

Research

Graphite

Graphite, a crystallized form of carbon, was discovered near Keswick, England, in the mid-16th century. An 18th-century

German chemist, A. G. Werner, named it, sensibly enough, from the Greek graphein, “to write.”



At night, the pollution around the village has an otherworldly, almost fairy-tale quality.

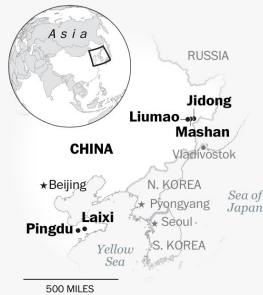
“The air sparkles,” said Zhang Tuling, a farmer in a village in far northeastern China. “When any bit of light hits the particles, they shine.”

By daylight, the particles are visible as a lustrous gray dust that settles on everything. It stunts the crops it blankets, begrimes laundry hung outside to dry and leaves grit on food. The village’s well water has become undrinkable, too.

Beside the family home is a plot that once grew saplings, but the trees died once the factory began operating, said Zhang’s husband, Yu Yuan.

“This is what we live with,” Zhang said, slowly waving an arm at the stumps.

Zhang and Yu live near a factory that produces graphite, a glittery substance that, while best known for filling pencils, has become an indispensable resource in the new millennium. It is an ingredient in lithium-ion batteries.



xGnP® Graphene Nanoplatelets and XG Nanomaterials which are made using, “High quality graphene nanoplatelets and nanomaterials that are produced using cost-effective, non-oxidizing processes in shorter cycle times...” Or how about Carbon grown fungi, “A highly porous

carbon structure produced through a process of thermally converting (clean burning) fungal biomass.”



