

Performance and Emission Characteristics of Single Cylinder Diesel Engine Fuelled with Biodiesel Blends

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Abstract— The scarcity of conventional fuels and continuous trend of hike in the prices leads a serious concern to reach for alternative fuels .On other hand there is possibility to reduce pollutants formations taking place significantly in transportation & industrial sector. Several researches have proved proven that the fuels like bio-diesel, bio-mass, alcoholic fuels, hydrogen, non-fossil methane and non-fossil gases(like LPG,CNG) can be used as substitute fuels in place of petro diesel fuel.

Generally bio-diesel is the renewable fuel which is derived by chemically reacting with the source of bio diesel like vegetable oils, animal oils, plastics, and waste automobile tyres etc. The chemical reaction requires a catalyst usually a strong acid or base such as sulfuric acid, sodium or potassium hydroxide, and produces a new chemical compounds called methyl or ethyl esters of the vegetable crude oil which is called as bio-diesel. Therefore in the present investigation an attempt is to be made with rice bran oil as substitute fuel.

In the initial stage the tests are to be conducted on the 4-stroke single cylinder air cooled direct injection diesel engine. In the second stage experimental investigations are to be carried out on the same engine with same operating parameters by using the rice bran oil blending with diesel in different proportions such as RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 to determine the performance parameters and emissions. Further investigation carried on base engine with Ethanol and Ethyl Hexyl Nitrate(EHN) as additives to the diesel-biodiesel blends.

Keywords— **Rice Bran Oil, Ethyl Hexyl Nitrate(EHN), Ethanol.**

1. INTRODUCTION

More than 90% world's rice production coming from Asia. Rice production first among agricultural commodity of Indonesia. Rice bran is a brown layer present between rice and the outer husk of the paddy. Rice bran oil is an important derivative of rice. Depending on variety of rice and degree of milling, the bran contains 16-32 wt% of oil. About 60-70% of the oil produced from this bran is non edible oil, due to the problems attributed to the stability and storage of the rice bran and the dispersed nature of rice milling . Rice bran oil (RBO) is considered to be one of the most nutritious oils due its

favourable fatty acid composition and unique combination of naturally occurring biologically active and antioxidant compounds [1]. RBO has been difficult to refine because of the its high content of free fatty acid (FFA), unsaponifiable matter and dark colour [2] . The results obtained show a 49% reduction in smoke, 35% reduction in HC and 37% reduction in CO emissions for the blends whereas the brake power and BTE are reduced by 2.4% and 3.2% respectively with 4.3% increase in the SFC . Therefore it is concluded from the present experimental study that the blends of RBO and Diesel fuel can successfully be used in Diesel engines as an alternative fuel without any modification in the engine and it is also environment friendly by the emission standards. The present research is aimed to investigate experimentally the performance and exhaust emission characteristics of a direct injection (DI) diesel engine when fuelled with conventional diesel fuel, rice bran oil biodiesel, a blend of diesel and rice bran oil biodiesel and three blends of diesel-biodiesel-ethanol over the entire range of load on the engine. The experimental results showed that the highest brake thermal efficiency was observed with 15% ethanol in diesel-biodiesel-ethanol blends. The exhaust gas temperature and the sound intensity from the engine reduced with the increase of ethanol percentage in diesel-biodiesel-ethanol blends. The Carbon monoxide and smoke emissions reduced significantly with higher percentage of ethanol in diesel-biodiesel-ethanol blends. The unused oxygen with 5% ethanol in diesel-biodiesel-ethanol blend was lower than that of diesel fuel [3]. .From the literature it is concluded that alternate fuels can be used as substitute for diesel by evaluating its properties and blending them with diesel in small proportions can improved performance parameters and reduce emissions without modifying the engine design.

2. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

2.1. Biodiesel production by Transesterification process.

Biodiesel production is a combination of chemical reactions, the most basic of which is called Transesterification. Fat and oil derivatives from animals and plants are typically made of triglycerides which are esters of free fatty acids along with glycerol. In the Transesterification process, the glycerol is deprotonated with a base, such as ethanol or methanol to make it a stronger nucleophile, producing methyl esters

(biodiesel) in the process. Heat and a catalyst are used to help the reaction proceed more quickly. Rice bran was used as the raw oil to be transesterified with methanol in a reacting tank. The temperature values are below the boiling point of methanol (63°C), to prevent the methanol in the reactant mixture from evaporating. The calcium oxide was stirred with methanol for 10 minutes using an electric-magnetic stirrer to form calcium methoxide, which was then poured into the reacting tank and mixed with the Rice bran. The total reaction time was 60 minutes. Almost total conversion to corn oil bio diesel was achieved quickly after a few minutes from the start of the reaction, depending on the ambient conditions.

