

THE EFFECT OF JOJOBA OIL –DIESEL FUEL BLENDS ON COMBUSTION AND EXHAUST GASES EMISSIONS FOR TRACTOR DIESEL ENGINES

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ABSTRACT

Experiments were designed to study the effect of blends of jojoba oil with diesel fuel on tractor emission characters. Exhaust gases emission tests were conducted for agricultural tractor running on the 0, 20, 40, 60 and 80% jojoba-diesel fuels as compared to pure petroleum diesel fuel under typical field tillage operation at different forward speeds (1.75 , 2.60 and 4.85 km/h).

The chemical analysis of Jojoba oil revealed that it contains low carbon atoms and oxygen atoms in its chemical structure, so it produced complete combustion and decreased the emitted toxic gases which lower environmental pollution because it is an oxidizing agent.

The increase in jojoba oil blended ratio more than 20% leads to increase fuel viscosity which decreases the engine power and incomplete combustion which leads to increase environmental pollution.

The utilization of jojoba-diesel blend 20% (J20) gave significant reduction in total hydrocarbon (THC), carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogenous oxides (NO_x) gases emissions, which have positive effect on environment.

Using jojoba oil blend 20% (J20) improved the combustion efficiency to 80% at tractor forward speeds, which gave better performance of the tractor engine and decreased emission of toxic gases.

Key words: *Jojoba oil, Diesel engines, Alternative fuel, Exhaust emissions.*

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INTRODUCTION

The world is presently confronted with three dramatic crises of growing energy demand, raising food prices, and environmental degradation. These crises are attributed to four dilemmas simultaneously colliding, all resulting from the patterns of increasing consumption and near depleting reserves of fossil fuels.

Jjoba oil has become one of the most genuinely Egyptian products (Salem, 2000). Jjoba oil and its derivatives have found different applications and are used in fields of cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and lubricants.

Research work over the last few decades has greatly expanded our knowledge of how to recognize and meet renewable energy requirements. However, the industry's adoption of biodiesel has probably has greatest impact on use efficiency of plant biodiesel.

The triggering factors have spurred scientific community to interest in looking for alternative fuel sources and renewable energy to be supportive for the provision of basic human needs from liquid fuels and also achieve food and energy security as well as the protecting and preservation of the environment (World Energy Outlook 2016). Therefore the renewable energy including biofuel had and still have a vital role in achieving the objectives of sustainable development at the global level and in particular Egypt (INP, 2008).

Using vegetable oils as a fuel for diesel engines is a must (Tahir et al. 1982). However, despite the technical feasibility, vegetable oil as fuel could not get acceptance, as they were more expensive than petroleum fuels (Peterson et al , 1983, Peterson, 1986, Pramanik,2003 and Ramadhas et al. 2004). Later the various factors as stated earlier, created renewed interest of researchers in vegetable oil as substitute fuel for diesel engines. (Alton et al. 2001) and (Herchel et al. 2001) used vegetable oils such as sunflower, peanut oil, soybean oil, Jatropha and their derivatives as alternative fuel. The recent upward trend in oil prices due to suspicion in outfit of petroleum products shortage and eventually depletion has a great impact on economy that has to look for alternatives to incur the growth rate (Demirbas, 2007).

Development of sources of biofuels could be a major milestone in Egypt's efforts to harness available energy resources, and promote the use of renewable energy as a long-term strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change.

The aim of this study is to investigate the optimum jojoba oil percentage in the petroleum diesel that can be used with tractor diesel engines and reduce the emission of exhaust toxic gases.

Combustion and exhaust emissions of diesel engine

Diesel engine emissions firstly depend on the engine design and operating conditions. Of course fuel property is very affective on the composition of exhaust emissions. Fig. (1) shows the formation of emissions for complete and incomplete combustions.

The emission of gases and particles covered by legislation are produced by incomplete combustion which are:

1. Carbon monoxide (CO),
2. Carbon (C) (form of smoke)
3. Total hydrocarbons (THC)
4. Nitrogen monoxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), considered as NO_x. (Martyr and Plint, 2007)

Emission formation also depends on the design of combustion chamber and injectors. Soot and unburned hydrocarbons are formed during premixing and mixing control phases. Formation of NO_x is depending on combustion temperature and mixture ratio. Combustion temperature should exceed 1800K for the formation of NO_x. The mixture has much more oxygen concentration which means that particle matter and hydrocarbons formation rate are reduced.

