

**THE USE OF BORAX PENTAHYDRATE OF INORGANIC FILLER IN
MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD PRODUCTION**

Mehmet Akgül^{a*}, Osman Çamlıbel^b

^a Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Seydisehir A.C. Faculty of Engineering, Necmettin Erbakan University, 42370 Konya, Turkey.

^b Department. of Interior Design, Kırıkkale Vocational School, Kırıkkale University, Yahsihan, 71450 Kırıkkale, Turkey.

***Corresponding author:** mehmetakgul@erbakan.edu.tr

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the study was the use of the inorganic borax pentahydrate mineral in medium density fiberboard production instead of biomass fiber and to specify the performance which physical, mechanical, combustion of produced boards. Chips used in manufacture were subjected to cooking for 4,5 minutes in Asplund defibrator at the vapor pressure of 7,6 kg/cm² pressure and 190 °C temperature. 1,6 % paraffin according to based on oven-dried wood fibers was added to cooked chips before the fiber processing in segments of defibrillator section. 1 % ammonium sulphate according to based on oven-dried wood fibers were added to fiber in the bowline. Borax pentahydrate was prepared in a separate tank in order to use the production of medium density fiberboard medium density fiberboard. Borax pentahydrate inorganic mineral was mixed with urea-formaldehyde resin. Urea-formaldehyde glue was prepared as three different solutions including the borax pentahydrate as 3 % (20 kg), 6 % (40 kg) and 9 % (60 kg) respectively. Borax pentahydrate mixed fibers were dried to 12 % moisture. Mat was formed before prepress. Daily multi-press was manufactured 188 °C temperature and 32 kg/cm² pressure and 270 second pressing time. Manufactured boards size were 2100x4900x18 (mm). According to this work result, 3 % and 6 % rate borax pentahydrate added medium density fiberboard boards were measured more good physical and mechanical test results compare to control boards. 9 % borax pentahydrate added medium density fiberboard boards were shown incredibly superior performance at fire resistance.

Keywords: Borax pentahydrate, color properties, combustion temperature, fibers, mechanical properties, medium density fiberboard, physical properties

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INTRODUCTION

40 The amount of production increases day by day in the boron and boron derivatives forest
41 products plate production sector. Boron and boron derivatives are used effectively in the
42 production of composite plates due to their resistance to fire. Scientific studies on the effective
43 use of boron derivatives chemicals in the production of forest products are carried out all over
44 the world.

45 Borates have several important advantages in addition to its preservative features such
46 as imparting flame retardant, providing sufficient protection against wood destroying
47 organisms, having low mammalian toxicity and low volatility. Moreover, they are colorless and
48 odorless. Baysal *et al.* (2005) have examined a comparative study on stability and decay
49 resistance of some environmentally friendly fire retardant boron compounds in his study.
50 Hafizoglu *et al.* (1994) have investigated various fire retardants to be used with MDF panels.
51 The effects of fire retardants over the fire performance of MDF and plywood were determined
52 and the results showed that the fire performance of MDF and plywood increased nearly 6,4 %
53 and 1,6 % respectively.

54 Istek *et al.* (2013) investigated the effect of fire retardants on the combustion
55 performance of medium-density fiberboards that were coated with mixtures of water, binder,
56 calcite, and various fire-retardant coatings. Jiang *et al.* (2011) have researched the influence of
57 three boron flame retardants on thermal curing behavior of urea formaldehyde resin. Kurt *et al.*
58 (2012) have studied the effects of many boron compounds (boric acid, borax, ammonium *etc.*)
59 used as fire retardants in wood. According to LeVan *et al.* (1990), the inorganic salts such as
60 di-ammonium phosphate, mono ammonium phosphate, zinc chloride, ammonium sulphate,
61 borax, and boric acid are the most common fire-retardant chemicals used for wood.

62 Ozc1fc1 *et al.* (2007) have studied the fire properties of laminated veneer lumber (LVL)
63 prepared from beech (*Fagus orientalis* L.) veneers treated with some fire retardants. According

64 to their study, the lowest temperature and mass loss are obtained for specimens treated with di-
65 ammonium phosphate and boric acid–borax mixture. Taghiyari and Nouri (2015) have
66 investigated the influence of nano-wollastonite (5, 10, 15, and 20 g/kg dry weight basis of wood
67 fibers) on physical and mechanical properties of MDF. According to the results, nano-
68 wollastonite material contents of 10 % and 15 % are optimal. Taghiyari *et al.* (2016) have
69 produced MDF from wollastonite fibers, camel-thorn, and wood fibers. According to studies,
70 wollastonite fibers with the further addition of camel-thorn fibers improved most of the physical
71 and mechanical properties of MDFs.

72 Tondi *et al.* (2014) have studied the comparison of di-sodium octaborate tetrahydrate-
73 based and tannin-boron-based formulations as fire retardant for wood structures. When the ratio
74 of fire retardants in wood panels is increased, it is found that their fire performances are
75 improved even more (Tsunoda 2001). Such improvement is a significant outcome in wood
76 industry. Usta *et al.* (2012) have examined the effect of some boron compounds for the physical
77 and the mechanical properties of medium density fiberboard (MDF) panels in terms of the fire-
78 retardant properties such as melamine urea-formaldehyde (MUF) resins having different
79 melamine contents (10 %, 15 %, and 20 %).

80 Valcheva *et al.* (2015) have studied the effect of thickness of medium density fiberboard
81 produced of hardwood tree species on their selected physical and mechanical properties. Yang
82 *et al.*(2014) have examined the effect of typical boron compounds on the thermal degradation
83 and combustion properties of *Phyllostachys pubescen*. Yu *et al.* (2017) have studied the
84 combustibility of boron-containing fire retardant treated bamboo filament. Zahedsheijani *et al.*
85 (2011) have studied the potential use of Na⁺ montmorillonite (Na⁺MMT) nanoclay in MDF
86 production. According to the test results, the air permeability of MDF boards are decreased.
87 The mass diffusivity of board is not affected.

88 The production of MDF was about 4,910 million m³/year in 2018 in Turkey. However,
89 this figure was about 99,443 million cubic meters/year in the world (accessed, 24 January
90 2020). Some researchers have performed various studies to reduce the amount of raw materials
91 in the MDF industry. These studies were about the usage possibilities of the borax pentahydrate
92 minerals rather than lignocellulosic raw materials.

93 The inorganic borax pentahydrate mineral which has the mixing ratio of 0 %, 3 %, 6 %, 9 %, 9 %
94 respectively are produced for boards in the MDF production process. In this study, the
95 experimental investigations are performed in order to realize the physical, mechanical, color
96 and combustion properties of the produced boards having borax pentahydrate mineral according
97 to the reference board. According to MDF boards combustion tests, Borax Pentahydrate
98 inorganic mineral can be used for the fire as a resistive material in the production of MDF.

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MATERIAL AND METHODS

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Materials

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Borax pentahydrate

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Wood species used in MDF production are beech (*Fagus orientalis* L.), Oak (*Quercus robur* L) and Pine (*Pinus sylvester* L). These species were brought from Duzce Province forestry, West Black Sea Region and Bolu Province, respectively.

