

**DEVELOPMENT OF UNMANNED SOLAR POWERED
RICE PADDY MIXER**

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Audrey Mae M. Habil was born on 11th of June 2000 in Caloocan City, Metro Manila. She is the second child of Mr. Jessie G. Habil and Mrs. Aurora M. Habil, living in a small town of Meycauayan City, Bulacan. She entered Marychild Academy in 2007 for her primary education. She then transferred at Children of Mary Immaculate College in 2013 for her secondary education. She studied at Manila Central University in 2017, under Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) strand in Senior High school. In 2019, she decided to leave her 'city girl' lifestyle to pursue the Bachelor of Science in Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering program in Central Luzon State University.

Away from her comfort zone, she thrived as she experienced new things and connect with other people. She became active when she represented her block mates from her 1st year up to her 4th year of college, join the Students' Rights and Welfare Committee and be a Case Advocate from 2021 to 2022. became a CEn Councilor in 2022, and a member with some organizations such as Kilos Ko Youth, American Society of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineers, Student Council Alliance of the Philippines, and Online SDG Action Forum.

She still continues to learn and grow with the people who supports her.

Kimwel A. Lazo was born on November 14, 2000, in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija. He is the third-born child of Mr. Jesus M. Lazo and Mrs. Estrella A. Lazo. The parents nurtured him in a small town in San Isidro, Nueva Ecija where he also started his academic pursuits at General De Jesus College, where he completed both his elementary and high school education.

In his pursuit of knowledge, Kimwel continued his educational journey at the College of the Immaculate Conception for Senior High School, laying the foundation for his passion for an engineering degree. Currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering program at Central Luzon State University, Kimwel is dedicated to exploring innovative solutions to agricultural challenges.

Kimwel's leadership skills and commitment made a positive impact on his community. From 2020 to 2021, he served as the College of Engineering Councilor for the USSC (University Supreme Student Council). Kimwel took on the role of Public Information Officer in the USSC from February 2022 to May 2022. Kimwel with his pursuit for the development of the community led him to be the Senior Publicity Associate under the Education and Research Committee of USSC From 2023-2024 In this capacity, he played a vital role in disseminating information and fostering a sense of unity and awareness among the student body.

Beyond his academic and leadership pursuits, Kimwel is known for his dedication to community service and his passion for agricultural innovation. With uncertainties and hardships ahead, Kimwel A. Lazo continues to balance academic excellence with a commitment to positively impact his community and in the field of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF EQUATIONS	xi
LIST OF APPENDICES	xii
LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES	xiii
LIST OF APPENDIX FIGURES	xiv
ABSTRACT	xv
INTRODUCTION	1
Background of the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	2
Objectives of the Study	3
Significance of the Study	3
Scope and Limitations of the Study	4
Time and Place of the Study	4
REVIEW AND RELATED LITERATURE	5
Rice Production in the Philippines	5
Properties of Rice Paddy	6
NSIC Rc 222	7
Drying Process	8
Unmanned Ground Vehicles in Agriculture	9
Existing Machines for Sun Drying	11
Solar Power	14
METHODOLOGY	15
Conceptualization of the Study	15
Design Consideration	16
Design Concept	17
Design of Main Components of the Paddy Mixer	18
Brushed DC Motor	18
Battery	19
PV Panel	21
Frame	23

Wheel	23
Rake	24
AC Solar charging module	26
Microcontroller	26
Bluetooth Module	26
Electronic Enclosure	27
Fabrication of the Unmanned Solar Powered Rice Paddy Mixer	28
Test Instruments and Equipment	29
Preliminary Testing	29
Final Testing	30
Statistical Analysis	30
Determination of Grain Quality	30
Cost Analysis	31
RESULT AND DISCUSSION	36
Description of the Machine	35
Principle of Operation	35
Performance Evaluation	38
Machine Capacity	38
Grain Quality	39
Broken Grains	40
Cracked Grains	41
Whole Grains	44
Cost Analysis	46
Simple Cost-Benefit Analysis	47
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS	48
Summary	48
Conclusions	50
Recommendation	51
LITERATURE CITED	52
APPENDICES	54

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
1	Test Instruments and Equipment	28
2	Grain Quality produced by Machine and Conventional Method	30
3	Specification of the Unmanned Solar Powered Rice Paddy Mixer	37
4	Percentage of Broken Grains Produced by Machine and Conventional Method	40
5	Independent Samples T-test for Broken Grains	41
6	Descriptive Table for Broken Grains	41
7	Percentage of Cracked Grains Produced by Machine and Conventional Method	41
8	Independent Samples T-test for Cracked Grains	42
9	Descriptive Table for Cracked Grains	42
10	Percentage of Whole Grains Produced by Machine and Conventional Method	44
11	Independent Samples T-test for Whole Grains	45
12	Descriptive Table for Whole Grains	45
13	Simple Cost Analysis	46
14	Cost-Benefit Comparison	47