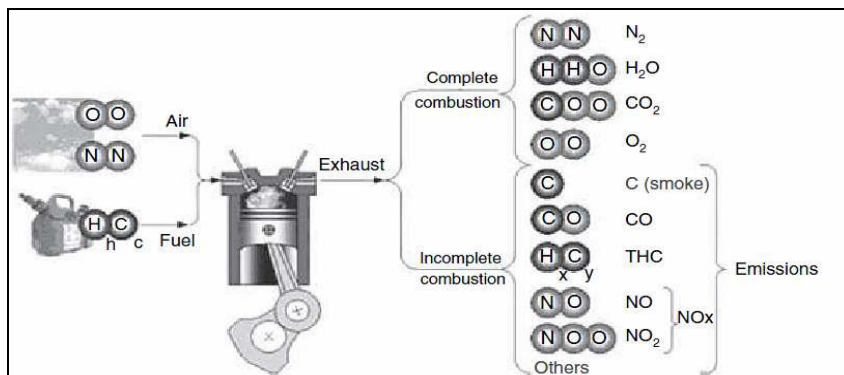


Fig. 1. Gaseous components of combustion processes

MATERIALS AND METHODS

MATERIALS

1. Jojoba oil

Jojoba oil consists mainly of C_{20:1} (70.7 %), C_{22:1} (14.1 %), palmitic acid (1.6 %), oleic acid (11.2 %) and C_{24:1} (1.6 %). Jojoba oil composed mainly of straight chain monoesters of C₂₀ and C₂₂ acids and alcohols with two double bonds.

Jojoba oil is almost free of oil triglycerides which indicate that jojoba oil is different from all known oilseed crops since it is not a fat but a liquid ester wax. Therefore, jojoba oil is unique non edible oil among other plant oils. The oil wax is a mixture of compounds. Each compound is made from 3 elements – carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. One of the compounds in the mixture has the formula C₄₂H₈₀O₂. It has 42 carbon atoms, 80 hydrogen atoms and 2 oxygen atoms strongly joined together.

2. Fuel blends preparation

Blending of jojoba oil with diesel fuel was prepared in the laboratory. Different blend ratios were selected for measurements and evaluation. These blend ratios were 0, 20, 40, 60 and 80 percent by volume of jojoba oil in a mixture of jojoba oil and diesel fuel. They are referred to as blends jojoba oil with diesel fuel of J0, J20, J40, J60, and J80 respectively. These abbreviations are adopted throughout the present study.

Jojoba oil was analyzed to determine physical characteristics according to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM, 2008). The physical characteristics of jojoba oil were compared with pure diesel fuel and its blends with diesel fuel.

b. Experimental Equipment

1. Tractor

Tractor diesel engine performance tests were carried out in tractors and agricultural machinery testing station in agricultural engineering research Institute. Some technical specifications of the tested tractor are presented in Table (1).

2-Exhaust emissions measurement

Emissions tests were conducted for agricultural tractor running on different jojoba oil blends with diesel fuel under typical field tillage operation. The test unit was tractor and mounted 9-shank chisel plough.

The unit was operated at three forward speeds (1.75, 2.60, 4.85 km/h) in a clay soil where the plot area was 300 x36 m. The sample probe of the gas analyzer was put in tail pipe of the tractor test unit. First the test unit was running with no-load at engine speed 2000 rpm.

The measurements of the tractor exhaust gaseous emissions were carried out in Cairo University Center for Environmental Hazard Mitigation (CEHM), using a Land Instruments Lancom Series III portable flue gas analyzer as shown in Fig. (2).

Table (1). Technical specifications of the tested tractor

Model	Helwan 35-IMT
Type of engine	Four stroke ,direct injection, naturally aspirated, air-cooled
Engine power ,kW	27.20
Rated Engine speed ,rpm	2700
Compression ratio	17: 1
Number of cylinders	3
Bore × stroke , mm	105X 125
Injection pump	In-Line Injection Pump

The portable gas analyzer is capable of measuring total hydrocarbon (THC), carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), Sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and oxygen (O₂). It also measures and displays the ambient air temperature, exhaust gas temperature and combustion efficiency. Exhaust gases concentrations for NO_x, SO₂, CO, and THC were measured in units of ppm, while CO₂ and O₂ were measured in percentage. The unit has ±2% accuracy.

