

EFFECT OF THE RINDS COOKING METHOD AND A SECOND CHOPPING PROCEDURE ON THE STABILITY OF RIND AND FAT EMULSIONS

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SUMMARY

Rinds cooking method influences the stability of soy isolate and Na-caseinate rind and fat emulsions. The method ran under pressure (pressure cooker - 113°C) is more efficient than the one operated at atmospheric pressure (100°C). This fact is mainly observed for short cooking times.

In both methods, Na-caseinate emulsions revealed a maximum stability level at extended cooking times than soy isolate emulsions. In addition, the former emulsion exhibited higher sensitivity to this technological parameter.

The influence of a second chopping processing in Na - caseinate emulsions is positive for all assay conditions used, being the results dependent on the rinds cooking method for soy isolate.

INTRODUCTION

Most research concerning meat emulsions stability studied the replacement of meat protein by other vegetable and animal proteins of different purity level and technological preparation processing (Smith, et al., 1973; Lauck, 1975; Lin et al., 1975; Tornberg and Hermansson, 1977; Ozimek and Poznanski, 1981; Simard, et al., 1983; Bianchi, et al., 1985).

Non-meat proteins can be directly added to finely comminuted meat systems. However, this addition usually takes place after the previous preparation of fat emulsions due to obvious technological advantages (Hoogenkamp, 1979; Zayas, 1985). The thermal stability (the most important physical characteristic) is basically dependent on the ratio of raw material elements but, many other production aspects, such as: 1- design of the emulsification equipment; 2- emulsification temperature and time; 3- type of salt added; 4- raw material addition order in processing are extremely important parameters (Ackerman, et al., 1971; Webb, et al., 1975; Schut, 1976; Tornberg, 1979; Jones and Mandigo, 1982; Voutsinas et al., 1983; Aoki, et al., 1984).

Little information in this area is available, due to the lack of studies at pilot plant scale. Therefore, there is a limitation on the direct application of many laboratorial results (Circle and Smith, 1972; Kinsella, et al., 1979; Aoki, 1980). In most meat processing plants, pre-emulsions are prepared using a bowl chopper, being also an usual practice the utilization of cooked rinds as an additional emulsifying and stabilising agent.

Bearing in mind these technological conditions, the purpose of this work was to study the effect of time and temperature of rinds cooking and second chopping processing on the stability either of soy isolate, Na-caseinate rind and fat emulsions.

MATERIAL & METHODS

Reference proteins - Soy protein isolate (SPI) was purchased as IPSO-MR from Vaessen Schoemaker Chemische Industrie B.V.-Holand, with a composition of protein, 85.9%; water content, 8.5%; ash, 3.85; pH 7.1 (solution 1%). Na-caseinate (Na-Cas) was purchased from the same enterprise as BINDOX 050-low viscosity, with a content of protein, 90.8%; water content, 2.7%; ash, 4.2%; pH 7.5 (solution 1%). Proximate analyses were determined according to standard AOAC methods. For pH evaluation, a Metrohm 654 with a combined glass electrode was used. All solutions were prepared by using type I deionized water.

Fat - Whole pork back fat from randomly chosen animals (carcass weight between 70-90 Kg), was previously minced in a bowl chopper (2x2 mm particle size), blended, deep frozen at -40°C and stored at -18°C in plastic bags, each containing approximately 0.60 Kg, until required for processing.

Rinds - Only the rinds containing lard, were used. In order to reduce the influence of its great fat content variability in the experimental results, the rinds were previously hand cut (1x2 cm pieces), prepared and stored in the same conditions as referred above.

Emulsions water - Water used in the preparation of emulsions was obtained at the rinds cooking step. The water:rinds ratio was kept constant for all experiments (420 g of rind pieces were boiled in three liters of tap water).

Emulsion preparation - A six knives bowl chopper EMS-MTK 10 with dual plate (12.5 and 25 rpm) and knives (1400 and 2800 rpm) rotation speed was used.

Rinds were chopped immediately after cooking at high speed for two minutes. In a subsequent phase, fat, protein and water (95°C) were added at low speed, followed by eight minutes chopping at maximum speed. Emulsification temperature was measured one minute after operation at the latter conditions.

