THE NATURE OF PYROLYTIC OIL DERIVED FROM MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.

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The Occidental Research Corporation is developing a flash pyrolysis process for the production of fuels and chemicals. The main features of the process are near ambient pressure, no requirement for added chemicals, low capital investment, flexibility of feedstock (municipal refuse, coal, rice hulls, grass, tree bark), variability of temperature, and minimum feed pretreatment. Municipal solid waste is shredded; metals and glass are recovered and sold. The organic fraction, largely cellulose, is pyrolyzed. The resultant pyrolytic oil has a low ash content relative to the feedstock, and the oil can be burned for fuel value. The properties of this oil will be discussed in terms of analyses, viscosity, solubility, thermal stability, corrosion, and char content.