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Research Paper

EVALUATION OF LOW-STRESS MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF ERI / WOOL BLENDED FABRICS

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ABSTRACT

The blending of eri with wool fibre in spinning has proved to bring in more comfort, luster, thermal and shrinkage properties in the blended fabric. To determine the utility of the fabric for apparel applications, the effects of blend at six different levels of the low stress mechanical characteristics of eri / wool blended fabrics have been investigated. The KES-F system was used for this purpose and analysed for tensile, compression, shear, surface, bending and geometric roughness properties. The study exhibited increase in tensile energy, compression energy, shear properties, shrinkage and geometric roughness of the fabric and *vice versa*, in bending and frictional properties of the blended fabric with increase of eri component. The effects of the blends at various levels of blends are discussed.

Key words: Eri / wool blend, KES-F system, low stress mechanical properties.