

Chart 2. Individual plant oil retentions, Clay 4 *vs.* Clay 6.

Chart 1 plots oil retention *vs.* ABD for both laboratory results and the average of the seven plant tests involving Clays 4 and 6. Chart 2 plots the individual oil retention *vs.* ABD for the seven plant tests.

It will be observed from Chart 1 that in the ease of the laboratory results a reasonably consistent inverse relationship occurred between ABD and oil retention. Also the plant average figures for Clays 4 and 6 paralleled the laboratory curve.

From Chart 2 it will be noted that while the individual plant results on the two clays paralleled the laboratory curve, the oil retentions between plants varied considerably from each other on the same clay. On Clay 4, for example, the retentions varied from 27.8 to  $38.4\%$ , on Clay 6 from 35.4 to  $46.6\%$ . This is consistent with experience and is the result of different filtration conditions, types of filter-press, and methods of press-blowing between plants.

If the refiner knows that Clay A has a given average oil-retention and ABD over a period of time, he can estimate the oil retention he should obtain with Clay B with a fair degree of accuracy simply by paralleling the laboratory curve in Chart 1 with the ABD of Clay B. Thus, if Clay A has an average oilretention of 50% and an average ABD of 54 lb. per on. ft., Clay B with an ABD of 60 lb. per cu. ft. should give an oil retention of 42%.

#### **Summary**

Data have been presented which demonstrate that the inverse relationship is reasonably consistent between the apparent bulk density of a bleaching clay and its oil retention.

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# **Tung Oil Derivatives as Plasticizers for Buna-N Rubber**

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 $\tau$ itrile rubber, an oil-resistant aerylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, has been manufactured in the United States since 1939. In order to satisfy the demand by industry today, nitrile rubber is being l)roduced under several different trade names at the rate of hundreds of tons per day. The properties of the vulcanized polymer can be widely varied by changing the ratio of butadiene to acrylonitrile as well as by using different compounding ingredients (l). The type of softener or plasticizer employed often has the ability to impart (to the nitrile rubber stocks) special properties whieh might be desired by various industries. In general, softeners are used for controlling the hardness and low-temperature flexibility of the materials.

In order to extend the utilization of tung oil and to make available a new source of raw materials, research has been directed toward the development of new chemical derivatives of tung oil suitable as plastieizers or Buna-N rubber softeners. Tung oil is a

triglyceride which contains as glycerides approximately 75% of *alpha-eleostearie* (9,11,13-octadecatrienoie) acid and small percentages of other monoethenoie, dienoie, and saturated fatty acids  $(2)$ . It has been reported in previous publications from this laboratory that Diels-Alder addition products of certain dienophiles and various esters of the eleostearic acids were satisfactory as primary plasticizers for vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymer  $(3,4,5,6)$ . Although the adducts of the tung oil itself were not generally compatible as primary plasticizers for polyvinyl chloride, their production is economical because of the limited number of operations required. Since many of these materials contain a number of ester linkages which tend to enhance the compatibility of fatty acids with polar rubbers, such as the nitrile type, it appeared of interest to investigate their suitability as softeners for Buna-N rubber. This paper will describe the preparation and properties of the methyl vinyl ketone, dimethyl maleate, methyl acrylate, and acrylonitrile adducts of tung oil as well as their hydrogenated counterparts and will discuss their plasticizing characteristics for Buna-N rubber.

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TABLE I Physical Characteristics of Buna-N Stocks Plasticized with Derivatives of Tung Oil