Wood

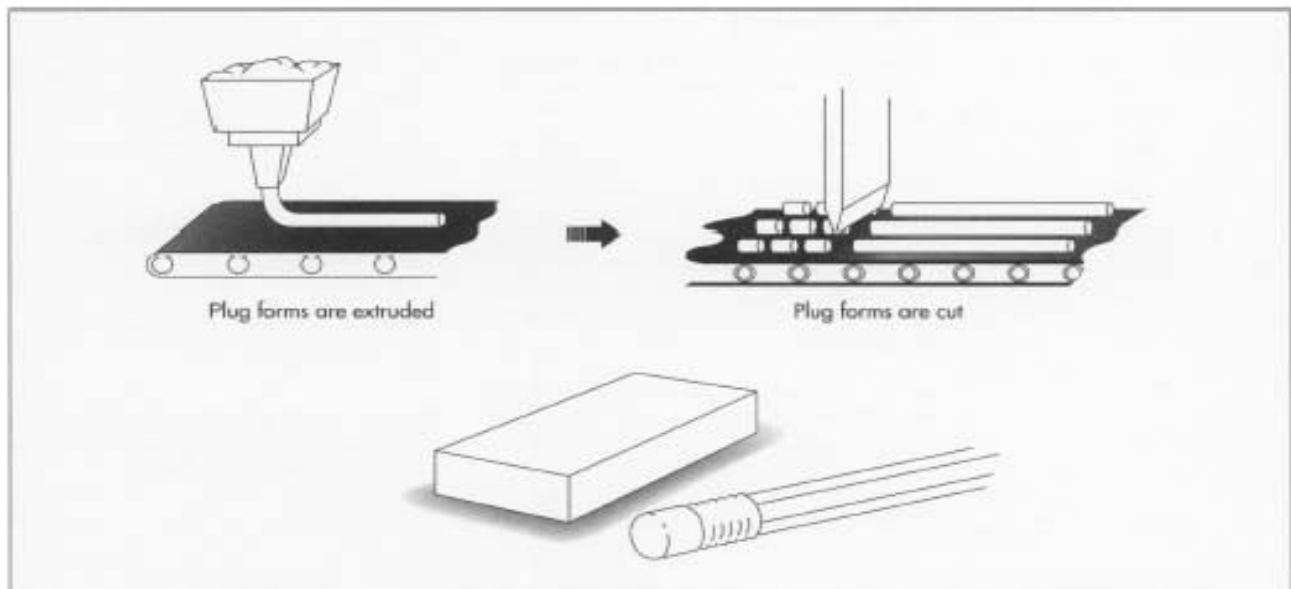
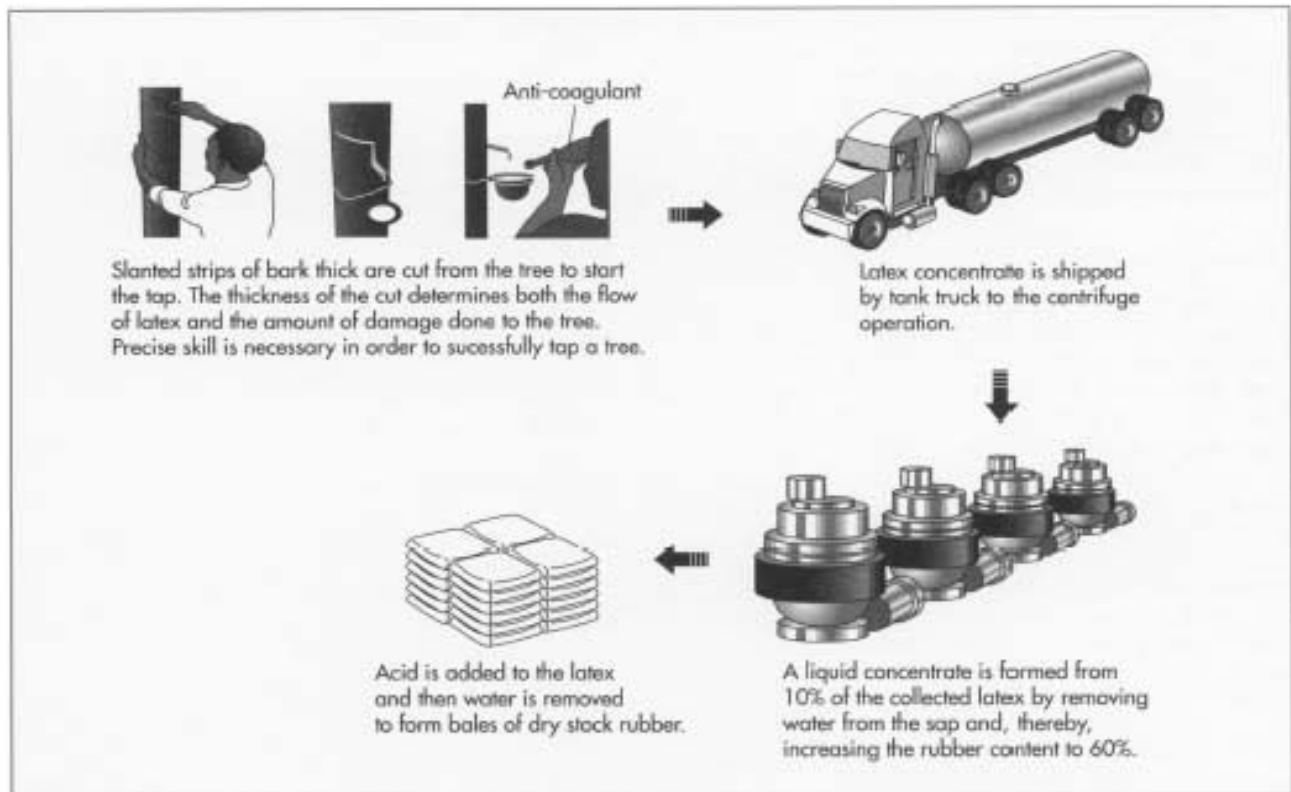
While wood may seem like a simple ingredient, wood farming and tree chopping is one of the many ways humans are ruining the planet “Tropical rainforests supply about 1/5 of the world’s industrial lumber. Logging companies claim that most of their logging is selective Rather than clear cutting and that only 5 to 7 percent of wood taken from tropical rainforests is exported.”

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Instead, we could use Lacquered pencils which do not have the wooden envelope and therefore, it from either graphite lead or pastel lead only. Or, recycled paper envelopes to house “lead”.

Rubber

Rubber can be and in the case of pencil manufacturing is synthetically made using this ← process. The toxic effects of pencil eraser ingestion are the same as those of graphite ingestion.



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Sources

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