The exhaust gas samples were taken from 40 mm diameter tailpipe downstream of the exhaust manifold into the analyzer via a sample probe connected to the input connection on the back of the analyzer. All the parameters of exhaust gases emissions were measured instantaneously in real time as spot readings at one hour. Each reading was an average of three spot measurements. The exhaust gases measurements were performed during typical working day for the following operations:

1. The test unit running without load.
2. The test unit running on first gear, second gear and third gear for tillage operation at 1.75, 2.6 and 4.85 km/h, respectively.



Fig.2. portable gas analyzer

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effect of jojoba oil-diesel blends ratio on exhaust gases

The effect of the jojoba-diesel blends ratio on a tractor exhaust gases emissions were studied by using blends of 20, 40, and 60%. The ratio 80% was discarded because it increases the blend viscosity which caused distribution in atomizing jojoba-diesel fuel. The parameters of the tractor gases emissions were measured using jojoba blends and compared with using 100% diesel fuel at three forward speeds under typical field tillage operation. The exhaust gases analysis are discussed as follows.

1. Exhaust gas temperature

Fig. (3) shows the increase in the exhaust gas temperature with increasing forward speed of the tractor. The exhaust gas temperature reflects the status of combustion inside the combustion chamber. In all cases, the exhaust gas temperature decreased with increasing the percentage by volume of the jojoba oil in the fuel blends.

The highest value of exhaust gas temperature of 397 °C was observed with the diesel fuel at the second forward speed of tractor (2.6 km/h). On the other hand, value with J60 was 320 °C only.

The reduction in the exhaust gas temperature for the jojoba blends may be attributed to the lower calorific value of jojoba oil comparing with that of pure diesel therefore, increasing the percentage of jojoba oil in blend decreased the calorific value of the blend which results in reducing heat release during the combustion process.

2. Combustion efficiency

Figure (4) shows the increase in the combustion efficiency with increasing forward speed. The values of combustion efficiency for both jojoba blends (J40 and J60) are lower than that for diesel fuel. Due to the higher viscosity of these blends which causes limited atomization and distribution which affects the combustion efficiency and decreases the oxidization rate. The maximum value of combustion efficiency was observed with jojoba blend (J20) at second gear (2.6 km/h), which may be due to the beneficial effect of J20 as an oxygenated fuel catalyst as mentioned before with improving the thermal efficiency.

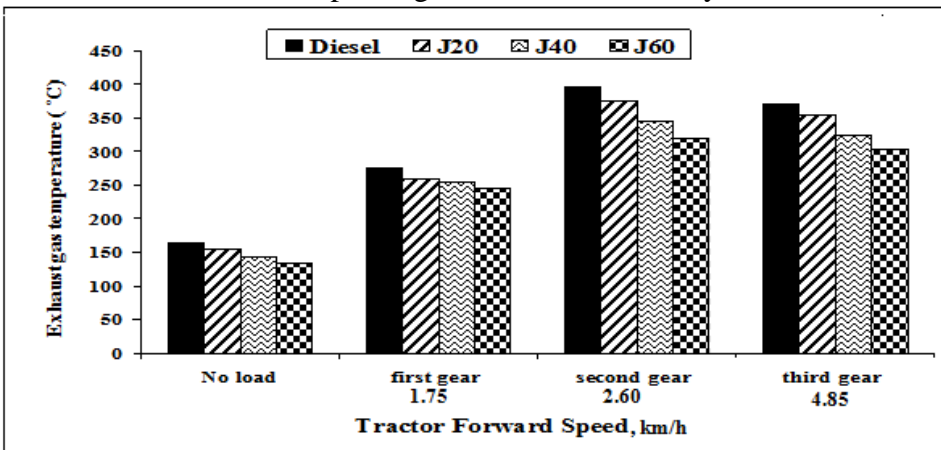


Fig. 3. The variation of exhaust gas temperature versus tractor forward speed for diesel fuel and different blends of jojoba