When an emulsification temperature around 50°C was required, the bowl chopper plate was heated with boiling water, three minutes before emulsion preparation.

For this study, a 1:9:20:6 (protein: fat: water: rinds) formulation was used. Emulsion pH was found to remain unchanged during the course of the assays, filling all the ingredients half volume of the bowl chopper capacity. Emulsions were placed into 25x100 mm plastic top stoppered centrifuge tubes (45 g), and 70x35 mm metallic cans (145 g), for pasteurization (90°C -45 min) and sterilization (120°C - 45 min), respectively.

Stability determination - The method of Tornberg and Hermansson (1977) was modified as follows: 1 - Samples were kept in containers for 24 hours at 4°C, before thermal processing; 2 - Determination of fat content in untreated emulsions (**F₀**) by using the Babcock "modified" method (Santos, C. et al., 1984) taking 3 and 9 g from the bottom of centrifuge tubes and cans (bottom horizontal layer), respectively; 3-Determination of fat concentration in thermal treated emulsions (**F**) after 24 hours at 4°C storage temperature, using the same methodology described above; 4 - Emulsion stability (**E.S.**) was calculated as follows:

$$E.S. (\%) = \frac{F}{F_0} \times 100$$

Each **F₀** and **F** values represents the average either of 3 and 4 replicates, for pasteurized and sterilized emulsions, respectively.

Hardness determination - Rinds gell hardness was evaluated at 5°C by texture profile analysis, with a J.J. Instrument Universal Texturometer, forcing a 12 mm diameter flat bottom rod through the material (4 cm deep), at 200 mm/min, using a 50 N cell.

Effect of Rind Cooking Method - Rinds cooking took place either at atmospheric pressure (**AP-100°C**) or under high pressure by using a pressure cooker (**PC-113°C**). Cooking time was evaluated from the start of boiling (15; 30; 45 and 60 min) and pressure scape (10; 15; 30 and 45 min), respectively. All the assays were ran using the emulsifying method described above, with the previous heating of the bowl chopper plate.

Effect of a second chopping procedure - Emulsion cooling took place overnight in a thin layer (≈ 4 cm deep) followed by chopping operation at high speed during two minutes, corresponding to an increase in the initial temperature from 5°C to 12°C. The objective was the simulation of pre-emulsions behaviour when added to comminuted meat systems.

Data Analysis - Second order polynomial fitting of the data was made using cricket graph software (Cricket Graph Software, Inc.).

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Rinds cooking temperature and time - For technological reasons, rinds added to pre-emulsions are previously cooked. However, cooking temperature and time are not standardized in most meat plants. The major physicochemical modifications that take place in structure and composition of collagen (Goll, et al., 1964; Snowden and Weidmann, 1978) imply changes on its functional behaviour in the development and stabilization of emulsions. The final result is however dependent on the functionality of the main emulsifying agent used, as well as the later thermal processing (Fig. 1 and 2).

The pasteurized **SPI** emulsions stability was not greatly affected by the coking time either in **AP-100** or **PC-113** methods. Nevertheless, for times between 15 and 30 minutes, the stability values were always slightly higher for **PC-113** than **AP-100**, being not significantly different for 45 minutes. Stability of sterilized emulsions is significantly affected by rinds cooking time. For **AP-100** method a direct relationship was found between 15 and 45 minutes, decreasing afterwards until 60 minutes. Regarding **PC-113**, the same characteristic was obtained, being the higher stability rate faster, at around 15 minutes of cooking (Fig. 1). At similar cooking times, this method showed higher efficiency than **AP-100**, mainly at shorter times.

Na-Cas pasteurized and sterilized emulsions showed a much higher dependence on cooking time, specially in the case of **AP-100**. In this conditions, stability values strongly increase for the complete cooking time range, being relevant the increase of the percentual rate, observed between 15 and 30 minutes (Fig. 2). **PC-113** method did not greatly affect the emulsion stability between 10 and 30 minutes, being the highest value around 25 minutes. The extension of cooking time up to 45 minutes, resulted in a drastic (- 60%) loss in emulsion stability. As for **SPI** sterilized emulsions, this cooking method showed higher efficiency (exception to 45 minutes), mainly for the lower equivalent cooking time (15 minutes).