2.2. Preparation of Biodiesel Blends.

After production the RBO was blended with neat diesel fuel in various volume concentrations to prepare biodiesel blends. These blends were subsequently used in the engine tests. The level of blending for convenience is referred as RBXX. Where XX indicates the percentage of biodiesel present in the blend. For example a RB35 blend is prepared with 35% biodiesel and 65% diesel oil by volume. During the present engine experiments the blends prepared and used were RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45.

2.3. Properties of biodiesel comparison with diesel.

The test fuels used in the engine during the experiments were RB35, RB45, RBE35, RBE45 and Diesel oil. Before application on the engine, various physico-chemical properties of all the above test fuels were determined and compared to each other.

Properties	Rice bran oil	Pure diesel
Density at 15 ⁰ c (gm/cc)	0.91	0.82
Viscosity at 40 ⁰ c (Centi stokes)	6.1	5
Cloud point (°C)	6	-6
Pour point (°C)	-3	3
Carbon Residue (%)	0.42	0.1
Calorific value (KJ/kg)	37850.8	42,500

3. Experimental Setup

The experimental setup shown in figure is a single cylinder four stroke naturally aspirated diesel engine. The setup is provided with necessary instruments like Rope brake dynamometer, Smoke meter (Netel's-NPM-DSM), Gas analyzer (Netel's-NPM-MGA-2), etc., for performance and emission analysis. The Specifications of the test engine is shown in given below.



3.1 Specifications of Engine

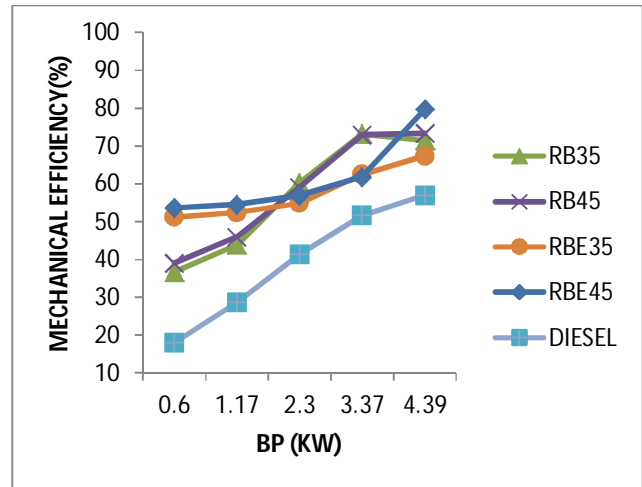
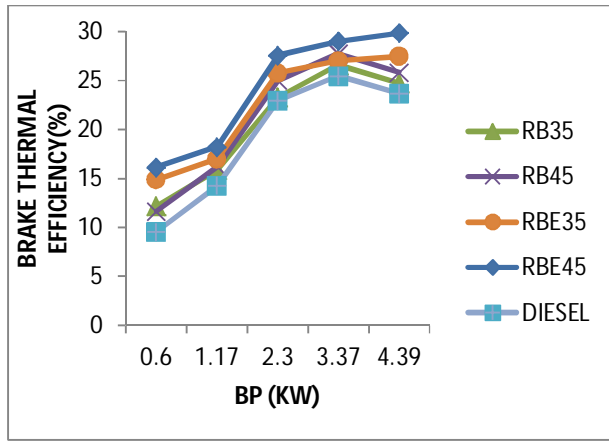
Type of Engine	Four stroke single cylinder vertical air cooled diesel engine
Rated power	4.4kw
Rated speed	1500 rpm
Bore dia	87.5 mm
Stroke length	100 mm
Compression ratio	17.5

4. Results and Discussions

The experiments are conducted on the four stroke single cylinder water cooled diesel engine at constant speed (1500 rpm) with varying loads with diesel and different blends of Rice bran oil like RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45. Various performance parameters such as brake thermal efficiency, mechanical efficiency, indicated thermal efficiency, brake specific fuel consumption, indicated power and emission parameters in the sense of unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are discussed below.

