

Geometrical and handle properties of banana blended textiles

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■ **ABSTRACT :** In India, demand for textiles and readymade garments is continuously increasing with the increase in population and spending power of consumers. Banana fibre has high potential as a textile fibre besides being eco-friendly. Among popular varieties of banana, Pusavalli variety is found to have better physical characteristics than the other varieties of banana found in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The fibre was treated with eco-friendly enzymes for softening and then blended with jute in two ratios. Six types of fabrics were developed and the fabric properties were assessed. The objective of evaluation on geometrical and handle properties of the fabrics revealed that banana-jute blend (60:40) was better in all its characteristics. Fabrics can be produced with banana and banana blends by softening with enzymes for better acceptability.

■ **KEY WORDS :** Banana, Jute, Blended textiles

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