



## EFFECT OF ACTIVE CARBON OF COFFEE ROBUSTA WASTE (*Coffea Robusta Lindl.*) IN REDUCING IRON OF PEAT WATER

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**Abstract:** Peat water has a distinctive dark brown or yellow color, low pH, it tastes sour, high organic matter content, high levels of iron and manganese. One of the ways that can be used to reduce the levels of iron in peat water is doing adsorption process by using activated carbon coffee waste because the coffee waste included organic ingredients. The purpose of this research was to identify the influence of the concentration of activated carbon robusta coffee waste (*Coffea robusta Lindl.*) against the iron levels in peat water. This research uses the draft Posttest-Only Control Group Design. Manufacture of activated carbon robusta coffee waste (*Coffea robusta Lindl.*) consists of the processes of dehydration, carbonization, and activation, with the results 25.9% of rendement, 14.05% water content, a rate of 9.9% ash, and iod absorbance 647.19 mg/g. Activated carbon coffee waste added to 100 ml of peat water as much as 3 gr, 4.5 gr, and 6 gr with the stirring speed 400 rpm for 60 minutes obtained early iron levels of 2.75 mg/L and dropped to 1.19 mg/L, 1.02 mg/L, and 0.95 mg/L. Conclusions This study is there is the influence of the concentration of activated carbon robusta coffee waste (*Coffea robusta Lindl.*) against the iron level of peat water iron and frequency of 6 gr as a concentration of the best efficiency adsorption of 65.4% because it can reduce the levels of iron in 100 ml of peat water from 2.75 mg/L to 0.95 mg/L. By regulation of the Minister of health RI No. 416/Menkes/PER/IX/1990 namely of 1.0 mg/L. Suggestions for further research to improve the heating temperature and concentration of the activator to obtain active carbon absorption .

**Keywords:** activated carbon; coffee waste; peat water; iron levels

### INTRODUCTION

Indonesia has an extensive peatland which is about 20.6 million hectares or 10.8% of Indonesia's land area, mostly in Sulawesi 3%, Papua 30%, Kalimantan 32% and Sumatra 35%. Peat swampland is a swampland dominated by peat soil. Peat soil is a water-saturated soil, composed of organic soil material in the form of plant residue and plant tissue that has decomposed with a thickness of more than 50 cm (Suriadikarta, 2008; Mubeksti, 2011; Herman, 2016).

The water contained in peat soil characterized by high color intensity (yellow or dark brown), low pH between 3-4, acid taste, high organic matter content, iron content (Fe) and manganese (Mn) is high. Not only that, residents who live in peatlands are getting harder to get clean water when the dry season arrives because the taste of the water becomes salty

(Suriadikarta, 2005; Pahlevi, 2009).

One of the areas in South Kalimantan that has peatlands is Gambut Sub-district, Banjar district. Some citizen in Gambut sub-district still uses well water and river water because they have not received clean water service from PDAM. Therefore, a preliminary test was conducted using two samples of peat water on Handil Durian street and A. Yani street Km. 14.7 so that the value of the iron content of 3.67 - 5.25 mg/L. These results suggest that the dissolved iron content in peat water in Gambut sub-district exceeds the maximum limit outlined in Regulation of the Minister of Health No. RI. 416/Menkes/PER/IX/1990 which amounted to 1.0 mg/L.

Excess iron content (Fe) is very harmful to the body. Excess Iron (Fe) can cause poisoning, with symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea and intestinal damage.

Therefore, to be used for daily activities, there must be a way to reduce the iron (Fe) content contained in peat water. One of the ideas that can be used to overcome this problem is by the adsorption process using activated carbon because it considered more effective, comfortable, and financing is relatively cheap compared with other methods (Huda et al., 2015).

Many materials that can make into activated carbon one of which is the coffee grounds. According to Sugiharto in Irmanto and Suyata (2009), coffee grounds include organic materials that can make into activated carbon for use as adsorbents or absorbent materials. Coffee waste is usually more discarded because it is considered waste, but actually, coffee grounds can utilize as activated carbon that will add value function as an adsorbent to increase the carrying capacity to the environment, especially in the climate of peat swamp land. This study aims to determine the usefulness of activated carbon from coffee grounds as an adsorbent in lowering iron (Fe) in peat water.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research was true-experiment with posttest only control group design (Notoadmodjo, 2010). The controls were performed using peatless water samples (0 g). Posttest completed by the addition of activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) weighing 3 grams; 4.5 gr; 6 grams in 100 ml of peat water sample. Measurement of peat iron water level using UV-Vis Spectrophotometer method after the addition of activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.).