Ultimate elonga- tion $($ %)		300% Modulus (v,s,i.)		Tensile strength (p.s.i.)		Hardness Shore A	Weight loss <sup>a</sup>	Volume change <sup>b</sup>	<b>Brittle</b> point	Compati- hility
Unaged	Aged <sup>a</sup>	Unaged	Aged <sup>a</sup>	Unaged	Aged <sup>a</sup>	$(10 \text{ sec.})$	$($ %)	$\scriptstyle{(\%)}$	(°C.)	(days)¢
810 810 Dimethyl maleate 780 810	680 650 640 600	740 820 780 820	1200 460 1380 1200	2160 2330 2270 2290	2390 2500 2550 2110	44 43 43 42	0.53 1.39 1.79 0.41	30.3 24.6 24.1 29.3	$-36$ $-44$ $-40$ $-40$	$90 +$ $90 +$ $90 -$ $90 +$
740 660 690 680	650 520 560 550	1010 1130 1090 1080	1570 1920 1700 1590	2390 2410 2480 2320	2480 2640 2630 2390	45 45 4.5 45	0.47 1.72 2.00 0.43	34.6 23.2 21.7 31.0	$-40$ $-44$ $-48$ $-36$	14 <sup>d</sup> $90 -$ $90+$ 21 <sup>d</sup>
680 Dibutyl sebacate (control)	530	1100	1970	2420	2660	45	5.34	19.9	$-52$	$90 +$

### Experimental

#### **MATERIALS**

Tung Oil. Domestic tung oil containing 75.2% of trienoic acids was used: I.V. (hydrogenation),  $228.0$ ;  $n^{20/D}$ , 1.5195.

Dienophiles. Methyl vinyl ketone, maleic anhydride, *beta-propiolactone*, and acrylonitrile were, all of commercial origin, used without further purification.

Methyl Vinyl Ketone-Tung Oil Adduct. Two batches of this material, each employing 100 g. of tung oil, 50 g. of methyl vinyl ketone, 0.2 g. of hydroquinone, and 100 ml, of benzene were prepared by the method described for the adduction of the methyl esters of tung oil fatty acids (6). After the solvent and excess methyl vinyl ketone were stripped off, the reaction product was filtered while still hot through a thick porous filter paper. The resulting methyl vinyl ketonetung oil adduct  $(235 \text{ g.})$  had: earbonyl  $0, 4.1\%$ ; 1.V. (hydrogenation), 126.6; sap. equiv., 343.6;  $n^{20/D}$ , 1.4949.

Dimethyl Maleate-Tung Oil Adduct. A mixture of 200 g. of tung oil, 70 g. of powdered maleic anhydride, and 0.2 g, of hydroquinone was stirred by a magnetic stirrer and slowly heated under an atmosphere of carbon dioxide. When the temperature reached  $54^{\circ}$ C., an exothermic reaction set in, raising the temperature to 144°C. Heating was immediately discontinued, and the product was allowed to cool gradually while the stirring and carbon dioxide atmosphere were continued. The product was then dissolved in 1,000 ml. of benzene, washed with six 300-ml. portions of water to remove excess maleic anhydride, and finally dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The benzene was removed by distillation, first at atmospheric pressure and finally under high vacuum, yielding 246 g. of product. A 160-g. portion of this adduct was esterified in the usual manner employing 1,500 ml. of methanol, which contained 15 ml. of concentrated sulfuric acid. The recovered ester, after being filtered through a bed of Hyflo Super Cel, had the following constants: I.V. (hydrogenation), 112.6; sap. equiv.,  $272.0$ ;  $n^{20/D}$ , 1.4815.

Methyl Acrylate-Tung Oil Adduct. The acrylic acid-tung oil adduct was prepared in a manner similar to that described for the butyl esters of tung oil fatty acids  $(3)$ . In this case 180 g, of tung oil, 40 g. of beta-propiolactone, 0.4 g. of potassium carbonate, and 0.2 g. of hydroquinone were heated at  $200^{\circ}$ C. for 3 hrs. under an atmosphere of carbon dioxide. The product was dissolved in 1,000 ml. of ether, washed with three 300-ml. portions of water to remove the excess propiolactone, and dried over anhydrous so-

dium sulfate (yield  $208.5$  g.). The adduct  $(201.5$  g.) was esterified with methanolic sulfuric acid as described above for the dimethyl maleate adduct of tung oil. The recovered ester, after being filtered through a bed of Hyflo Super Cel, had the following constants: I.V. (hydrogenation),  $119.9$ ; sap. equiv. 237.2; n<sup>20/D</sup>, 1.4778.