Borax pentahydrate is produced in Eskişehir ETİ mine (Etibor-48). Borax pentahydrate chemical formula Na₂B₄O₇.5H₂O density is as follows: 1,880 gr/cm³ with high abrasiveness. In the basic structure, the rombohedral crystal is a boron compound also known as tinkhanite. It could be rapidly crystallized in aqueous solutions above 60,8°C. Turkey is one of the world's richest countries in terms of boron reserves. Borax pentahydrate is in a lot of reserves in Bigadic, Emet, Kestelek, Kırka areas (accessed 22 June 2019)].

113 Borax pentahydrate was prepared as ratio 40 % solution in a separate tank. Than later,
114 40 % borax pentahydrate solution was mixed to urea-formaldehyde resin with blender as
115 homogenous. Mixed (BP+UF) were added fibers in the blowline.

116 **Chemicals**

117 The chemicals used in this study were urea-formaldehyde, liquid paraffin, and
118 ammonium sulphate. These chemicals were brought from Polisan Company in Gebze, Mercan
119 Chemistry in Denizli and from another company in Gebze, respectively.

120 Urea formaldehyde resin used in the production of MDF has the following technical
121 specifications; solid 65 %, formaldehyde/urea molar ratio: 1,25, density (at 20°C g/cm³):1,227,
122 viscosity (20°C cps) 185 seconds, gel time (100°C) (20 % (NH₄)₂SO₄): 25-40 second, pH: 7,5
123 to 8,5 free formaldehyde content 0,5 % max, methylol groups 12-15 %, average shelf life is 45
124 days.

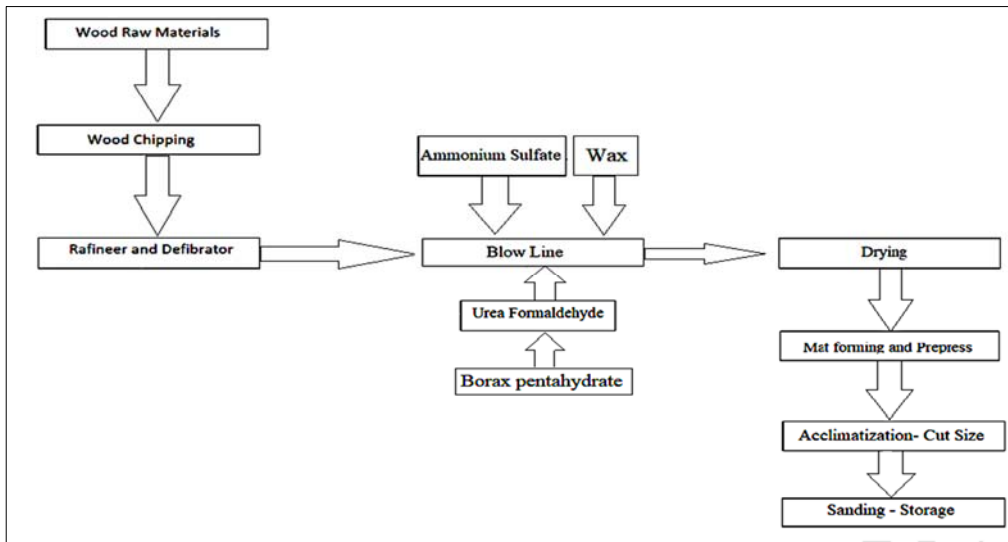
125 Hardener; the ammonium sulphate was supplied from a private company from Izmit
126 (Turkey), the catalyst was 20 % ammonium sulphate (NH₄)₂SO₄ solution (density of 0,95 g/cm³
127 and pH 6,5).

128 Paraffin (wax); the paraffin was dirty white and liquid form, it had a solid content of 60
129 %, the pH was 9, viscosity was 13 second, and the density was 0,96 g/cm³. The liquid paraffin
130 was supplied from Mercan Chemistry in Denizli (Turkey).

131

132 **Methods**

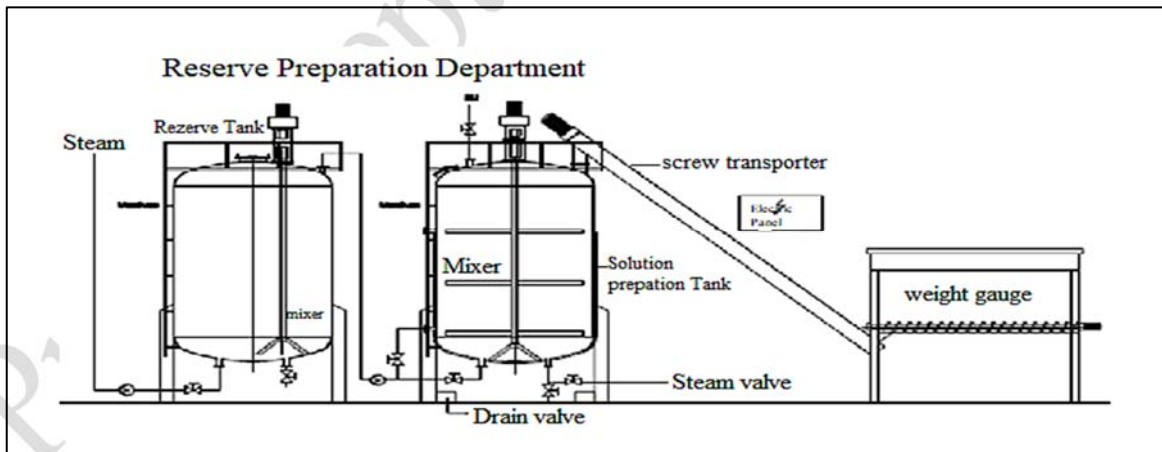
133 Provided that the other production conditions are the same, the test boards that are
134 produced by changing the ratio of the borax pentahydrate mixture are the general-purpose
135 boards. Divapan Integrated Wood Company produce these products. The method is shown in
136 Figure 1.



137

138 **Figure 1:** Product process flow sheet.

139 It mixes the resins and other chemicals in the glue unit. The borax pentahydrate
140 inorganic mineral solution is prepared in the solution preparing tank. Then these chemicals,
141 which are prepared in the tank are mixed and then the mixture is sent to the blowline. This
142 process and applications are the main topic of this study. These applications are shown in Fig.
143 2.



144 **Figure 2:** Preparation of the resin, inorganic borax pentahydrate solution and other
145 chemicals.

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150 **Product parameters**

151 Production parameters are shown in Table 1. The addition of inorganic borax
 152 pentahydrate solution and other chemicals to lignocellulosic biomass are presented. The
 153 symbols in Table 1 correspond that R defines the consumed wood fibers for 1 m³ board, B
 154 defines the consumed borax pentahydrate minerals for 1 m³ board, x and y subscripts define the
 155 percentage (%) of the mixture.

156

157 **Table 1:** Board content.

