

Solution to energy crisis in Sri Lanka: applicability of palm oil as an alternatives energy sources

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Biofuel is an important source of renewable energy. It is generally hazards free; environmental friendly. Under the present energy crisis found by Sri Lanka, palm oil could be one of the best alternatives.

To a limited extend Sri Lanka is replacing some of its traditional rubber plantation with oil palm. However as no proper economics analysis on palm oil has been carried out yet. The optimal image of this valuable energy source is still not fully disclosed.

The present study evaluates the feasibility of palm biofuel as alternative fuel energy in Sri Lanka. Biofuels are politically accepted all over the world. Even developing countries have their own renewable or biofuel energy policies.

The use of processed liquid palm oil has better fuel characteristics than petroleum and diesel with poisons emission. Palm diesel has been successfully experimented on diesel engines. It can be used directly or blends with petroleum and diesel.

Data for this study gathered from two sources, primary data for this study was collected mainly through interviews. An extensive literature review supplied secondary data.

Also the study reveled that adequate land resources are available within the country to grow oil palm sustainably.

Key words: Biofuels, Oil palm, Energy, Plantation, Renewable energy

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