The activation of activated carbon coffee grounds by robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) dried in the sun for one day. 210 gram of coffee spilled in the furnace at 450 ° C for 45 minutes. After the drying process is complete, the coffee grounds are sieved with a mesh size of 100 mesh then allowed to cool and stored in a desiccator. Activated carbon immersed in a 2 M HCl activating solution for 48 hours and then drained and washed with distillate water until neutral and then dried in the oven at 100 ° C for 4 hours to remove water content.

The measurement of rendemen of activated carbon calculated by comparing the

weight of the coffee waste before carbonization and the weight after carbonization. Measurement the moisture content is carried out by weighing 1 gram of activated carbon inserted into a weighed porcelain cup and known by weight. Porcelain cup containing activated carbons was introduced into the oven at 105°C for 3 hours, cooled in a desiccator and weighed in mass. Measurement The ash content is carried out by holding one gram of activated carbon inserted into a weighted and weighted porcelain plate, permitted in a furnace at 400° C for 2 hours or until all becomes ash, cooled in a desiccator and weighed in mass.

Test the absorption of activated carbon to iodine by weighing 0.5 grams of active carbon and moving it into a dark and closed place. Added 50 ml of 0.1 N iodine solution then shaken for 15 minutes then filtered. The filtrate is piped 10 ml into the Erlenmeyer and titrated with 0.1 N sodium thiosulfate solution. If the yellow color of the solution is almost gone, the starch indicator added, the titration is continued until the blue color disappears (Rizki et al., 2015; Huda et al., 2015).

The treatment of activated carbon dregs of coffee grounds in peat water by preparing 100 ml of peat water into beaker glass, added activated carbon powder of coffee cake with 3 gr content; 4.5 gr; 6 gr in each glass, stirring with Stuart Scientific orbital shaker at 400 rpm for 1 hour, silenced for 2 hours, then filtered using filter paper, transferred to erlenmeyer and 3 times iron measurements taken using UV-spectrophotometer Vis.

Examination of iron content in water with a 5.0 ml memipet sample using clinipet then put into a test tube. Added 3 drops of Fe-1 reagent with upright, allowed to stand perpendicularly for 3 minutes for reaction time until red violet is formed. Measured by UV-Vis spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 510 nm.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Active Carbon Quality Standards

The results of character analysis of water content and ash content in activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) Fulfill SNI requirement but very close to maximum limit. In this research, the temperature of heating with oven 105 ° C for 3 hours was obtained by the water content of 14.05%, close to the makismum limit of 15% (table 1).

In the process of carbonization the results obtained in the form of carbon that is still covered with gas, carbon tar and ash. To expand the pores of activated activated carbon, which in this study using 2M HCl activator. The activator will seep into the activated carbon opening the previously closed surface, breaking the hydrocarbon bonds and separating the carbon from other compounds (Sinaga, 2014). The type and concentration of the activator can influence the activator's effectiveness in opening the pore of activated carbon and in this study the activation with HCl 2 M still leaves 9.9% ash which is not separated from the maximum limit of 10%.

The absorptive quality as well as the pore surface area can be known by Iod absorption test. The greater the absorption value of Iod the greater the adsorption power of the activated carbon. It also means that Iod absorption is related to the heating temperature as well as the type and concentration of the activator. The results of this study indicate the absorption of iod of 647.19 mg/g is still below the minimum limit of 750 mg/g.

Table 1. Results of Active Carbon Parameter Analysis

Parameter	SNI No. 06-3730-1995	Analysis Results
Rendemen	-	25.9 %
Moisture Content	Max. 15%	14.05%
Ash Content	Max. 10%	9.9%
Iod Absorption	Min. 750 mg/g	647.19 mg/g

### Reduction in Iron Content

In this study, the activated carbon with the absorption capacity of iod below the minimum SNI limit of 647.19 mg / g, therefore, to increase the absorption of the effort can be done is to add the concentration of activated carbon, because the more active carbon used, the more pore which can absorb iron. With the absorption capacity of 647.19 mg / g used up to 6 grams of activated carbon to be able to reduce 2.75 mg / L iron content to 0.95 mg / L and has been by the Regulation of the Minister of Health RI. 416 / Menkes / PER / IX / 1990 which is the standard quality of dissolved iron in water of 1.0 mg / L. While at concentrations of 3 gr and 4.5 gr only obtained the decrease of 1.19 mg / L and 1.02 mg / L (figure 1). The less carbon used in 100 ml of water allows for more water to increase the value and value of

activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (Coffea robusta Lindl.).