Acrylonitrile-Tung Oil Adduct. This material was prepared as previously described (5) except that 200 g. of tung oil, 64 g. of aerylonitrile, and 0.3 g. of hydroquinone were used. The product was not distilled, but after the excess acrylonitrile had been removed by vacuum-stripping on a steam cone with nitrogen as a sweep gas, the recovered adduct was filtered through a bed of Hyflo Super Cel. This material (224.3 g.) had: N,  $2.8\%$ ; L.V. (hydrogenation), 119.7; sap. equiv.,  $315.3;~n^{20/D},~1.5013.$ 

*Hydrogenation of the Adducts.* Similar procedures were applied during the hydrogenation of the four tung oil adducts described above. Two 40-g samples of each adduct were hydrogenated at room temperature in a Parr hydrogenation apparatus with  $3.0 g$ . of 10% palladium-carbon as a catalyst and 150 ml. of ethyl acetate as a solvent. The hydrogenation was initiated at about 40 lbs. pressure and continued until the rapid absorption of hydrogen ceased, indicating that the ethylenic bonds present in the addition products were saturated. In most cases this required 1 hr. The hydrogenated materials were filtered repeatedly through Hyflo Super Cel until free of the catalyst, vacuum-stripped on a steam cone with carbon dioxide as a sweep gas to remove the solvent, then filtered again through Hyflo Super Cel until clear. Analyses of the products showed that hydrogenation produced no significant changes in their saponification equivalents or in the carbonyl or nitrogen contents of the methyl vinyl ketone and acrylonitrile adducts. The hydrogenated adducts had these refractive indices,  $n^{20/D}$ : methyl vinyl ketone-tung oil, 1.4822; dimethyl maleate-tung oil, 1.4695; methyl acrylate-tung oil, 1.4665; aerylonitrile-tung oil, 1.4840.

*Evaluation Procedures.* The eight derivatives of tung oil were screened as Buna-N rubber softeners. using the following formulation:



Milling, curing, and testing procedures were the same as those reported elsewhere (7). The plasticizers were rated as compatible if formulations showed no signs of exudation or contact smearing within the observed 90 days of shelf aging.

#### Discussion

The results of the plasticizer screening tests for the hydrogenated and unhydrogenated tung oil adducts compounded with Buna-N rubber are presented in Table I. Milling of all of the eight experimental softeners appeared satisfactory. However the hydrogenated tung oil adducts of methyl vinyl ketone and of acrylonitrile became incompatible after shelf aging for periods of 14 and 21 days, respectively. The tung oil adducts of dimethyl maleate, methyl acrylate, and aerylonitrile, and the hydrogenated dimethyl maleatc and methyl acrylate adducts yielded rubbers which met the low-temperature flexibility requirements  $(-40^{\circ}C)$  of the automotive industry. The tung oil adducts before hydrogenation were superior to their hydrogenated counterparts and to the control, dibutyl sebacate, in plasticizing efficiency, *i.e.,* lower modulus, reduced hardness, and greater elongation. In all eases hydrogenation of the tung oil adducts resulted in a slight impairment of their plasticizing efficiency. Moreover the hydrogenated tung oil adducts of methyl vinyl ketone and of acrylonitrile eauscd severe impairment as seen by their early exudation from their molded stocks. Only the hydrogenated and unhydrogenated derivatives of dimethyl maleate and methyl acrylate yielded stocks that were comparable to the control in volume change. It was observed that all the compositions containing the adduct, when subjected to

accelerated aging tests, exhibited better modulus, elongation, and weight-loss properties than did the composition containing the control softener.

#### **Summary**

Eight derivatives of tung oil, namely, the methyl vinyl ketone, dimethyl maleate, methyl acrylate, and acrylonitrile adduets, and their hydrogenated products, were prepared and screened as softeners for Buna-N rubber with dibutyl sebacate as the control. Five of the eight produets evaluated yielded stocks that met the low-temperature flexibility requirements  $(-40°C.)$  of the automotive industry. In all cases the stocks prepared from the unhydrogenated derivatives were superior in plasticizing efficiency to the stocks prepared from their hydrogenated counterparts or to those prepared from the control.

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# **ABSTRACTS** .... R.A. REINERS, Editor

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