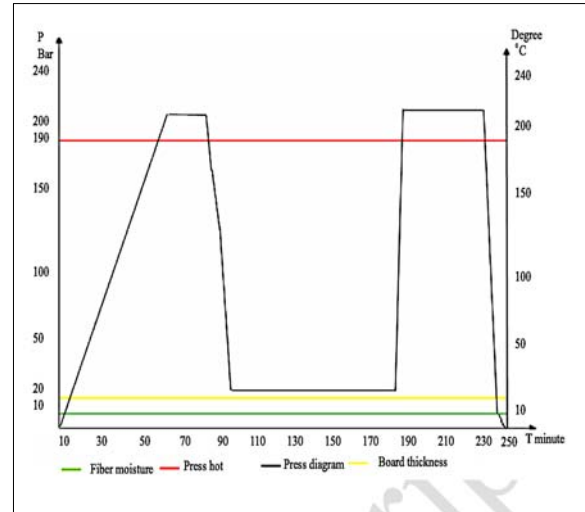
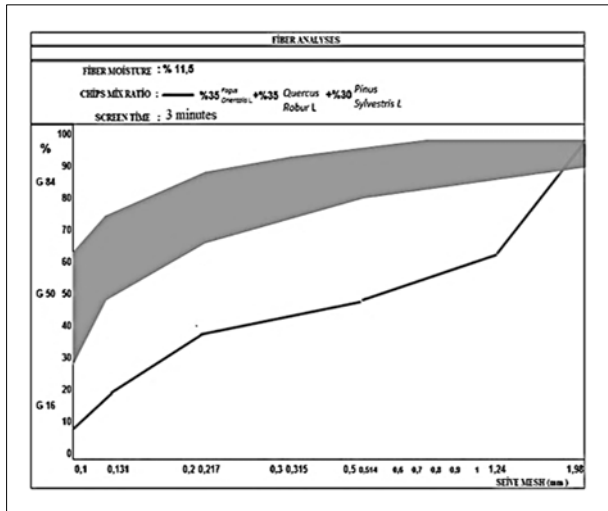
Groups	Product	Biomass	Resin	Hardener	Paraffin	Inorganic additive	Industrial fibres	Ratio
R ₁₀₀ B ₀	MDF ^a	L ^b	UF ^c	AS ^d	Wax	-	100 %	0
R ₉₇ B ₃	MDF ^a	L ^b	UF ^c	AS ^d	Wax	BPH ^e	97 %	3 %
R ₉₄ B ₆	MDF ^a	L ^b	UF ^c	AS ^d	Wax	BPH ^e	94 %	6 %
R ₉₁ B ₉	MDF ^a	L ^b	UF ^c	AS ^d	Wax	BPH ^e	91 %	9 %

158 ^aMedium density fiberboard. ^bLignocellulosic. ^cUrea formaldehyde. ^dAmmonium sulphate. ^eBorax pentahydrate.

159

160 **Fiber analysis**

161 Wood fiber contains 70 % hardwoods and 30 % softwood fibers in this study. These
 162 fibers are sieved by means of an Imal Ultrasonic Analysis machine. The fiber analysis diagram
 163 is shown in Fig. 3.



164

165 **Figure 3:** Analysis of the fiber.

166 **Figure 4:** Hot press diagrams.

167

168 The hot press diagram in Fig. 4. was applied in the production of MDF boards.

169 **Boards Manufacturing**

170 Firstly, the hardwood and softwood species were obtained from the Western Black Sea

171 forests, and then these species were chopped and stored one by one in silos according to the

172 production parameters. Chips used in production were applied to cooking for 4,5 minutes at

173 vapor pressure of 7,6 kg/cm² pressure and 190°C temperature in Asplund defibrillator. Chips

174 cooked in asplund defibrillator were made into fibers in segments. The solid ratio of the urea-

175 formaldehyde was reduced to 50 % solid level in the production process. The color of the

176 ammonium sulphate crystal grains was off white. It was prepared for hardener with the 20 %

177 solution, and then it was injected from a single point to blow line. The color of liquid paraffin

178 was cream and the fat content is up to 2 %. The penetration of the liquid paraffin was 32, and

179 then it was stored in the reserve tank as the liquid state. It was mixed the liquid paraffin with a

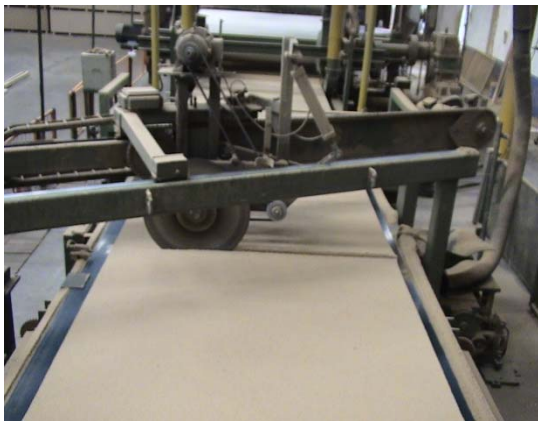
180 maximum ratio up to 1,5 % to dry fiber. The mixture having the above-mentioned properties

181 was made of fibers in Asplund defibrillator. The hardener, borax pentahydrate solution and urea-

182 formaldehyde were injected from blow line to the biomass fiber. These applications were shown
183 in Fig. 1.

184 Fibers included the borax pentahydrate and the chemical were dried at the drier line up
185 to 12 %. Dried fibers were placed on the mat in the mechanical station. These applications were
186 shown in Fig. 5. The mat was produced by pressing in the multiday hot press. The pressing
187 parameters were 190°C, 32kg/cm² and 275 second. The dimensions of the panel were
188 2100x4900x18 mm. After the production of the panels, they were kept in pre-storage on 5 days.
189 The panels were acclimatized in storage area. These applications were shown in Fig. 6. Then
190 the level of moisture was adjusted to 7,5 %. After this process, the top and bottom surfaces of
191 panels were sanded with 40-80-120 degrees sandpaper.

192



193

194 **Figure 5:** MDF production process.

Figure 6: Borax pentahydrate additive MDF

195 products.

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197 **Physical test method**

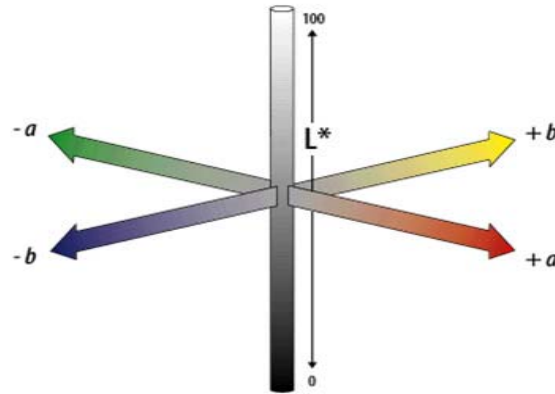
198 Physical properties were tested according to TS-EN 622-5 (2008) and the density of
199 panels was tested according to TS-EN 323 (1999). Water absorption test and the thickness
200 swelling test of the specimens were made according to TS-EN 317 (2008). The sheet surface
201 toluene TS was made according to the EN 382-1 (1999). Sample thickness and length of

202 specimens were measured by using a digital micrometer and compass with 0,01 mm gradients.
203 The surface color parameter test of the fiberboard was used by elrephospectrophotometer
204 according to ASTM D 2244-07e1.