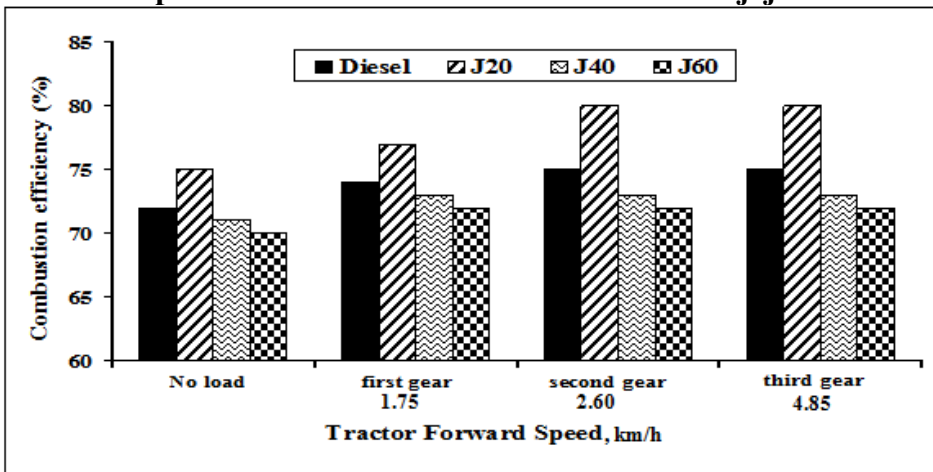


Fig.4. The variation of combustion efficiency versus tractor forward speed for diesel fuel and different blends of jojoba

3. Carbon monoxide emission

Carbon monoxide (CO) emission is a measure of incomplete combustion due to either inadequate oxygen or insufficient time for the completion of the reaction. The variation in the CO emissions for all tested fuels versus tractor forward speed is shown in Fig. (5). It can be noticed that the CO concentration rate (ppm) was reduced with tractor speed due to the increase in engine temperature which increases oxidization rate of CO to CO₂. The emission values of CO increased with the increase of jojoba oil percentage in the fuel blend.

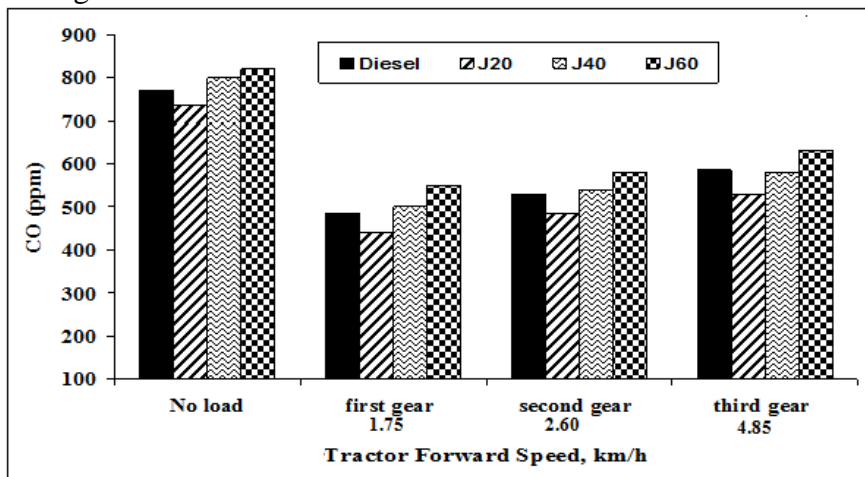


Fig. 5. Effect of tractor forward speed on CO emissions for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends.

Fig. (5) shows that whether the tractor was tested on load or no loads condition, CO concentrations with blends J40 and J60 were slightly higher than that of diesel fuel, due to the higher viscosity of these blends which causes insufficient atomization and distribution. This state affected the combustion efficiency and decreased the oxidization rate to convert all carbon in these blends to carbon dioxide. This result agrees with (Herchel *et al.* 2001), as CO emissions increased when the coconut oil amount increased in the diesel fuel blends, due to the poor spray characteristics of coconut oil, poor mixing, and consequently poor combustion because coconut oil has a viscosity of about 8 times that of diesel fuel.

For the tests of three forward speeds of tractor concentration of CO with (J20) was lower than that with pure diesel fuel, which may be due to the beneficial effect of (J20) as an oxygenated fuel.

On the other hand, by increasing jojoba oil percentage in the fuel blends (60% jojoba), CO concentrations increased due to the negative effect of high viscosity which suppresses the complete combustion process, that produced higher amount of CO. The maximum CO emissions was produced at no load with J60 blend (820 ppm) compared with that of diesel fuel (770 ppm), while the minimum CO emissions was produced at the working speeds for J20 (440 ppm) compared with that of diesel fuel (485 ppm). Generally, using 20% jojoba blend decreased CO concentrations by 9.5% on average compared with that of diesel fuel.

4. Unburned hydrocarbons emissions

The unburned hydrocarbons (HC) emissions with different tractor forward speeds for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends is shown in Fig. (6). The (HC) emissions are produced primarily from the fuel mixed with air surrounding the burning spray which provides lean toward incapability for auto-ignition.

