

## Processing of Black Board Chalk from *Pachymelania Aurita* and *Lanister Variscus* Shells

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### Abstract

A mixture of marble dust and periwinkle shells (*achymelania Aurita*) and a mixture of marble dust and snail (*LanisterVariscus*) shells were used to replace the conventional calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) used for the production of classroom chalk. The bulk density for the crushed periwinkle shells and crushed snail shells at a particle size of  $\leq 63\mu\text{m}$  were 1.14g/ml and 1.12 g/ml respectively. From the results obtained from the complexometric titration, the percentage composition of calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) content in crushed periwinkle shells and crushed snail shells were 85.06% wt. and 85.91% wt. respectively. The quality of chalk produced from the mixture of marble dust (MD) and crushed periwinkle shells (CPS) at a ratio of 1:3 was high with a breaking strength of 56.4 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. The result from the mixture of marble dust (MD) and crushed snail shells (CSS) at a ratio of 1:3 was also high with a breaking strength of 54.7 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. The results obtained show that the mixture of marble dust and crushed periwinkle shells at ratio of 1:3 and a mixture of marble dust and crushed snail shells at a ratio of 1:3 could replace the conventional calcium carbonate for classroom chalk production.

Key words: *PachymelaniaAurita*, *LanisterVariscus*, complexometric, marble dust, snail, periwinkle shells, marble dust

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Chalk is a form of limestone and is composed of the mineral-calcite (Geology Science, 2021). Chalk is a form of limestone comprised primarily of the mineral calcite (Geology Science, 2021). Chalks (dusty and dustless) are frequently composed primarily of limestone ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) or gypsum (a dehydrated form of  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ) (Maruthi et. al., 2015). Chalk was obtained through the quarrying of limestone, another type of carbon carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ). This limestone mining has had a detrimental effect on the environment. Lamare and Sigh (2017) highlighted that this technique resulted in landscape alterations and degradation of agricultural land, denudation of forest, water depletion, contamination of water, soil, and air, depletion of natural flora and fauna, soil erosion, and instability of soil and rock masses.

According to Fabricius (2007), chalk is a material with a broad range of technical applications, including use as a raw material for cement, a means of managing soil acidity and neutralizing acid gasses created in power plants, a filler in paper and plastic, and a white pigment. Chalk has long been used in educational

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