

USER FRIENDLY NATURAL DYES FOR PRINTED TEXTILES

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Abstract

In recent years, natural dyes have been gaining popularity in the textile and craft industries as it believed to be ecologically friendly. Various researches have been carried out to explore the natural dyes for textile dyeing but not for textile printing. The textile craft and practitioners in Malaysia except in countries like India have not practiced printing with natural dyes extensively. Furthermore, the processes involved in preparing natural dyes for textile printing are tedious, time consuming and some of the plants and fruits are seasonal. Therefore, this research aims to develop a range of user-friendly natural dyes for textile printing. The objectives of this research are to identify and convert the potential dye-yielding plants, fruits and vegetables into powder form and experiment using different types of mordants and thickeners with natural dyes to obtain various colours and shades with good colourfastness and light fastness.

Keywords: *Powdered natural dyes, Mordant, Thickeners, Textile printing*