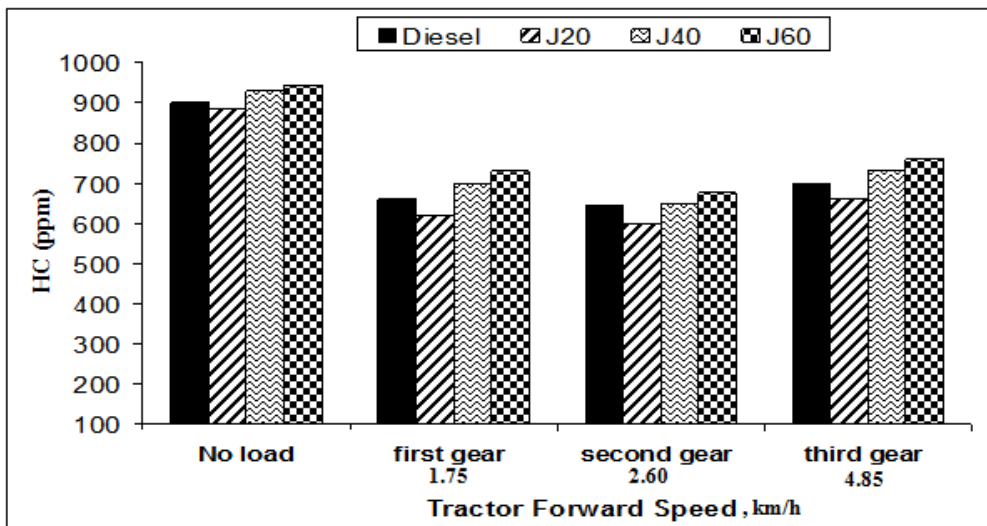


Fig. 6. Effect of tractor forward speed on HC emissions for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends

At no load the (HC) emissions were significantly higher than that of other forward speeds. With no load and loads, (HC) concentration for both J40 and J60 jojoba blends were higher than that of pure diesel fuel, due to the higher viscosity of jojoba oil which causes poor atomization and distribution of the blends. While at the three forward speeds (HC) concentration was less with J20 blend compared with that of petroleum diesel fuel, which may be due to the beneficial effect of J20 as an oxygenated fuel as mentioned before. Generally, hydrocarbon concentrations decreased by 7% when using J20 comparing with that of pure diesel fuel.

5. Carbon dioxide emissions

The carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions with different tractor forward speeds for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends is shown in Fig. (7). It can be observed that for jojoba blends and diesel fuel, the amount of CO_2 in the exhaust gases increases with the increase at tractor forward speeds. The increase of CO_2 in the exhaust gases is accompanied by a decrease in the values of CO and O_2 . This may be attributed to the increase in engine temperature due to the increase of tractor forward speed and consequently the increase of oxidization rates during combustion process. It should be mentioned that the formation of CO_2 is an exothermic reaction. The values of CO_2 emission using J20 blend is lower than that of diesel fuel at tractor forward speeds. Due to the fact that jojoba oil has low carbon content and has oxygen atoms in the molecule composition, which lead to produced fewer amounts of CO_2 emissions than that of pure diesel fuel.

On the other hand, the values of CO_2 concentration when using J40 and J60 blends were observed to be lower than that of diesel fuel and J20 blend at tractor forward speeds due to the incomplete combustion as explained earlier. The maximum CO_2 emission produced at tractor forward speeds with J20 (4.7%) comparing with pure diesel fuel (5.8%), while the minimum CO_2 emissions were produced at no load for J20 (2.4%) as compared with pure diesel fuel (2.8 %). When using 20% jojoba blend, CO_2 concentration decreased by 15 % on average compared with that of petroleum diesel fuel.