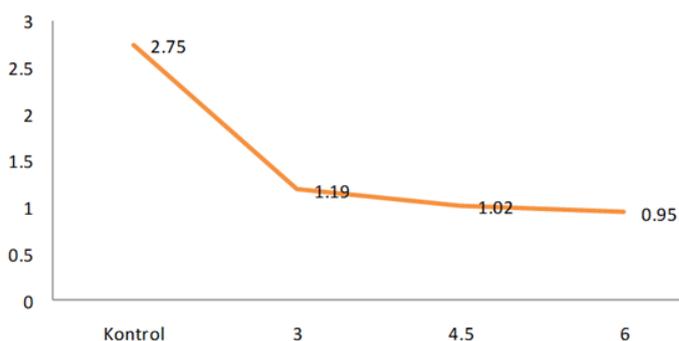


Figure 1. Effect of activated carbon from Robusta coffee pulp (Coffea robusta Lindl.) to decrease the iron content

The reduction in iron levels that have not been optimal with the addition of activated carbon may be influenced by several factors. In this study, controls of other compounds such as Al, Mn, Zn, and Cu are not present in peat water so as to interfere with the absorption of activated carbon to iron, whereas activated carbon has a very active property to absorb chemicals, heavy metals, whether in the form of gas or liquid contact with it. In addition, in the adsorption process there are other factors that can not be controlled and very potential to disrupt the course of adsorption adsorption molecule size. The tug-of-war between molecules gets larger as the molecular size approaches the pore size of activated carbon. So it is likely that compounds with molecular size closer to the pore size of activated carbon adsorbed earlier than iron.

In this study, the concentration of 6 gr is the best concentration of activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (Coffea robusta Lindl.) To reduce the iron content in peat water, because the concentration of 6 gr has the highest adsorption efficiency of 65,4% peat water from 2.75 mg/L to 0.95 mg/L (figure 2). The content is in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Health RI No. 416 / Menkes / PER / IX / 1990 which is the standard quality of dissolved iron in water of 1.0 mg/L.

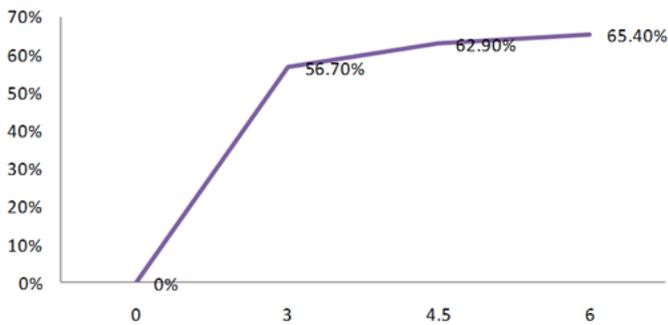


Figure 2. Percentage of Efficiency Improvement of Activated Carbon Concentration of Robusta Coffee Basin (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) on Iron Content

Based on statistical test results using Friedman test followed by Wilcoxon test reading decrease iron content on 100 ml of peat water with the addition of activated carbon of 3.0 gr; 4.5 gr; and 6.0 g showed a significant difference at each concentration where a significance value of 0,000 obtained which means less than  $\alpha$ , where  $\alpha = 0.05$ . In the Linear Regression test the result of decreasing iron content in 100 ml of peat water with the addition of activated carbon of 3.0 gr; 4.5 gr; and 6.0 gr indicate that there is significant influence seen on significance value 0.000 ( $<0.05$ ) and regression equation  $y = 2.520 - 0.309x$  where  $y$  = iron content and  $x$  = active carbon concentration and  $R^2 = 0.660$ . With this,  $H_0$  is rejected because  $P < \alpha$  which means there is an effect of the addition of activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) To the peat water level of peat water.

From the statistic test results, the activated carbon of Robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) Has a significant influence on the decrease of iron content that is equal to 65.4% ( $P$  value  $<0.05$ ), so the result of this research is beneficial for society because it can be used with easy on peat water without special treatment of compounds other than iron and has a significant influence in lowering iron levels.

## CONCLUSION

There is an effect of the addition of activated carbon of robusta coffee pulp (*Coffea robusta* Lindl.) To the reduction of the iron water level of peat water by 0.95 mg / L with 65.4% adsorption efficiency with 0.000 significance.

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