

ONLINE ISSN : 1880-7577 PRINT ISSN : 0021-4795

Mokuzai Gakkaishi Vol. 51 (2005) , No. 4 p.207-217

[Image PDF (1059K)] [References]

Efficient Utilization of Woody Biomass with Supercritical Fluid Technologies

Shiro SAKA¹), Katsunobu EHARA¹) and Eiji MINAMI¹)

1) Graduate School of Energy Science, Kyoto University

(Received March 30, 2005) (Accepted May 2, 2005)

Abstract: Due to human activities of mass-production, mass-consumption and mass-waste, environmental issues such as global warming and acid rain have become increasingly serious in the world. In such environmental situations, biomass resources, which are renewable, carbon-neutral and remarkably abundant on earth, are becoming important as an alternative to fossil resources. For the chemical conversion of biomass resources, on the other hand, supercritical fluid has recently received attention as a new reaction field due to its unique properties. In this paper, therefore, current progress in research and development of environmentally benign supercritical fluid technologies is introduced for the chemical conversion of lignocellulosics into valuable liquid fuels and chemicals.

Keywords: bioenergy, biomass, wood, lignocellulosics, supercritical fluid

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Shiro SAKA, Katsunobu EHARA and Eiji MINAMI: Mokuzai Gakkaishi Vol. 51, No. 4, 207-217 (2005) .

doi:10.2488/jwrs.51.207 JOI JST.JSTAGE/jwrs/51.207

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