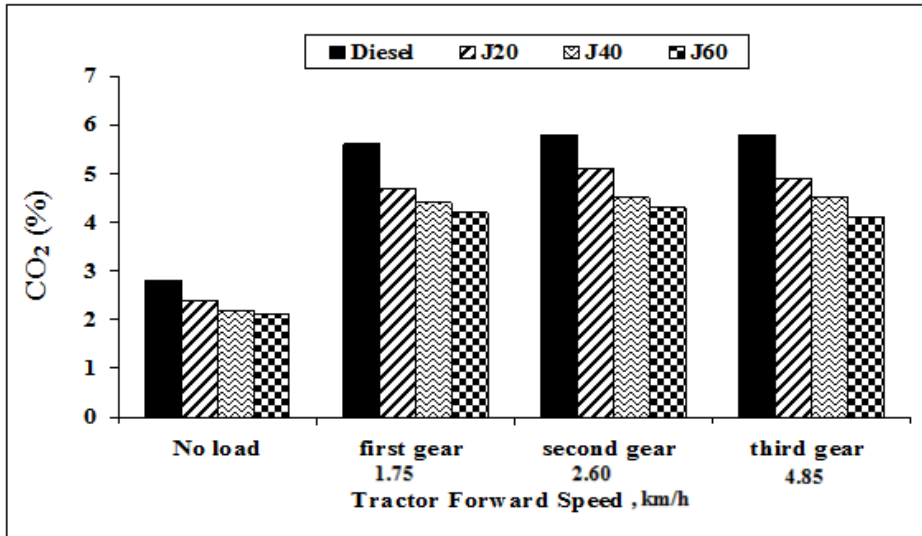


Fig. 7. Effect of tractor forward speed on CO₂ emissions for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends

The obtained results supported by Hebbal et al. (2006) who found that maximum brake thermal efficiency was relayed after conducted experiments on diesel engine using non-edible vegetable oil as alternate fuels. Also, Agarwal (2007) and Agarwal and Agarwal (2007) and Agarwal et al., (2008) found that using of biodiesel in conventional diesel engines resulted substantial reduction in emission of unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and particulate.

6. Oxygen gas emissions

The oxygen (O₂) gas emissions with different tractor forward speeds for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends are shown in Fig. (8). When the tractor runs at no load the values of O₂ emission is higher when using J20 as compared to that of pure diesel fuel. When the tractor runs at forward speeds, the value of O₂ emission using J20 is still relatively higher as compared to that of pure diesel fuel. This may indicate higher oxidization rates of unburned hydrocarbons using J20 blend. On the other hand, the values of O₂ emission remains practically constant with the increase of jojoba percentage in the fuel blend, however the values of O₂ concentration for all jojoba blends was higher than that of pure diesel

mainly because of jojoba oil blends have the oxygen atom present in the blends molecules, which would lead to significant increase in the concentration of oxygen gas.

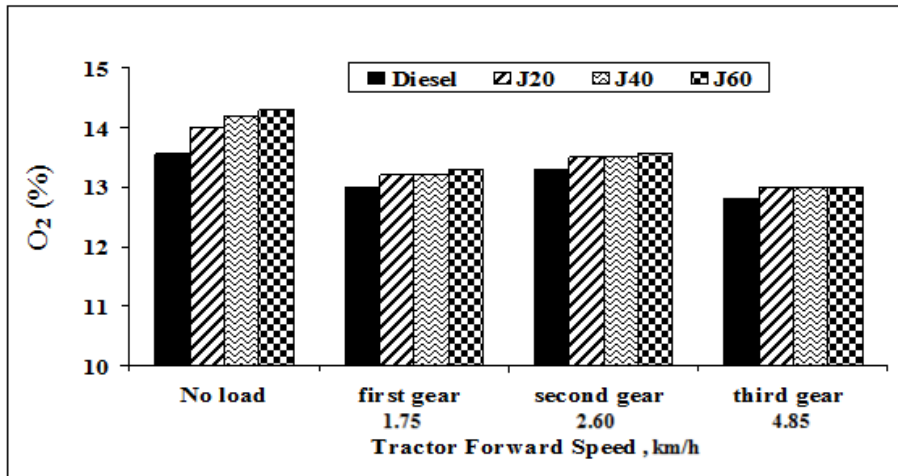


Fig. 8. Effect of tractor forward speed on oxygen concentrations for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends

7. Oxides of nitrogen emissions

The NO_x emissions are the most harmful gaseous emissions from engines. The nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions with different tractor forward speeds for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends are shown in Fig. (9). The NO_x emissions formed in engine exhaust depend on the high pressure and combustion temperature along with excessive oxygen atoms in air present in combustion chamber, particularly in diesel engine. Fig. (9) shows that the NO_x emissions decrease at no load for both pure diesel and all jojoba blends. This is primarily due to the lower burning gas temperature and a lower mass flow rate of intake air on tractor engine. The NO_x emissions using jojoba–diesel blends are generally lower than pure diesel fuel due to lower gas temperature as compared with diesel fuel. Jojoba oil does not contain aromatic compound which increase NO_x. This rustles are in contrast with that of Heilweil (1988), who proved that aromatic and Poly-aromatic hydrocarbons are responsible for high NO_x emissions. This is probably due to the higher flame temperatures associated with aromatic compounds.