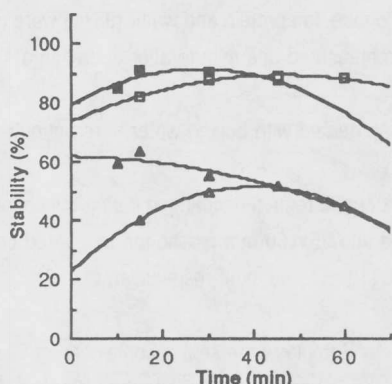


Fig. 1 - Influence of rinds cooking method on the SPI fat emulsions stability. Processing conditions used: standard emulsification processing, 50°C emulsification temperature and 8 min emulsification time

- 90°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=79.5545+0.8513x-0.015x^2$ $R=0.77$
- 90°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=73.850+0.6807x-0.0073x^2$ $R=1.00$
- ▲ 120°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=61.9409-0.018x-0.0047x^2$ $R=0.89$
- △ 120°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=22.750+1.4373x-0.0178x^2$ $R=1.00$

Cooking times referred as showing maximum stability, can be longer in practice conditions, due to the rinds preparation processing conditions used in this study. Snowden and Weidmann (1978), reported that denaturation of collagen depends on the mechanic damaging degree of raw material during this process by the fibrils ends.

It was reported that thermal denaturation of collagen is directly proportional to the temperature and time of heating (Goll et al., 1964). The findings were confirmed during the present study through the inverse relationship found between cooking time and rind gel hardness, as well as increasing protein content in cooking water (Table I and II). However, while the first relationship was followed by an increase of rinds water absorption capacity. According to Pearson and Tauber (1984), rinds show a deficient water holding capacity and emulsifying ability on heating, caused by melting and gelatinization. This difference in rinds water absorption could be the explanation for PC-113 higher efficiency in final emulsion stability for lower cooking times. The influence of those technological factors in SPI and Na-Cas emulsions stability might be, in part, understood on the basis of the functional behaviour of these proteins. According to Tornberg (1979) and Aoki et al., (1984), protein emulsion ability is basically influenced by the diffusion rate to the interface and, its behaviour after adsorption. SPI proteins show a lower solubility index and emulsion capacity (Santana et al., 1989) and lower diffusion rate in the continuous phase than Na-Cas proteins (Tornberg, 1979). Rinds collagen denaturation level got at 45 minutes AP-100 and at 15 minutes PC-113 allows the occupation of SPI emulsion interface by their polipeptide chains, decreasing the final emulsion stability. For Na-Cas, because of the great ability of their proteins to interface adsorption, that phenomenon is only seen at 45 minutes PC-113.

Influence of a second chopping procedure - The influence of this technological parameter on sterilized SPI and Na-Cas emulsions stability prepared with AP-100 and PC-113 rinds cooking methods are shown in Fig 3 and 4.

While for Na-Cas, with exception of 45 minutes in PC-113 an increasing in the stability was obtained for any operational conditions, in SPI the results were dependent on cooking time for AP-100. In this case, with the increasing of the emulsion stability seen at 15 minutes, the results were not obtained until 45 minutes of cooking time became quite stable and not significantly different. At 60 minutes, a significant decrease was observed. Additional chopping time and the dehydration occurred during emulsion storage time as well (+ 2% in F_o values) can also be responsible for the high stability found.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the results it can be concluded that rinds cooking method significantly affects the stability of SPI and Na-Cas fat emulsions. The sterilized Na-Cas emulsions are more sensitive than similar SPI in the tested range of cooking times and temperatures. SPI emulsions, for both cooking methods, reached the highest stability at short cooking times when compared to Na-Cas emulsions. PC-113 method, with exception of Na-Cas emulsions prepared at 45 minutes of cooking time, is more efficient than AP-100, regarding emulsion stability.