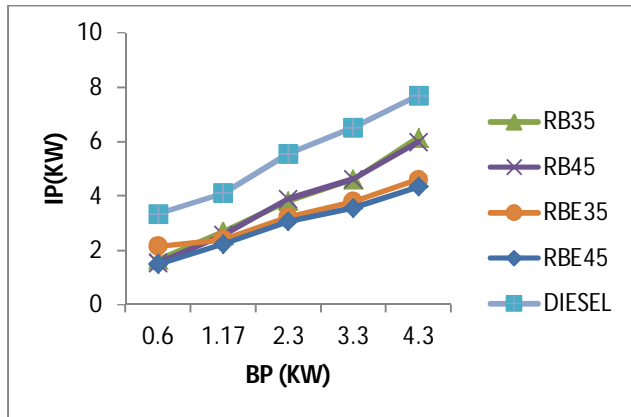
4.1 Brake Thermal Efficiency

The variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power is shown in Fig. 6.1. From the plot it is observed that as load increases brake thermal efficiency is also increases for diesel as well as the blends of rice bran oil. At full load condition, the brake thermal efficiencies are obtained 24.25%, 24.12%, 27.12%, 28.10%, and 23.12% for fuels of diesel, RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. Among the six blends of Rice bran oil the maximum BTE is 28.10% which is obtained for RBE35. The BTE of Rice bran oil is increases up to 4.10% as compared with diesel at full load condition. The increment in brake thermal efficiency is due to the better combustion because of high calorific value and less viscosity of the Rice bran oil



4.2 Indicated Power

The variation of indicated power with brake power is shown in Fig 6.4. The plot it is reveals that as the load increases the indicated power decreases. At full load condition the Indicated Power obtained are 6.15 kw, 5.99 kw, 4.59 kw, 4.33 kw, and 7.70 kw for fuels of diesel, RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. The Indicated Power of rice bran oil blend RB25 is decreases with compared to diesel at full load condition.

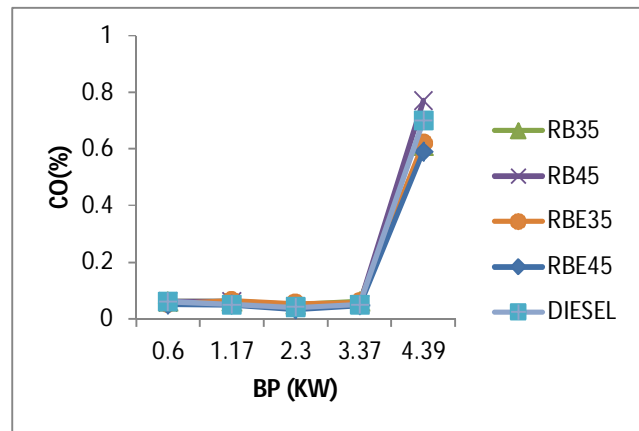


4.3 Mechanical Efficiency

The variation of mechanical efficiency with brake power is shown in Fig. 6.2. From the plot it is observed as load increases mechanical efficiency is also increases for diesel as well as the blends of rice bran oil. At full load condition the mechanical efficiencies obtained 71.48%, 73.34%, 67.43%, 79.76% and 57.09% for fuels of diesel RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. From the above results the mechanical efficiency of Rice bran blend RBE35 increases with compared diesel at full load condition.

