

Solvent Extraction of Sucrose from Sugar Cane Pith (*Comfith*)

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Abstract: *In this paper, a three-parameter model has been presented to describe the process of solvent extraction from a packed bed of cellular plant material to a percolating solvent. An experimental programme of work extracting sucrose from sugar cane pith (Comfith), using water as solvent, has shown the model to be valid and values for the model parameters were determined. The rate of extraction was found to be strong function of water flow rate but not temperature. The work showed that the use of Comfith has certain advantages, over that of the whole cane stalk as a raw material for sugar production.*

Keywords: *Solvent extraction, model parameters, sucrose, sugar cane pith*