A second chopping procedure influences positively Na-Cas emulsions stability, while the results for SPI depend of the rinds cooking time for AP-100 method.

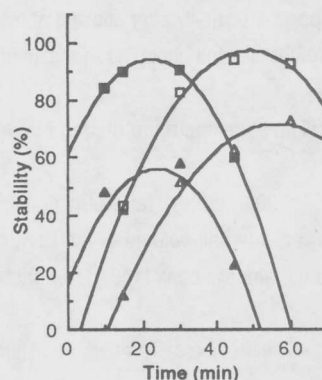


Fig. 2 - Influence of rinds cooking method on the Na-Cas fat emulsions stability. Processing conditions used: standard emulsification processing, 50°C emulsification temperature and 8 min emulsification time.

- 90°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=61.0803+2.9707x-0.0662x^2$ $R=1.00$
- 90°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=14.2000+4.5680x-0.0467x^2$ $R=1.00$
- ▲ 120°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=15.3424+3.4313x-0.0719x^2$ $R=0.89$
- △ 120°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=36.7000+3.8447x-0.0340x^2$ $R=0.99$

Table I. Modifications of rinds chemical composition and gell hardness during cooking processing by AP-100 method.

Time (min)	Water Absorption		Protein(%)		Hardness (N)
	Initial weight (g)	Final weight (g)	Cooking water	Rinds	
15	100.5	105.7+5.0%	0.200	25.0	52
30	101.8	108.1+6.2%	0.277	25.4	40
45	100.2	107.5+7.3%	0.360	23.8	30
60	100.0	112.8+12.8%	0.375	22.5	16

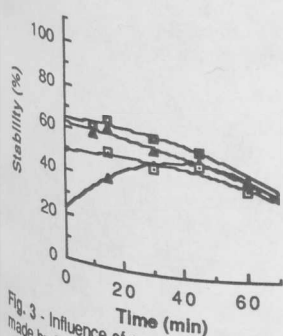


Fig. 3 - Influence of a second chopping on the stability of SPI sterilized fat emulsion made by PC-113 and AP-100 cooking methods. Processing conditions used: standard emulsification method, 50°C emulsification temperature and 8 min emulsification time.

- 2nd chopping PC-113, $y=63.7742+0.1753x-0.0074x^2$ $R=0.92$
- ◆ 2nd chopping AP-100, $y=48.9500+0.2287x-0.0060x^2$ $R=0.88$
- ▲ 120°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=61.9409-0.0180x-0.0047x^2$ $R=0.89$
- △ 120°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=22.7500+1.4373x-0.0178x^2$ $R=1.00$

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Table II. Modifications of rinds chemical composition and gell hardness during cooking processing by PP-113 method.

Time (min)	Water Absorption		Protein(%)		Hardness (N)
	Initial weight (g)	Final weight (g)	Cooking water	Rinds	
10	130.7	136.8+4.7%	0.27	26.8	26
15	131.1	140.1+6.9%	0.27	25.1	16
30	131.3	141.1+7.8%	0.26	24.6	12
45	131.0	138.5+5.7%	0.39	23.5	10

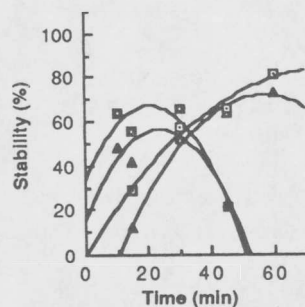


Fig. 4 - Influence of a second chopping on the stability of Na-Cas sterilized fat emulsions made by PC-113 and AP-100 cooking methods. Processing conditions used: standard emulsification method, 50°C emulsification temperature and 8 min emulsification time.

- 2nd chopping PC-113, $y=33.7197+3.2127x-0.0771x^2$ $R=0.95$
- ◆ 2nd chopping AP-100, $y=0.0500+2.2273x-0.0149x^2$ $R=0.99$
- ▲ 120°C - 45 min PC-113, $y=15.3424+3.4313x-0.0719x^2$ $R=0.89$
- △ 120°C - 45 min AP-100, $y=-36.700+3.8447x-0.0340x^2$ $R=0.99$

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