

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A MOBILE PADDY COLLECTION

AND BAGGING MACHINE

BY

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A final year project is submitted to the department of chemical and process engineering in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the bachelor's degree.



ABSTRACT

This project report describes the design, construction and fabrication of a mobile paddy collecting bagging machine which is engine driven. The reason of developing the design and construction paddy collecting and bagging machine is to enable us reduce expenses on labor in paddy collecting and bagging, proneness of paddy due to un predictable weather changes and fatigue faced in the current methods. Mobile paddy rice collector and bagging consist of the main shaft, together with the screw conveyors and the driver roller/ pulley for the elevator is lowered just a few millimeters from the concreate flow. As the main shaft rotates, it rotates together with its components, the screw conveyors collect, convey and heap the paddy on to the moving buckets of the elevator inclined at an angle. The buckets dig through the heap, scoop and convey the paddy within the elevator carcass to the discharge hood where bagging takes place. Also, in the operation of the machine, the brushes setup sweeps the un-conveyed paddy towards the screw conveyor to avoid losses. The performance tests carried out on the developed machine showed an efficiency of 70.7% and an actual throughput of 6T/hr at a speed of 2 m/s, design and construct a low-cost mobile paddy bagging and collecting machine from locally available material for medium and large-scale paddy producers and millers can be affordable.

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DECLARATION.

This piece of work in this project report is entirely and absolutely the results of my personal struggles and tremendous work done during this period and has not been submitted anywhere else by any other person.

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APPROVAL

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This project is submitted to the department of chemical and process Engineering for examination with approval of my supervisors and the contents are satisfactory for the award of the degree.

Supervisor.

Mr. Menya James

Signature:

Date: /...... /.....

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LIST OF ACRONAMES

ÚBOS	Uganda Beaurea of satistics
MT	Metric turns
ha	hectare
UV	ultraviolet light
ROI	Rate of return on investment
NPV	Net present value.

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1 CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.

1.1 Background.

Rice (*Oryza sativa L.*) is one of the most important cereals cultivated worldwide, constituting the basic food for large number of human beings, sustaining two-thirds of the world population (Prashant, 2012). Rice is the major source starch, proteins, vitamins and essential minerals in the human health. Uganda's production area is presently 140,000 ha and total annual rice production stands at 140,000 MT of milled rice representing about 70% of the national rice demand estimated to be 200,000 MT (Odokonyero, 2009). Rice post-harvest handling and value addition chain in Uganda involves different unit operations like threshing, drying, collection and bagging, milling and packaging. paddy growing and value addition chain is a very labor-intensive process with various hectic activities including threshing, spreading, collection and bagging of threshed paddy during sun drying on tarpaulins, pavements and concrete floors. They further urged that government (perhaps through partnership with the private sector) needs to facilitate farmers to acquire labor saving farm equipment and tools (Irri, 2013).

In Uganda, drying of paddy in medium and large-scale producers and millers is done by traditional open sun drying with drying mechanisms ranging from spreading the crop thin-layer (2 - 5 cm) on firmed ground, on plastic sheeting (mainly tarpaulin), woven mats. In large scale paddy production units such as those at Olweny, Doho and Kibimba paddy schemes, formal drying on concrete floors is being employed. Due to its cheap access, it continued to be a major drying procedure in Uganda for some time to come (Odogola, 2006).

In the current drying method, collection and bagging of paddy is done manually using collecting sticks and hoes, it is heaped at various points of the drying yards then plastic and wooden shovels are used to tip the paddy into baskets and other containers which are the carried manually and the paddy is tipped into the bags. (Patil., 2016) The method is labor intensive, takes a lot of time, encourages human long exposure to UV light from the sun. It makes the crop prone due to sudden whether changes due to its time-consuming operation. Though sunshine is free of charge, the method is more expensive in terms of labor and time. The purpose of this study is therefore to design and construct a low-cost mobile paddy bagging and collecting machine from locally available material for medium and large-scale paddy producers and millers to bridge the gaps identified above.

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