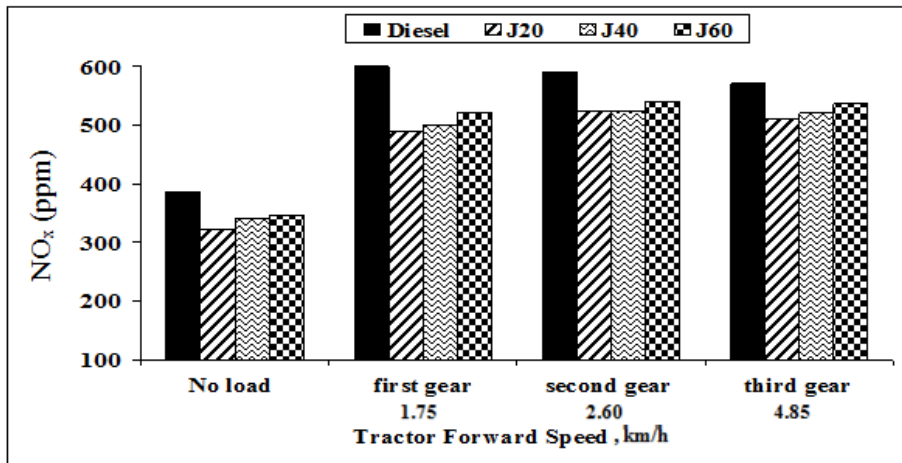


Fig. 9. The variation of NO_x emission versus tractor forward speed for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends

A marked reduction in NO_x emission has been observed when using J20 at tractor forward speeds, since the NO_x emission is reduced to 17% on average. This was due to improving combustion efficiency and engine thermal efficiency for J20 as compared to pure diesel fuel and others blends of J40 and J60.

The lowest NO_x emissions value (320 ppm) was observed at no load when J20 was used, while its value was 386 ppm NO_x emissions for that of pure diesel fuel. From this result the emission character of NO_x for jojoba oil blends is a very useful character for the application of jojoba oil and its blends as alternative fuel for diesel engines and could be used as a substitution for diesel fuel.

8. Sulfur dioxide emissions

The sulfur dioxides (SO₂) are pollutant gases that contribute to the formation of acid rain, ozone and smog. Sulfur dioxide combines with water vapor in the exhaust to form a sulfuric acid. Airborne sulfuric acid is a pollutant in fog, smog and acid rain, ending up in the environment degradation. As well as sulfur dioxide itself is corrosive and cause wear of engine parts. It was found that jojoba blends produces lower sulfur dioxides emissions compared to that of pure diesel fuel.

Fig. (10) shows the variation of sulfur dioxide (SO_2) emission at different tractor forward speed for pure diesel fuel and different jojoba blends. It can be observed from the figure that SO_2 concentration using jojoba–diesel blends are generally lower than that of pure diesel fuel due to jojoba oil has no any sulfur content, while diesel fuel has aromatic content of sulfur content.

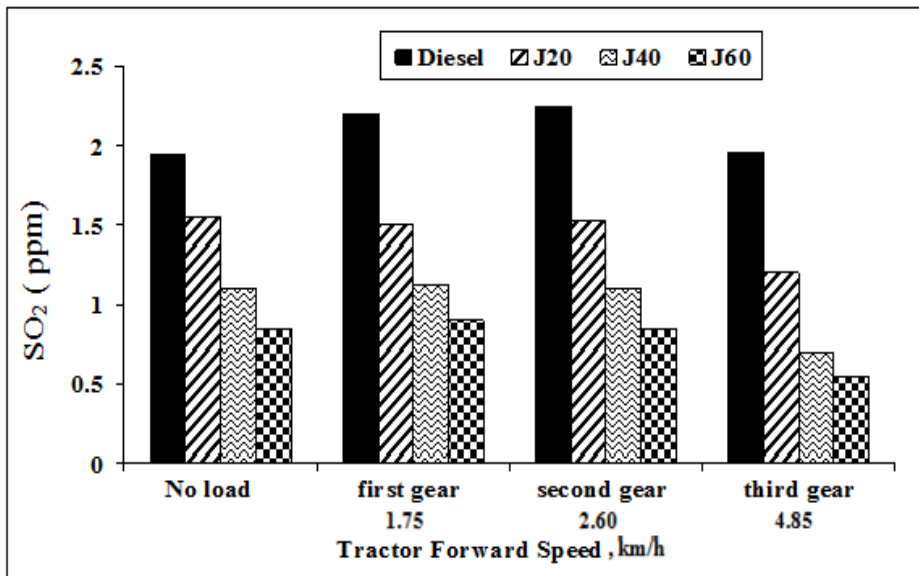


Fig. 10. The variation of SO_2 emission versus tractor forward speed for diesel fuel and different jojoba blends