4.4 Carbon Monoxide (CO) Emissions

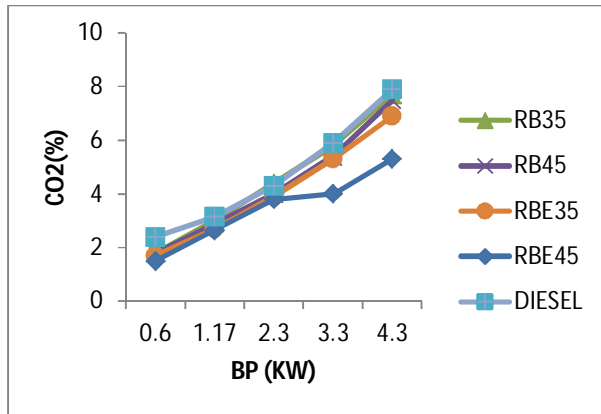
The variation of CO emission with brake power is shown in Fig 6.5. The plot it is observed that is interesting to note that the engine emits more CO for diesel as compared to biodiesel blends under all loading conditions. At full load condition the CO emission obtained are 0.61%, 0.77%, 0.62%, 0.59% and 0.07% for fuels of diesel RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. The CO concentration is decreases for the blends of RBE35 with compared to diesel and all other blends. At lower rice bran oil concentration, the oxygen present in the biodiesel aids for complete combustion. However as the rice bran oil concentration increases, the negative effect due to viscosity and small increase in specific gravity suppresses the complete combustion process, which produces small amount of CO.



4.5 Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Emissions

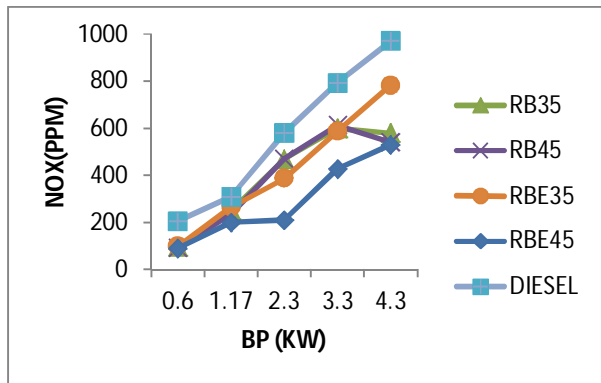
The variation of carbon dioxide with brake power is shown in Fig 6.6. The plot it reveals that as the the load increases the CO₂ emission decreases. At full load condition the CO₂ emissions obtained are 7.7%, 7.5%, 6.9%, 5.3% and

7.9% for fuels of diesel RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. The CO₂ emissions of rice bran oil blend RBE25 decreased when compared to the diesel at full load condition.



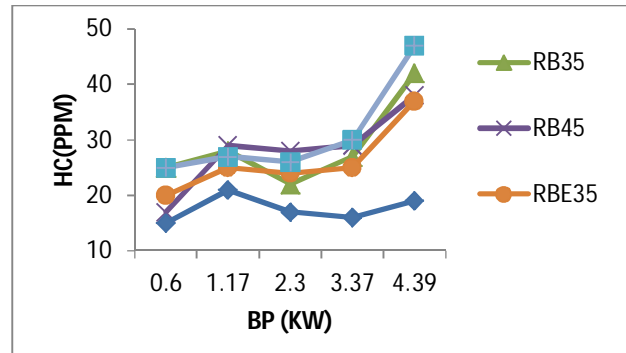
4.6 Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) Emissions

The variation of NO_x emission with brake power is shown in Fig 6.8. The plot it reveals that as the load increases the NO_x emission decreases. At full load condition the NO_x emissions obtained are 579ppm, 541ppm, 783ppm, 530ppm and 971ppm for fuels of diesel RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. The NO_x emission of Rice bran oil blend RBE35 decreased when compared to the other blends at full load condition.



4.7 Unburned Hydrocarbon (HC) Emissions

The variation of HC emission with brake power is shown in Fig 6.9. The plot it is observed that the load increases the HC emission decreases. At full load condition the unburned hydrocarbons are obtained are 42ppm, 38ppm, 37ppm, 19ppm and 47ppm, for fuels of diesel, RB35, RB45, RBE35 and RBE45 respectively. The HC emission of rice bran oil blend RB20 decreased when compared to the diesel at full load condition.



5 CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions derived from present experimental investigations to evaluate performance and emission characteristics on four stroke single cylinder diesel engine fueled with diesel RBO blends with Ethanol and EHN as additives are summarized as follows. Brake thermal efficiency increased with all blends when compared to the conventional diesel fuel. The Brake specific fuel consumption is decreased with the blends when compared to diesel. CO, CO₂ and HC emissions are decreased significantly with the blends when compared with diesel. From the above analysis the blend RBE35 shows the better performance compared to other blends (RB35, RB45, RBE45) and diesel.

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