205

206 **Color properties**

207 Color measurements were measured by using the tristimulus photoelectric colorimeter
208 Elrepho Spectrophotometer, with a measuring head of 50 mm in diameter according to ASTM
209 D 2244-07e1 standards. The Elrepho spectrophotometer was measured the color of any material
210 in a three-dimensional color area (Fig. 7). This system which is called CIE $L^*a^*b^*$ operates
211 according to the CIE Standard. The part of the coordinate system interested in this study is the
212 first quadrant which corresponds positive values of a^* and b^* . The color parameters L^* , a^* , and
213 b^* were determined by the CIE $L^*a^*b^*$ method on the surface fiberboards. Their variations
214 concerning the treatment (ΔL^* , Δa^* , Δb^*) was calculated. The color sphere as the circle of the
215 cross-section at $L^* = 50$ was defined. The color difference, ΔE total color difference is the
216 distance between two color points in the color sphere. To the right: Cross section at $L^* = 50$
217 showing the axis from green to red (a^*) and from blue to yellow (b^*), the coordinates chroma
218 (C^*) and hue [$h = \arctan (b^*/ a^*)$] is the hues of color: 0 or 360 is red, 90 is yellow, 180 is green
219 and 270 is blue. L^* is the lightness; 100 = white and 0 = black. C^* is the chroma or saturation;
220 0 represents only greyish colors and 60. These three measured coordinates represented by L^* ,
221 a^* and b^* were transformed to L^* , C^* and h coordinates and ΔE total color difference values
222 were found (Akgul *et al.* 2013).



223

224 **Figure 7:** CIELAB the coordinate system shows the color changes in three coordinates which
225 are represented as L*, a* and b* it gives the total color difference equation as.

226

227
$$\Delta E = \sqrt{(\Delta L)^2 + (\Delta a)^2 + (\Delta b)^2} \quad (1)$$

228 The average color values, standard deviations, and 5 % significance level based on
229 distribution are calculated by assuming a normal distribution. The lower value of the ΔE total
230 color difference shows that the color is not changed or the change of color can be ignored (Akgul
231 *et al.* 2013).

232 **Mechanical test method**

233 Cutting and sizing according to TS EN 325 (2008), TS EN 326-1 (1999) standard were
234 performed to specify the properties of MDF plates with inorganic borax pentahydrate. These
235 tests were; bending strength TS EN 310 (2008), modulus of elasticity TS EN 310 (2008),
236 internal bond TS EN 319 (2008). Screw holding ability perpendicular to the plane of panel TS
237 EN 310 (2011), A universal tester (Imal Mobiltemp shc 22, model ib 400) was used to assess
238 mechanical properties. Janka hardness was measured according to ASTM D-1037-78. (1994)
239 standards.

240 **Combustion test method**

241 We prepared MDF specimens from MDF for the combustion test. The combustion test
242 of borax pentahydrate MDF specimens was determined according to ASTM-E 160-50 (1975).

243 These applications are shown in Fig. 8. Its conditioned specimens were at $27\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 30–
244 35 % relative humidity to the targeted equilibrium moisture content of 7 % before the
245 combustion test samples. Twenty-four specimens were stored to make 12 layers forming a
246 square prism (Fig. 9).



247

248 **Figure 8:** Combustion test apparatus.

Figure 9: Combustion test samples.

249 It derived the fire of the heating flame from an LPG tank controlled by a sensitive pascal
250 gauged valve. The flame to the standard height was balanced before the combustion test
251 samples frame. The combustion test method was performed subsequently with the flame stage
252 (FS) and without a flame stage (WFS). The glowing stage (GS) was performed according to
253 ASTM-E 160-50 (1975). We recorded temperatures at the combustion column by using
254 thermocouples at 15 and 30-time intervals for combustion with a flame stage and without a
255 flame stage, and a glowing stage, respectively. We calculated the mass loss of the test specimens
256 from the following equation.

257
$$\text{mass loss} = \frac{(\text{wbf} - \text{waf})}{\text{wbf}} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

258 Where wbf was the weight (g) of a wood specimen before the combustion test, and waf
259 was the weight (g) of a wood specimen after the combustion test. The 936 pieces boards which
260 have additive borax pentahydrate were combusted according to ASTM E 160-50 standards. The
261 applied tests were FIC (flame-induced combustion), FIC lux (flame-induced combustion lux),

262 SC (self-combustion), SC lux (self-combustion lux), SC time (self-combustion time), ESC
263 (ember situation combustion), ESC lux (ember situation combustion lux), ESC time, mass loss,
264 IST (initial starting temperature), IST time (initial starting temperature-time), IST lux, FC (full
265 Combustion), FC time, (full Combustion time), FC lux (full combustion lux).

266 **Statistical Analysis**

267 The data concernings physical tests, colour feature tests, mechanical tests and
268 combustion test results were explained \pm standard deviation and were analyzed using an
269 analysis of variance (ANOVA) method for a entirely completely randomized design.
270 Differences were considered statistically substantial at $p < 0,05$. As a result of these tests, SPSS
271 17 (ANOVA) Duncan results are evaluated by statistical programs.

272

273 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

274 **Physical properties of fiberboard**

275 The results of ANOVA and Duncan show that the separation test for density, the toluene
276 surface, the thickness swelling (TS, 2-24 hours) and water absorption (WA, 2-24 hours) percent
277 of the fiberboards made from borax pentahydrate additive fiber and control fiberboards in Table
278 2. Each test with 20 different samples was measured in this study.

279

280 **The results of the density test**

281 Density and mechanical properties of medium fiberboards statistical tests with Duncan's
282 tests are made in the 95 % confidence interval analysis. The results are shown in Table 2. No
283 differences were found between densities for borax pentahydrate added panels (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃,
284 R₉₄B₆, R₉₁B₉) according to this statistical analysis. The results of MDF densities were in the
285 range of $650 \text{ kg/m}^3 < \text{MDF} < 850 \text{ kg/m}^3$ according to TS EN 622-5 standards. The density of
286 medium fiberboards affect the used lignocellulosic raw materials, density, moisture content, the

287 width of the heartwood, the width of sapwood, fiber structure and fiber dimensions, the annual
 288 ring width, types of cells and quantity. The mat moisture of the draft of the creation form unit,
 289 density, fiber distribution and press parameters affect the density during production.

290 **Table 2:** The results of ANOVA and Duncan mean separation test for density, the toluene
 291 surface of the board, the thickness swelling (TS) and water absorption (WA) percent of the
 292 fiberboards are made from borax pentahydrate additive fiberboards and control fiberboard.

