



RICE HUSK GASIFIER STOVE

Product Catalogue - 2013

Prepared by MicroEnergy International GmbH



EUROPEAN
MICROFINANCE
PLATFORM

NETWORKING WITH THE SOUTH

e-MFP ACTION GROUP
ON MICROFINANCE
AND ENVIRONMENT

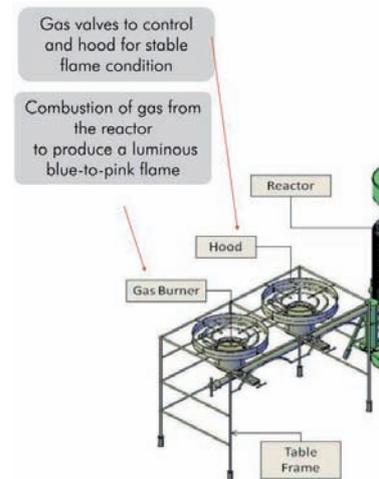
Description and Working Principle

“From waste to fuel - turning rice husk into cheap, clean energy for cooking”

This low-cost and clean-burning stove utilizes rice husk as fuel to cater to domestic rural households and small cottage industries where abundance of rice husk is accessible. It is estimated that a ton of rice husk has a direct energy conversion of about 23 tanks of 11 kg LPG fuel thereby significantly reducing expenditure on conventional fuel sources. The production of combustible gases, primarily carbon monoxide and hydrogen, takes place by oxidizing the biomass fuel with a limited amount of air. Gasification of rice husks is achieved by controlling the air supply with a small fan.

Technical Characteristics

Reactor diameter and height	16 cm ø x 60 cm
Fuel consumption rate	2.6 kg/hr
Power output	2.36 kW or 2028 kcal/h
Fan	120 mm x 120 mm, 16 watts 12 V DC
Boiling time test	14 to 20 min for 1.5 litre of water
Gas temperature	185 °C
Temperature beneath the cooking pot	420 °C
Thermal efficiency	26%
Product lifetime	2 - 3 years



Ease of Distribution, Installation and Maintenance

Fabricated rice husk stoves are available in regions where rice growing is the major economic activity such as India, Indonesia and Philippines. This simple stove requires no installation and is ready for use by end-users with basic instruction. Operation of the stove is best performed outdoors where proper air ventilation exists and fuel loading and char unloading processes are eased. Regular maintenance is carried out by users annually based on the usage frequency.

Typical maintenance work:

- Removal of char from the reactor (can be used as fertilizer due to its property to retain high water capacity)
- Cleaning and drying of the stove
- Replacement of fan after lifecycle

Technology Options

Two types of gasifier stoves are available commercially at present, namely continuous and batch type. The main difference between these types is continuous operation without entirely discharging and reloading the stove. Also, the number of burners and material quality (e.g stainless steel) can be selected according to clients' needs and capacity. Commonly, one and two-burner models are viable options, and these stoves are adaptable for AC or DC electrical inputs using a grid connection or a solar panel and battery.



Price Range

A simplest and complete one-burner batch type gasifier set costs around USD \$70.

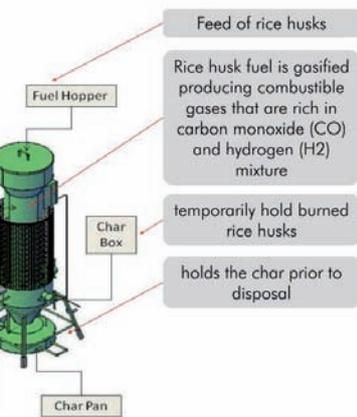
Type of target group	Price range
Domestic households	Between USD \$70 - \$100
Small cottage industries, restaurants	USD \$160 onwards

Type of Loan

Individual microfinance loans are provided for livelihood development where interest rates are charged monthly.

Economic and Social Impacts for End-users

This stove appeals to end-users as it reduces operation cost by 80% - 90% compared to LPG fuel. Depending on rice husk availability, it also reduces time intensity contrary to traditional biomass stoves. Its low-emission clean burning minimizes health hazards and is safer compared to traditional wood stoves. Moreover, the rice husk ash can be reused as soil fertilizer which creates additional value.



Source: Engr. Alexis T. Belonio

The breakeven period of a one-burner batch type rice husk gasifier substituting an LPG gas stove is between e.g. 4 - 5 months for a medium consumption of 3 hours of cooking daily in the Philippines. This benefit will become more apparent as the cost of LPG continues to rise.



Source: MicroEnergy International

Benefits for the MFI

Savings on cooking fuel expenses ensure reliable loan repayments for MFIs financing gasifier stoves. As this technology caters to wide range of users and clients in rice-growing regions, MFIs can reach out their loan products to new clients.

Environmental Benefits

- Replacing one 11 kg LPG tank monthly reduces a total of 86 kg CO₂ emissions annually
- Burning of 848 kg of wood and 510 kg of wood charcoal is avoided for every ton of rice husk (average rice husk fuel consumption needed of a household annually) utilized for cooking
- Environmental pollution through rice husks dumping along river banks and roadsides is prevented

References

- Alexis T. Belonio, Rice Husk Gas Stove Handbook, 2005
- Altenphil, CO₂ Emission Factor for LPG, 2008

European Microfinance Platform

The European Microfinance Platform [e-MFP] was founded formally in 2006. e-MFP is a growing network of 140 organisations and individuals active in the area of microfinance. Its principal objective is to promote co-operation amongst European microfinance bodies working in developing countries, by facilitating communication and the exchange of information. It is a multi-stakeholder organisation representative of the European microfinance community. e-MFP members include banks, financial institutions, government agencies, NGOs, consultancy firms, researchers and universities.

e-MFP's vision is to become the microfinance focal point in Europe linking with the South through its members.

e-MFP Microfinance and Environment Action Group

e-MFP Action Groups facilitate synergies among e-MFP members and encourage them to implement activities together, thus contributing to the advancement of the microfinance sector.

The aim of the e-MFP Microfinance and Environment Action Group is to bring together microfinance practitioners to discuss and exchange experiences in dealing with environmental issues and to create new practical tools to advance environmental microfinance. The Action Group is also intended to act as a think tank that disseminates its results among e-MFP members and the microfinance sector at large with a view to increasing the awareness of and commitment to act on these issues. It is meant both as an internal knowledge-sharing and external awareness-raising platform that serves as a reference in the microfinance sector.

Head of the Action Group: MicroEnergy International GmbH, www.microenergy-international.com

European Microfinance Platform

39 rue Glesener

L-1631 Luxembourg

Tel: +352 26271382

contact@e-mfp.eu

www.e-mfp.eu

With the support of



GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Directorate for Development Cooperation



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