

BAMBOO AS A BUILDING MATERIAL

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ABSTRACT: *There is a huge exploitation of natural resources for making conventional building materials such as brick and reinforcing bars. Production of large amount of green house gases is also the big issue. So there is a need to develop cheap and sustainable infrastructure. This paper presents an alternative building material for constructing the different components of cheap houses lying in village areas. Bamboo as a building material provides a good strength, elasticity etc. that makes it an enormous material that can be an alternative to wood.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Bamboo is a versatile material because of its high strength to weight ratio. Bamboo generally needs chemical treatment due to their low natural durability. It can be used in different ways for housing as beam, column, purlin, rafter, flooring, door, windows, ceiling etc.

It is good in biomass production and grows in about 7.5cm to 40cm in a day. It can be easily bent, give desired shape and can be provided with joints to suit the construction. Its enormous elasticity makes it a very useful building material and provides great resistance to earthquakes.

II. MAIN PROPERTIES OF BAMBOO

Tensile strength:- Tensile strength is more than its compressive strength. It is about 400 N/mm²

Compressive strength:- smaller diameter bamboo (tube) has high compressive strength.

Elastic modulus:- the quality of the bamboo is directly dependent upon the elasticity of the bamboo. It is generally found 1.5 to 2 × 10⁵ Kg/cm²

Shrinkage :- bamboo shrinks more than wood when it loses water. Bamboo shrinks about 10-16% of its cross-section.

Fire resistance :- it contains silicate acid which provides very good fire resistance.

Anisotropic Properties:- Longitudinal direction of the bamboo is completely different from the transversal direction. It contains cellulose fibers in the longitudinal direction which are stronger and stiffer and in the transverse direction contains lignin which is soft and brittle.

Specific Gravity :- the specific gravity of a substance is a comparison of its density to that of water. The specific gravity of bamboo varies between 0.4 and 0.8. These possess high moisture content.

III. CONCLUSION

Bamboo is lighter in weight but stronger than steel. It takes carbon dioxide in and releases 30% more oxygen than a tree. The properties of bamboo and availability of bamboo in our country makes it possible to use. Bamboo in the field of construction. Its high value utilization not only promotes the

economic development, but also saves forest resources to protect our ecological environment as a wood substitute. The age of the bamboo for construction is about 3-6 years and gradually loses strength up to 12 years after 6 years age. If we plant structural bamboo plants then a few years later we have enough mature material to build a comfortable low cost house.

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