293

Boards		Avg. ^x	Std.	Board		Avg. ^x	Std.
Borax pentahydrate			Deviation	Borax pentahydrate			Deviation
Density (kg/m ³)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	715 ^a	10	WA 24 hours (%)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	41,68 ^a	2,87
	R ₉₇ B ₃	715 ^a	10		R ₉₇ B ₃	41,904 ^a	4,82
	R ₉₄ B ₆	714 ^a	10		R ₉₄ B ₆	52,832 ^b	4,25
	R ₉₁ B ₉	712 ^a	10		R ₉₁ B ₉	78,400 ^c	11,17
BST (cm)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	34,350 ^a	1,09	TS 2 hours (%)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	3,817 ^a	0,40
	R ₉₇ B ₃	30,300 ^b	1,59		R ₉₇ B ₃	6,029 ^b	0,41
	R ₉₄ B ₆	34,100 ^a	1,41		R ₉₄ B ₆	7,023 ^c	0,63
	R ₉₁ B ₉	33,00 ^c	1,97		R ₉₁ B ₉	8,480 ^d	1,16
WA 2 hours (%)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	21,297 ^a	2,01	TS 24 hours (%)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	10,556 ^a	0,29
	R ₉₇ B ₃	24,868 ^b	3,44		R ₉₇ B ₃	12,375 ^b	0,75
	R ₉₄ B ₆	35,757 ^c	3,53		R ₉₄ B ₆	14,141 ^c	0,49
	R ₉₁ B ₉	36,836 ^c	5,21		R ₉₁ B ₉	17,332 ^d	1,38

294 ^xThe average value of the samples, standard deviation, 95 % (p<0,05) the confidence interval for the average ANOVA. a, b, c, d values with
 295 the same letter are not different (Duncan's test). TS (Thickness swell); WA (Water absorption), BTS (board surface toluene)

296

297 The ratio between the densities for the lowest fiberboard with the average fiberboard is
 298 always expected to be between 850 kg/m³ to 950 kg/m³. The efficiency of process parameters
 299 and the applied hot press diagram in MDF production affect the optimum homogenous density

300 of the fiberboard. If the ratio between the densities for the lowest fiberboard with the average
301 fiberboard near to one number, then this ratio represents that the density of the fiberboard is at
302 the optimum homogeneity. Physical and surface properties of fiberboards statistical tests
303 (ANOVA) with Duncan's test are made in the 95 % confidence interval analysis. The results
304 were shown in Table 2. No differences were found between densities for borax pentahydrate
305 added panels (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃, R₉₄B₆, R₉₁B₉) according to this statistical analysis result. TS EN
306 323 standards are applied in this test. The results of MDF densities were in the range of 650
307 kg/m³<MDF<850 kg/m³ according to TS EN 622-5 standards. The density of fiberboards affect
308 the used lignocellulosic raw materials, density, moisture content, the width of the heartwood,
309 the width of sapwood, fiber structure and fiber dimensions, the annual ring width, types of cells
310 and quantity. The mat moisture of the draft of the creation form unit, density, fiber distribution
311 and press parameters were affected the density during production. The ratio between the
312 densities for the lowest fiberboard with the average fiberboard was always desired between 850
313 to 950 kg/m³. The efficiency of process parameters and the applied hot press diagram in MDF
314 production was affected the optimum homogenous density of the fiberboard.

315

316 **The result of the swell in water for 2 hours test**

317 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
318 according to the percentage of TS-2 hours. The brief results were presented in Table 2. The ratio
319 for this test was 58,26 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of TS-2 hours
320 were increased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 84,25 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀.
321 Therefore, the percentage of TS-2 hours were increased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 122,57 % for
322 R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of TS-2 hours were increased for R₉₁B₉.
323 Since there was the anisotropic swelling of the secondary wall fibers in the cell wall and these
324 fibers in board lie with different directions and angles, the swelling of the board was the

325 smallest. Hydrophobic materials and water-resistant resin have increased the resistance of the
326 board against such swelling effect. The percentage of swelling of MDF depends on the density
327 of the board, the chemical structure of inorganic borax pentahydrate, the geometrical shape of
328 the borax pentahydrate and the amount of the borax pentahydrate. The quantity of the surface
329 of the board, the density profile of the board, the adhesion strength between the fibers, the
330 length of fibers, the shortness of the fibers have depended on the type and the amount of the
331 paraffin added to MDF.

332

333 **The result of the swell in water for 24 hours**

334 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
335 according to the percentage of TS-24 hours. The brief results were shown in Table 2. The ratio
336 for this test was 17,23 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of TS-24
337 hours increased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 33,90 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀.
338 Therefore, the percentage of TS-24h increased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 64,10 % for R₉₁B₉
339 according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of TS-24h increased for R₉₁B₉. TS EN 317
340 standards were applied in this test. Softwood fibers have longer than the hardwood fibers. For
341 softwood fibers, the felting ratio, the elasticity ratio and the F factor have higher than the
342 hardwood fibers. For hardwood fibers, the rigid coefficient, the muhlsteph ratio, the runkel ratio
343 and the bulk density value have higher than that of softwood fibers. As the contact angle
344 increase, the adhesion ability increases for softwood fiber according to hardwood fiber. Thus,
345 the entrance of the water and moisture between fibers was more difficult than that of softwood
346 fiber according to hardwood fiber. As the amount of hydrophobic material in fiberboard product
347 increase, the swelling in thickness decreased. However, there was a negative effect on the
348 adhesion of fibers.

349

350 **The results of the water absorption for the 2 hours**

351 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆, R₉₁, B₉) according
352 to the percentage of WA-2h. The results were presented in Table 2. The ratio for this test was
353 16,81 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of WA-2h increased for
354 R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 67,96 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage
355 of WA-2h increased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 73,03 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore,
356 the percentage of WA-2h increased for R₉₁B₉.

357

358 **The results of the water absorption for 24 hours test**

359 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
360 according to the percentage of WA-24h. of the brief results were presented in Table 2. The
361 ratio for this test was 0,527 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of WA-
362 24 hour increased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 26,75 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀.
363 Therefore, the percentage of WA-24h increased for R₉₄B₆ and the ratio was 88,08 % for R₉₁B₉
364 according to R₁₀₀B₀. TS EN 317 standards were applied in this test. Therefore, the percentage
365 of WA-24h increased for R₉₁B₉. As the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate was increased
366 in MDF production, the absorption of the water in fiberboards increases as well.

367

368 **The results of toluene on the surface of the board**

369 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₄B₆), (R₉₇B₃) and (R₉₁B₉) and
370 according to the percentage of toluene on the surface of the board test. The ratio for this test
371 decreased 13,36 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of BST decreased
372 for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio decreased by 0,73 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore,
373 the percentage of BST decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 4,09 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀.
374 Therefore, the percentage of BST decreased for R₉₁B₉. TS EN 382-1 standards were applied in

375 this test. The factors affecting the surface quality of the MDF board have affected such as; the
 376 amount of the inorganic borax pentahydrate filler, the geometry of the inorganic borax
 377 pentahydrate filler, the chemical structure, amount of lignin type of cellulosic raw material,
 378 density, fiber structure, fiber dimensions, the ratio of fiber moisture, the amount of the resin,
 379 hardener and paraffin.