The emission values of SO_2 decrease with the increase of jojoba oil percentage in the fuel blend. The highly reduction in SO_2 emission was observed J60 blend where reduction ratio reached to 70%. While using blends J40 and J20, the reduction of SO_2 emissions were 50% and 30%, respectively.

From the previous results blending of jojoba oil with diesel fuel is effective solution to reduce sulfur emissions for the environmental protection as well as lengthening engine life on long term.

CONCLUSION

Jojoba oil blends with diesel fuel improve the performance of diesel engine by improving the engine combustion efficiency. The recommended ratio of jojoba-diesel 20% (J20) is the most efficient blend ratio in reducing the emission of toxic gases as CO, NO_x, THC and SO₂ which have positive hygienic effect on the environment.

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الملخص العربي

تأثير مخلوط زيت الجوجوبا مع وقود الديزل على الإحتراق وغازات العادم لمحركات جرارات الديزل

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يواجه العالم فى العصر الحالى أزمان خاصة بتزايد الطلب على الطاقة ، وإرتفاع أسعار المواد الغذائية ، وتدهور البيئة المحيطة بالإنسان. وترجع غالبية هذه الأزمان إلى زيادة معدلات إستهلاك الوقود الأحفورى وتزداد خطورة الأزمة بقرب نضوب هذا الوقود ، لذلك أجريت هذه الدراسة لتقييم إستخدام مخلوط زيت الجوجوبا مع وقود الديزل بنسب مختلفة على أداء محرك جرار ديزل ومدى تأثيره على البيئة المحيطة.

صممت التجارب لدراسة تأثير المخلوط بنسب صفر ، ٢٠ ، ٤٠ ، ٦٠ ، ٨٠ % من زيت الجوجوبا مع وقود الديزل على أداء محرك جرار ديزل (35-IMT) ٢٧.٢ كيلو وات خلال عملية الحرث بمحراث حفار ٩ سلاح فى محطة إختبارات الجرارات بمعهد بحوث الهندسة الزراعية على سرعات تشغيل (١.٧٥ ، ٢.٦٠ ، ٤.٨٥ كم / ساعة).

وتم إختيار زيت الجوجوبا لأنه يزرع تحت ظروف متباينه من خطوط العرض والطول ويتحمل الملوحة وليس من زيوت المائدة لأنه زيت شمعى وليس من مكوناته الروابط الهيدروكربونية الثلاثية.

و تبين من التحليل الكيمائى لزيت الجوجوبا أنه يحتوى على عدد قليل من ذرات الكربون وعلى ذرات الأوكسجين مما يجعله عامل مؤكسد لغازات نواتج الإحتراق مثل غاز أول أكسيد الكربون وأكاسيد النيتروجين و أكاسيد الكبريت.

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ومن الدراسة تبين أن المخلوط بنسبة ٢٠% جوجوبا مع السولار كانت أنسب نسب الخلط حيث إرتفعت كفاءة الإحتراق للمحرك إلى ٨٠% وقلل من إنبعاث الغازات السامة فى العادم، وإستخدام نسب خلطات ٤٠، ٦٠% أدى إلى زيادة لزوجة المخلوط والذي أدى إلى تقليل قدرة المحرك وإحتراق غير تام مما يؤدي إلى حدوث تلوث بيئى، أما إستخدام المخلوط بنسبة ٨٠% من زيت الجوجوبا تزيد من لزوجة المخلوط بدرجة تعيق حركته خلال جهاز الوقود ويصعب على الرشاش تذييته ولذلك تم إستبعادها من الدراسة.

التوصيات:

من الدراسة تبين أن مخلوط زيت الجوجوبا مع وقود الديزل يحسن من أداء محركات الديزل حيث ترفع كفاءته الحرارية ، وتوصى الدراسة بإستخدام نسبة خلط ٢٠% من زيت الجوجوبا مع وقود الديزل التى تحقق ٨٠% كفاءة إحتراق ، كما أن نواتج العادم تميزت بخفض نسبة الغازات السامة والتي لها تأثير إيجابى صحى على البيئة المحيطة.