42 | 0.026 | 0.0488 |
| 140 | 0.33 | 0.025 | 0.0488 |
| 160 | 0.3 | 0.025 | 0.0524 |



MDF production and properties measurement



Parameters for board manufacturing:

- □ Target density: 850 kg/m3
- Board thickness: 12mm
- □ UF glue application: 14%
- □ Pressing temperature: 180°C
- □ Pressing time: 360s



The properties of MDF produced with fibres that are prepared in three different temperature conditions in refining process

| Temperature(°C) | MOE ^a (MPa) | MOR ^b | IBc | TSd (%) | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|-------|---------|--|
| | | (MPa) | (MPa) | | |
| 25 | 2895.32 | 34.07 | 0.56 | 12.7 | |
| 140 | 2921.02 | 28.99 | 0.56 | 13.1 | |
| 160 | 2495.32 | 24.77 | 0.51 | 14.3 | |

^aModulus of elasticity1, ^bModulus of rupture, ^cInternal bond, ^dThickness swell



Conclusions

- Bamboo-willow is suitable to be a raw material for MDF production.
- High processing temperature can decrease the length of fibers.
- MDF produced with relatively long fiber has higher mechanical strength.



Future work

- Mixing bamboo-willow with other wood species to produce MDF.
- Using bamboo-willow in MDF industry.
- The possibility of using bamboo-willow in OSB industry.