380 The factors affecting the surface quality during the production of MDF board have
 381 affected such as; mat fiber moisture, pulverized sprayed water amount of the top and bottom of
 382 the mat, pre-press pressure, hot-pressing parameters and hot press. The applied temperature
 383 press and time diagrams during the hot press of the board have especially important. Sanding
 384 of MDF, the sanding paper properties, sanding method and sandpaper have affected the
 385 smoothness of the board surface.

386

387 Color properties

388 ASTM D 2244-07e1 standards were applied in this test. The surface color analysis of
 389 fiberboards was measured using Eq. (1). The results were presented in Table 3. The results of
 390 ANOVA and Duncan mean separation test for ΔL black-white color change, Δa red-green color
 391 change, Δb yellow-blue color change, ΔE total color difference per cent of the fiberboards made
 392 from borax pentahydrate additive fiber and control fiberboards are shown in Table 3. Each test
 393 with 20 different samples was measured in this study.

394 **Table 3:** The results of ANOVA and Duncan mean separation test for ΔL black-white color
 395 change, Δa red-green color change, Δb yellow-blue color change, ΔE total color difference per
 396 cent of the fiberboards made from borax pentahydrate additive fiber and control fiberboards.

Board		Avg.*	Std.	Board		Avg.*	Std.
Borax pentahydrate			Deviation	Borax pentahydrate			Deviation
ΔL	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	60,13 ^a	0,91	Δb	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	17,46 ^a	0,56
	R ₉₇ B ₃	58,96 ^b	0,50		R ₉₇ B ₃	16,89 ^b	0,28

	R ₉₄ B ₆	57,84 ^c	0,24		R ₉₄ B ₆	16,01 ^c	0,16
	R ₉₁ B ₉	56,02 ^d	0,44		R ₉₁ B ₉	15,48 ^d	0,32
Δ ^a	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	5,62 ^a	0,06	Δ ^E	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	62,87 ^a	0,98
	R ₉₇ B ₃	5,51 ^b	0,06		R ₉₇ B ₃	61,58 ^b	0,53
	R ₉₄ B ₆	5,42 ^c	0,06		R ₉₄ B ₆	60,26 ^c	0,27
	R ₉₁ B ₉	5,19 ^d	0,06		R ₉₁ B ₉	58,35 ^d	0,50

*The average value of the samples, Standard Deviation, 95% (p<0,05). The confidence interval for the average ANOVA. and, b, c, d values with the same letter are not different (Duncan's test). ΔE^x total color difference; ΔL^y black-white color change; Δa^zred-green color change; Δb^yyellow-blue color change.

The variation of ΔL

There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉) in terms of variation. Brief results of Table 3 were explained. This variation decreased by 1,98 % for 422 R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Similarly, the variation decreased by 3,95 % for R₉₄B₆ according to 423 R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₄B₆. The variation decreased 7,33 % for R₉₁B₉ 424 according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₁B₉.

The variation of Δa

There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), (R₉₁B₉), (R₉₄B₆) and the variations of them. Brief results of Table 3 were explained. This variation decreased by 1,19 % 430 for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Similarly, the variation decreased by 3,69 % for R₉₄B₆ 431 according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₄B₆. The variation decreased 432 8,28 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₁B₉.

The variation of Δb

There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃) and (R₉₄B₆), (R₉₁B₉) in terms of variation. Brief results of Table 3 were explained. This variation increased by 3,37 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Similarly, the variation decreased by 9,05 % for R₉₄B₆ according

419 to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₄B₆. The variation decreased 12,79 % for
420 440 R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₁B₉.

421

422 **The variation of ΔE**

423 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃) and (R₉₄B₆), (R₉₁B₉) in
424 terms of variation. The results of Table 3 were explained. This variation decreased by 2,09 %
425 for 446 R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Similarly, the variation decreased by 4,33 % for R₉₄B₆
426 according to 447 R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₄B₆. The variation
427 decreased 7,74 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the variation decreased for R₉₁B₉.
428 As the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate increase in MDF production, the value
429 decreased.

430

431 **Mechanical properties**

432 The results of ANOVA and Duncan displays the separation test for bending strength,
433 modulus of elasticity, internal bond, surface screw holding ability, Janka hardness measure
434 vertically to the plate surface of the fiberboards made from borax pentahydrate additive fiber
435 and control fiberboards and are shown in Table 4.

436

437 **The results of the bending strength test (MOR)**

438 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆, R₉₁B₉) according to
439 the percentage of the bending strength test. Brief results of Table 4 were explained. The ratio
440 for this test was 0,68 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of bending
441 strength decreased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 26,81 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀.
442 Therefore, the percentage of bending strength decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 32,12 % for
443 R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of bending strength decreased for R₉₁B₉.

444 The mechanical properties of the MDF were significant in terms of bending strength. MDF is
445 required to be resistant to the places of use. It was made the bending strength according to the
446 relevant standard. All measurement results of the test boards were measured according to TS
447 EN 622-5 (2008) standard value. Fiber length was the most important factor affecting bending
448 strength. The fiber length and the fibers contact degree are increased with each other's fibers.
449 Thus, a more effective adhesion area is formed. It is boosted the bending strength of the board.
450 The softwood fiber length have between 6-7 mm. The hardwood fiber length have between 5
451 and 2 mm. The hardwood fiber wall thickness has thick and the lumen has narrow. This
452 negatively is affected fiber-to-fiber bonding and compression. The fiber wall of softwood has
453 got thin, lumen wide and ellipse. Therefore, it has affected the fiber-fiber bonding and
454 compression factors positively. The blond ratio of MDF to fiber-fiber has increased the tensile
455 strength.

456 Factors affecting surface quality and bending strength (MOR) of MDF are affected
457 which are the lignocellulosic raw material, the density of the raw material, fiber structures, fiber
458 sizes, fiber moisture content, type of glue, amount of glue, other chemical material, mat
459 moisture content, refiner fibrillation degree, amount of pulverizing water spray of up and down
460 of mat, prepress pressure, hot press type, hot press factors, hot press specific values, hot press
461 temperature, hot press pressure and hot press time.

462

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468

469 **Table 4:** The results of ANOVA and Duncan mean separation test for density and mechanical
 470 properties of the borax pentahydrate additive fiberboards and control fiberboard.