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE		PAGE
1	NSIC Rc 222	7
2	Solar Powered Remote Controlled All Terrain Sprayer and Mower	10
3	The prototype of the Rakebot	11
4	Sweeper wheel design for tedding of paddy	12
5	Sweeper Design for grain collector	13
6	Vacuum based grain collector	14
7	Conceptual Framework	15
8	Schematic Diagram	17
9	Brushed DC Motors attached to the sprockets via chains	19
10	Batteries	19
11	PV Panel	21
12	Frame	23
13	Wheel	24
14	Rake	25
15	Rake attached to the linear actuator	25
16	AC Charging Module	26
17	Measuring the distance where the connection loses	27
18	Electronic Enclosure	27
19	Parts of the Machine	37
20	Performing the single operation	39
21	Description Plots for Broken Grains	42
22	Description Plots for Cracked Grains	44
23	Description Plots for Whole Grains	46

LIST OF EQUATIONS

EQUATION		PAGE
1	Nominal Voltage in Circuit	19
2	Battery Capacity	19
3	Battery Ah Capacity	20
4	Battery Discharge Rate	20
5	PV Array Output	21
6	Module de-rate factor	21
7	Temperature de-rate factor	21
8	Compensate factor for solar array altitude due to the influences of cloud and fog	22
9	Fixed Cost	30
10	Depreciation	31
11	Tax	31
12	Shelter	31
13	Interest on Investment	32
14	Variable Cost	32
15	Repair and Maintenance	32
16	Labor Cost	33
17	Total Annual Operating Cost	33
18	Custom Rate	33
19	Break Even Point	34
20	Payback Period	34

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX		PAGE
I	Electronic Assembly	55

LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES

APPENDIX TABLE		PAGE
1	Grain Quality produced by Machine and Conventional Method	58
2	Independent Samples T-Test	62
3	Descriptive Table	62
4	Average speed of the machine	62
5	Bill of Materials	63
6	Simple Cost Analysis	64
7	Simple Cost-Benefit Analysis	61
8	Cost Calculation	62
9	Benefit Calculation	62
10	Cost-Benefit Comparison	62

LIST OF APPENDIX FIGURES

APPENDIX FIGURE		PAGE
1	Fabrication of the Machine	63
2	Connection of wirings	63
3	Calibration of the system	64
4	System Interface	64
5	Conventional Method of Drying	65
6	Voltage Reading	65
7	Setting up the machine for the operation	66
8	Operating the machine	66
9	MC Reading before the operation	67
10	MC Reading after the operation	67
11	Collection of Samples	68
12	Counting for a 100-grain sample	68
13	Hand Hulling	69

ABSTRACT

HABIL, AUDREY MAE M. & LAZO, KIMWEL A., Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, College of Engineering, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **February 2024, DEVELOPMENT OF UNMANNED SOLAR POWERED RICE PADDY MIXER**

Adviser: ROLDAN T. QUITOS, MSc.

Sun drying for fresh harvested paddy is a wide practice but a labor-intensive operation among developing countries because it requires less investment. To prevent the risks that may be encountered during this operation, this study was aimed to design, fabricate, and evaluate an unmanned solar powered rice paddy mixer.

The machine is a 163.50cm × 64.0cm frame attached with two 12V DC motors, two 15.42 Ah batteries, 300W PV panel, wheels, a 165cm rake that's carried by a linear actuator, AC charging module, and electronic enclosure. A microcontroller was utilized to operate the machine remotely using a smartphone application.

With a total of 5700 hand hulled grains, the conventional method produced 16.85% broken, 27.52% cracked, and 55.63% whole grains. While the machine generated 9.33% broken, 34.85% cracked, and 55.82% whole grains. Independent Sample t-tests showed that there was a significant difference of 0.010 for broken grains between the two treatments.

The machine can be controlled within a 100-meter radius via Bluetooth. It can travel at 5.4 kph while the rake was raised and operates while the rake is lowered at 4.46 kph. The battery charge may last for 2 hours and 48 minutes before it reached a 50% battery

charge and a 6 days of continuous 7-hour per day operation, however charging via solar or an AC converter may take up to 48 hours.

The initial investment of ₱43,857.390, the cost analysis showed the machine's annual operating cost of ₱53,901.59. As the machine operates on a cavan basis, the customs rate was applied in caravans at ₱8.05 per cavan. With this pricing, we can expect the breakeven point to be at 5,445.24 cavans while having a payback period of 2.712 years or 54.24 days of operation. The machine has the potential to yield savings of ₱54,099 annually compared to the traditional mixing method. Furthermore, the reduced labor requirement plays a significant role in achieving these savings, thereby reducing post-harvest operation costs.

Key Words: Paddy sun drying; Unmanned Solar Power Paddy mixer; Cracked Grain; Whole Grain; Broken Grains; Charging duration; Discharge amount.

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