

Plastic Paper With a Zero Net Carbon Footprint? A Study Evaluating the Quality and Possibilities of Reusable Hemp and Plastic Paper

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Tons of plastic bags are thrown away every year and end up in landfills for a very long time. In America, people use billions of plastic bags every year and the world uses way more. Paper making is also a problem due to the trees it takes to make paper. This is why I used hemp as a solution because it is very easy to grow quickly and efficiently. At the current rate there could very likely be more plastic than fish in the sea by 2050. The objective of this study was to create a paper that can be used in the ways normal paper is while leaving a zero net carbon footprint and being easy to make. Plastic bags and paper making can affect the environment in many different ways including climate change and environment loss. Making paper using plastic bags and hemp was done by creating 6 papers using 6 different percentages of plastic: 0%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, and 25%. For each paper I made the rest of the percentage with Hemp. To make each paper I used the same methods real paper is made with which is done by measuring and blending materials with water, pouring it out, pressing it, and drying it. I tested each paper multiple times for burst strength, tear strength, rip strength, and made sure each paper had a similar weight, size, and thickness.

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