Board		Avg. ^x	Std.	Board		Avg. ^x	Std.
Borax pentahydrate			Deviation	Borax pentahydrate			Deviation
Modulus of elasticity (MOE) (MPa)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	3482,915 ^a	218,22	Surface screw holding ability (N)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	10,073 ^a	0,30
	R ₉₇ B ₃	3447,622 ^a	168,99		R ₉₇ B ₃	12,585 ^b	0,42
	R ₉₄ B ₆	2779,268 ^b	164,49		R ₉₄ B ₆	9,757 ^a	0,81
	R ₉₁ B ₉	2594,864 ^c	127,31		R ₉₁ B ₉	7,441 ^c	0,67
Bending strength (MOR) (MPa)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	36,894 ^a	2,44	Janka hardness (MPa)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	81,05 ^a	1,23
	R ₉₇ B ₃	36,647 ^a	1,55		R ₉₇ B ₃	79,60 ^b	2,23
	R ₉₄ B ₆	29,090 ^b	1,46		R ₉₄ B ₆	77,20 ^c	1,15
	R ₉₁ B ₉	27,921 ^c	1,58		R ₉₁ B ₉	78,50 ^d	2,04
Internal bond (IB) (MPa)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	0,586 ^a	0,03				
	R ₉₇ B ₃	0,579 ^a	0,06				
	R ₉₄ B ₆	0,538 ^b	0,08				
	R ₉₁ B ₉	0,246 ^c	0,05				

471 ^x: The average value of the samples. *95 % confidence interval for the average ANOVA. a, b, c, d values with the same letter are not different
 472 (Duncan's test).
 473

474 During hot pressing, draft (mat) moisture has an important factor. Mat humidity has
 475 included 12 %. At this humidity value, the top and bottom surfaces of the boards have
 476 plasticized during the hot press. It has transferred the press heat to the center of the board. The
 477 resin has become as a cure and the sheet has become stable. The most important factor in wood
 478 has the cellulose chain.

479

480

481

482 **The results of the internal bond test (IB)**

483 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
484 according to the percentage of internal bond (IB) test. The results of Table 4 were explained.
485 The ratio for this test was 1,03 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of
486 the internal bond decreased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 8,92 % for R₉₄B₆ according to
487 R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of the internal bond decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 138,20
488 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of the internal bond decreased for
489 R₉₁B₉. The IB strength of the board decreased as the amount of inorganic minerals increases.
490 The mechanical properties for the 9 % inorganic mineral added to board were the lowest
491 because borax pentahydrate inorganic filler minerals reduced fibers between contact and
492 adhesion strength. The increase in the density of MDF positively affected the internal bond of
493 the board. It was achieved optimum efficiency in the press diagram. MDF production was
494 applied the press diagram at Fig. 4. During pressing; temperature, pressure and time diagrams
495 were applied.

496

497 **The results of the modulus of elasticity test (MOE)**

498 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆), (R₉₁B₉) according
499 to the percentage of the modulus of elasticity test. The brief results of Table 4 were explained.
500 The ratio for this test was 1,02 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of
501 modulus of elasticity decreased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was 25,32 % for R₉₄B₆ according
502 to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of modulus of elasticity decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was
503 34,22 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of modulus of elasticity
504 decreased for R₉₁B₉. In MDF production, the fiber length increased the modulus of elasticity of
505 the board. The important factors affecting the modulus of elasticity were the chemical,
506 anatomical structure of wood, density, amount of extractive substance, extractive content, pH,

507 humidity of the mat fiber, press temperature, press pressure and timing diagram, respectively.
508 The more contact and sticking surface between the fibers, the greater the elasticity modulus
509 occurred. As the contact surface between the fibers and the area of adhesion decreases, the
510 elastic modulus of the board decreased. Akgul *et al* (2012) have measured the elasticity
511 modulus of the board produced burned pine woods between 2567-2733 (Mpa).

512

513 **The results of the surface screw holding ability test (N)**

514 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀, R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
515 according to the percentage of the surface screw holding ability test. The results were explained
516 in Table 4. The ratio for this test was 25,02 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the
517 percentage of the surface screw holding ability decreased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio was
518 3,23 % for R₉₄B₆ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of the surface screw holding
519 ability decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio was 37,37 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore,
520 the percentage of the surface screw holding ability decreased for R₉₁B₉. Screw holding
521 resistance was the most important for mechanical properties. It is related to the surface screw
522 holding strength of the board to the strength of the between fiber adhesive. The screw holding
523 test results are standardized in TS EN 622-5 (2008). As the amount of inorganic borax
524 pentahydrate increases in MDF, the surface screw holding ability decreased. Akgul *et al.* (2008)
525 have tested the surface screw holding strength of MDF produced from *Rhododendron ponticum*.
526 Wood fibers between 121,07-125,42 kp. Yorur *et al.* (2020) have explained that the highest
527 direct screw withdrawal resistance the test blocks with polyurethane and the lowest direct screw
528 withdrawal resistance the test blocks without a pilot hole drilled in both materials. According
529 to the results, medium density fiberboard was best measured direct screw withdrawal resistance
530 than particleboards.

531

532 **The results of janka hardness test**

533 There was a significant difference between (R₁₀₀B₀), (R₉₇B₃), (R₉₄B₆) and (R₉₁B₉)
534 according to the percentage of Jank hardness test. The results were explained in Table 4. The
535 ratio for this test decreased 1,82 % for R₉₇B₃ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of
536 Janka hardness decreased for R₉₇B₃. Similarly, the ratio decreased by 4,99 % for R₉₄B₆
537 according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of Janka hardness decreased for R₉₄B₆. The ratio
538 was 3,25 % for R₉₁B₉ according to R₁₀₀B₀. Therefore, the percentage of Janka hardness
539 decreased for R₉₁B₉. The high surface hardness of MDF is affected the Janka strength and
540 resistance properties of the board positively. The surface hardness of the MDF board was the
541 decisive factor for quality control surface Janka strength of MDF board, the density of the board
542 surface and the strength of the between fibers adhesive. Akgul *et al.* (2008) have tested the
543 surface Janka strength of MDF board from *Rhododendron ponticum*. Wood fibers between
544 73,08-79,83 MPa. The increase in the top and bottom density of the MDF board positively
545 affected the surface strength of the board. Akgul *et al* (2012) have measured the Janka strength
546 of the board produced burned pine woods between 72,40-77,90 (Mpa).

547 **The Combustion experiment results of MDF boards**

548 Table 5 are showed FIC, FIC lux, SC, SC lux, ESC, ESC lux ESC time and mass loss
549 experiments result according to ANOVA Duncan for MDF board which have additive borax
550 pentahydrate. The temperature measured as R₁₀₀B₀ (560,21 °C), R₉₇B₃ (491,91 °C), R₉₄B₆
551 (434,04 °C), R₉₁B₉ (428,91 °C) in the FIC experiment for the produced boards. The results of
552 Table 5 and Table 6 are explained. When the FIC temperature of 560,21°C for R₁₀₀B₀ boards
553 with the additive inorganic mineral was compared, it was increased the panel resistance 491,91
554 °C for R₉₇B₃ of FIC temperature as the amount of the additive inorganic mineral. It was
555 measured the 434,04 °C for R₉₄B₆ highest FIC temperature in the control board as 560,21 °C in
556 control board. The FIC temperature 428,91 °C for R₉₁B₉ board decreased as the amount of the

557 additive inorganic mineral in MDF increases. Therefore, the 428,91 °C heat is absorbed in
 558 MDF, which is produced with borax pentahydrate mineral, and R₉₁B₉ MDF board 428,91 °C
 559 has resistive properties against combustion.

560

561 **Table 5:** The statistical results for FIC, FIC lux, SC, SC lux, ESC, ESC lux ESC time and mass
 562 loss experiments of MDF board which have additive borax pentahydrate according to ANOVA
 563 Duncan.

