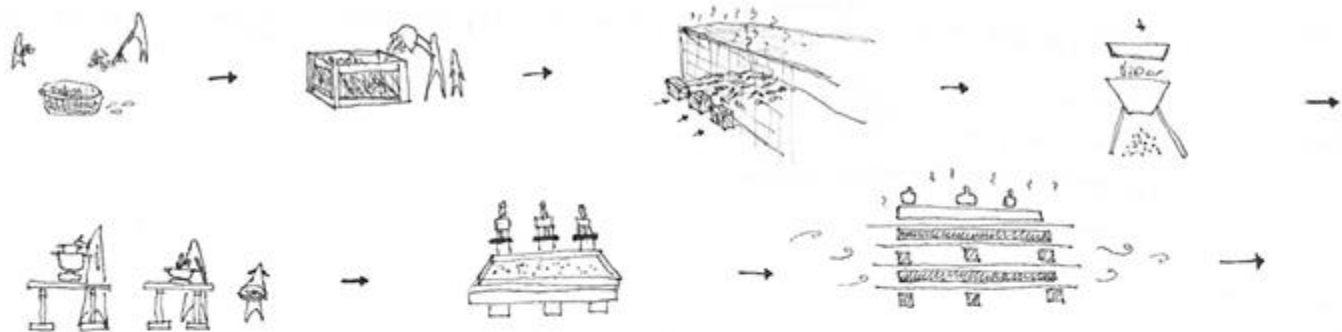


why NUT

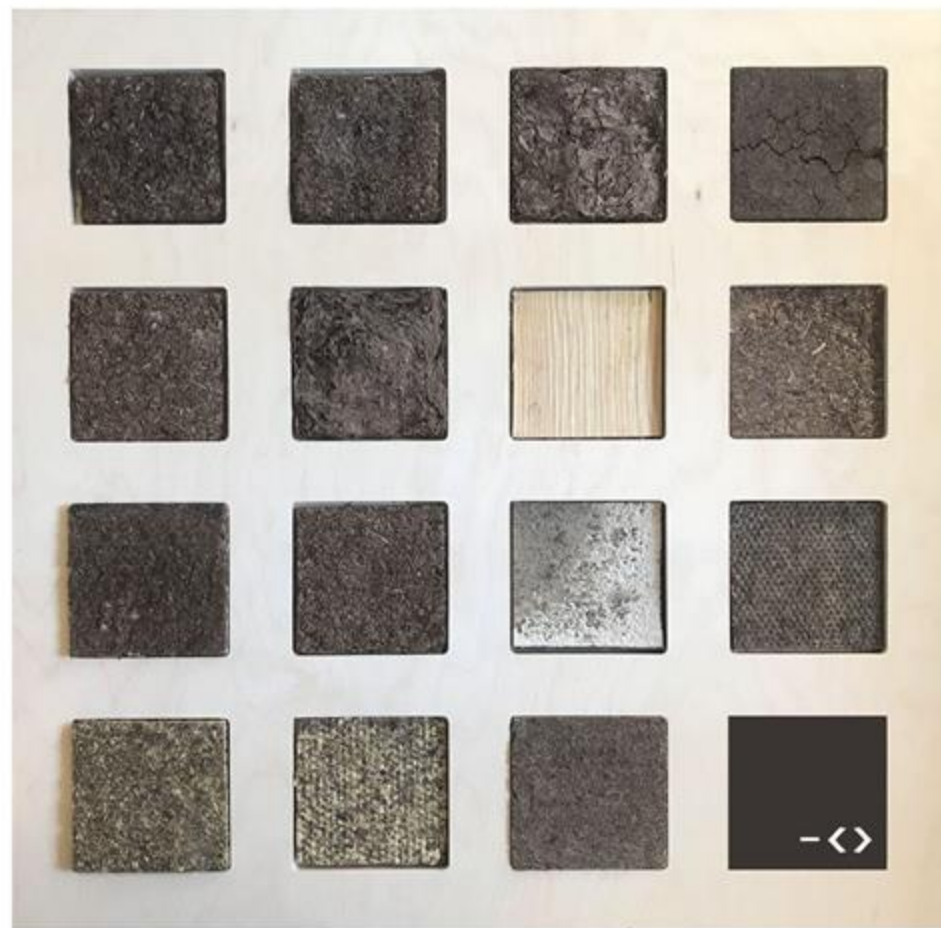


One of the challenges of rural life is that we often burn things that we don't necessarily need to, without fully considering the consequences. Unfortunately, this damaging activity is still practised in rural areas, at least according to my experience. Of all the organic materials burned, it is the fallen leaves from trees that cause one of the most significant challenges. Given its abundance, the decomposition process is slow, and animals do not consume it and the task of bagging it is quite laborious. The smoke produced by walnut leaves is particularly harmful. I began experimenting with walnut leaf and its combination with other natural ingredients with the aim of raising awareness, encouraging the use of local materials, and developing a useful material.

I began exploring the potential of natural waste materials during my Master's degree in 2019. I experimented with combining different sizes of chopped walnut pieces with various natural binders and pressing them in different ways. My aim was to develop a composite of natural materials that could be used as a material for small objects. I would now like to experiment further with the composition of the material, on a larger scale and with a practical function. My goal is to produce a slab or element in a professional press mould and one or two test objects to demonstrate the further potential of the project.

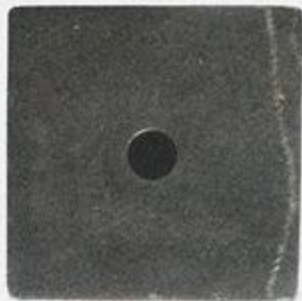


natural binders - surface formation - process



Phases of the process

- I. experiment with procedures and materials that are feasible and available in the home
size: 10x10x10 cm, pink step-resistant shutter, 2 kg weight
experience: 1-2 weeks drying time, porous, not sticking together
- II. experiment under workshop conditions
size: 30x20x2,5 cm, dismantable iron shutter, instant clamp
experience: too thick, porous
- III. experiment with gelatin
[A] size: 5x5x0,75 cm, foam mould, [B] size: 30x20x0,75 cm, iron mould
experience: minimum 1 week drying time, too much glue, not drying properly
- IV. experiment with whole leaves, gelatin
size: 30x20x0,1 cm, iron shutter
experience: drying time long, must be pressed to dry e.g. between heavy grids
- V. experiment with gelatin, pressing with various materials; wood boards and fabric, glass
size: 30x20x0.7 cm, hydraulic press.
experience: less than 1 week drying time, weighted down, increased durability



VI. experiment with resin

size: 10x10x10 cm, iron formwork, heated, hydraulic press

experience: short drying time, higher quality technical background needed, solid material, good feel, good smell, probably malleable, can be made in larger sizes, testing needed to assess the properties of the material

— < >