Board		Avg. ^x	Std.	Board		Avg. ^x	Std.	
Borax pentahydrate			Deviation	Borax pentahydrate			Deviation	
FIC	Temperature (°C)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	560,21 ^a	17,98	FIC (lux)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	309,00 ^a	2,83
		R ₉₇ B ₃	491,91 ^b	5,07		R ₉₇ B ₃	251,04 ^b	9,72
		R ₉₄ B ₆	434,04 ^c	2,89		R ₉₄ B ₆	241,62 ^b	7,36
		R ₉₁ B ₉	428,91 ^c	18,15		R ₉₁ B ₉	239,04 ^b	2,53
SC	Temperature (°C)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	662,57 ^a	6,64	SC (lux)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	302,42 ^a	24,86
		R ₉₇ B ₃	634,89 ^{ab}	8,50		R ₉₇ B ₃	281,75 ^a	3,89
		R ₉₄ B ₆	559,93 ^b	42,61		R ₉₄ B ₆	285,68 ^a	0,88
		R ₉₁ B ₉	450,47 ^c	37,96		R ₉₁ B ₉	271,04 ^a	20,39
ESC	Temperature (°C)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	652,57 ^a	18,99	ESC (lux)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	302,57 ^a	19,19
		R ₉₇ B ₃	400,58 ^b	1,29		R ₉₇ B ₃	281,16 ^a	8,25
		R ₉₄ B ₆	353,75 ^b	33,59		R ₉₄ B ₆	226,12 ^b	23,16
		R ₉₁ B ₉	237,50 ^c	24,75		R ₉₁ B ₉	250,00 ^{ab}	21,21
ESC	Time (minute)	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	64,33 ^a	0,95	Mass loss %	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	96,35 ^a	0,07
		R ₉₇ B ₃	68,25 ^b	1,06		R ₉₇ B ₃	95,75 ^a	0,21
		R ₉₄ B ₆	71,50 ^c	0,00		R ₉₄ B ₆	94,45 ^b	0,64
		R ₉₁ B ₉	58,50 ^d	0,71		R ₉₁ B ₉	91,15 ^c	0,21

564 x: average value of samples, * 95 % confidence interval for average ANOVA a,b,c,d values with the same letter are different (Duncan's test).

565 Table 6 are showed FIC temperature, FIC lux, SC temperature, SC lux, IST temperature,
 566 IST time, IST lux, FC temperature, FC time, FC lux, IST time and mass loss experiments result
 567 according to ANOVA Duncan for MDF board having additive borax pentahydrate. SC
 568 temperatures were measured as 662,57 °C for R₁₀₀B₀, 634,89 °C for R₉₇B₃, 559,93 °C for R₉₄B₆,
 569 450,47 °C for R₉₁B₉ in the SC temperature experiment. The value of temperature 450,47 °C
 570 decreased and this reduction was responsible for the chemical properties of the borax
 571 pentahydrate mineral. ESC temperatures were measured as 65,57 °C for R₁₀₀B₀, 400,58 °C for
 572 R₉₇B₃, 353,75 °C for R₉₄B₆, and 237,50 °C for R₉₁B₉ in the ESC temperature experiment. ESC
 573 temperature decreased as the ratio of inorganic mineral usage increases. ESC Time results were
 574 64,33 minute for R₁₀₀B₀, 68,25 minute for R₉₇B₃, 71,50 minute for R₉₄B₆, 58,75 minute for
 575 R₉₁B₉. The R₉₁B₉ boards have lowest test results.

576

577 **Table 6:** Combustion experiment of additive borax pentahydrate MDF boards.

578

Board	FIC Average.		SC Average.		ESC Average.		IST Average			FC Average			IST Minute	Mass loss (%)
	Temp ^x (°C)	(Lux)	Temp ^x (°C)	(Lux)	Temp ^x (°C)	(Lux)	Temp ^x (°C)	Time (minute)	(Lux)	Temp ^x (°C)	Time (Minute)	(Lux)		
	R ₁₀₀ B ₀	560,1	309	662,58	302,42	652,57	302,57	654	150,0	321,0	614,0	540,0	1,0	64,3
R ₉₇ B ₃	491,92	251,04	634,89	281,75	400,58	281,17	603,5	315,0	286,0	348,0	765,0.	81,5	71,5	5,70
R ₉₄ B ₆	434,04	241,63	559,93	285,68	353,75	226,13	575,5	240,0	287,5	320,0	540,0	28,0	67,0	4,50
R ₉₁ B ₉	428,92	239,04	450,47	271,04	237,5	250,0	365,0	260,5	260,5	237,5	465,0	50,0	58,75	1,10

579 x: average value of temperature

580

581 FIC lux was measured as 309,00 lux for R₁₀₀B₀, 25,04 lux for R₉₇B₃, 241,62 lux for
 582 R₉₄B₆, 239,04 lux for R₉₁B₉ in FIC lux experiment. FIC light density decreased and released

583 dark fog as the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate materials increases in the additive
584 MDF. SC lux was measured as 302,42 lux for R₁₀₀B₀, 281,75 lux for R₉₇B₃, 285,68 lux for
585 R₉₄B₆, 271,04 lux for R₉₁B₉ in SC lux experiment. ESC lux experiment was tested 302,57 lux
586 for R₁₀₀B₀, 281,16 lux R₉₇B₃, 226,12 lux R₉₄B₆, 250,00 lux R₉₁B₉. As the amount of borax
587 pentahydrate minerals increases, the dark fog density of ESC decreased. The mass loss of tests
588 of boards was measured using Eq. (2). The mass loss experiment was measured 96,35 % for
589 R₁₀₀B₀, 95,75 % for R₉₇B₃, 94,45 % for R₉₄B₆, 91,15 % for R₉₁B₉. As the amount of borax
590 pentahydrate minerals increases in MDF measured resistance to fire increased. According to
591 combustion results, ash amount was more increased

592

593

CONCLUSIONS

594 As the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate increases in MDF production, both the
595 percentage of TS-2h, WA-2h and the percentage of TS-24h, WA-24h increased.

596 The pH and chemical structure of the borax pentahydrate mineral is suitable for the production
597 of the MDF board.

598 As the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate increases in MDF production physical
599 and mechanical properties decreased. The geometrical structure of borax pentahydrate
600 inorganic filler minerals reduced between fibers contact and adhesion strength.

601 As the amount of inorganic borax pentahydrate increases in MDF, the surface total color
602 difference of the board acceptable limits decreased in terms of the result of color parameters
603 according to the control board. However The total color difference and whiteness (black-white
604 color change) over the surface board increased.

605 The combustion experiments were revealed positive results according to FIC, SC, ESC,
606 FIC lux, SC lux, ESC lux, IST and mass loss. According to test results, The resistance to
607 combustion increased as the amount of the inorganic additive minerals increases.

608 It is suggested that borax pentahydrate per cent 3 % use instead of biomass fiber in MDF
609 production. It is suggested that borax pentahydrate per cent 9% use against combustion in MDF
610 manufacture.

611

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