

INFLUENCE OF SEQUENCE OF TREATMENTS ON OXIDATION OF PORK MUSCLE TISSUE.

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Summary

The influence on lipid oxidation of different sequences of treatments such as sample size (whole, sliced or ground samples), cooking, refrigerated storage and frozen storage was investigated. A modified TBA method was used to measure oxidation on porcine *longissimus dorsi* muscle samples. Results indicate that, the sequence in which these treatments were applied to muscle samples has a significant ($P < 0.05$) effect on TBA values.

Introduction

Several investigations have been conducted to determine the influence of tissue size reduction, cooking, storage conditions and their cumulative effect on oxidation and consequently warmed-over flavor (WOF) (Chang et al., 1961; Keskinel et al., 1964; Huang and Greene, 1978; Igene et al., 1981; Pikul et al., 1984a). However, the effect on lipid oxidation of the sequence in which these processes are conducted has not been systematically studied. The 2-thiobarbituric test (TBA) has been mostly used to measure oxidation in meat, but it not possible to determine the sequence effect by comparing studies performed in different laboratories mainly because TBA number varies when different experimental conditions or modifications of the method are utilized (Newburg and Cocon, 1980; Melton, 1983; Igene et al., 1985; Willemot et al., 1985; Williams et al., 1983; Pikul et al., 1984b). Considering this, the objective of the present research is to evaluate the influence that different sequences of common meat industry procedures (grinding, slicing, cooking, and refrigerated and frozen storage) have on oxidation of pork muscle tissue as measured by TBA method.

Materials and Methods

Sample Treatments: As it is shown in Figure 1, the samples were randomly distributed among eight preparation (prep.) treatment and thirteen time-temperature (tm-tp) treatments.

Meat Source and Sample Preparation: Pork loins from both sides of an individual pork carcass were purchased from a local packer. At the laboratory, the loins were deboned and the *longissimus dorsi* muscles (LD) were excised and trimmed. The LD's were arbitrarily divided into eight pieces between the proximal and distal ends and randomly distributed among the prep. treatments. The sizes of the portions were calculated considering that the samples prepared from them must be the necessary to be distributed among the tm-tp treatments. Duplicate patties and slices were prepared for each tm-tp treatment. For the cooked samples an extra 35% more of sample was calculated to prevent cooking loss. Whole samples of 5.5 ± 0.5 cm thick, slices samples of 0.5 ± 0.1 cm thick and 20 ± 0.5 g patties of 5.5 cm diameter and 1 cm thick were prepared. The patties were made from meat that was cubed ($4 \times 4 \times 4$ cm) and then ground through a 0.48 cm plate. The slices were sliced with an electric slicer (Hobart Model 812). After being prepared all samples were individually wrapped in aluminum foil and taped with masking tape and then cooked or storage. The cooked samples were cooked in a convection oven (The G. S. Blodgett Company, Inc.) at 93.3°C and 1125 rpm blower speed to a final internal temperature of $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$. The refrigeration and freezing temperatures were $4 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ and $-20 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ respectively. Each individual sample was weighed and its weight recorded before and after being treated.

Measurement of Lipid Oxidation: Lipid oxidation was determined by the 2-thiobarbituric acid (TBA) method of Witte et al. (1970) as modified by Pensel (1990). Blanks and standard curve using 1,1,3,3-Tetraethoxypropane (TEP) were run simultaneously. The TEP recovery was 91% and the K value was 10.64, similar to the value reported by Witte et al. (1970) considering that 1 g of sample was used in this case. The results were expressed as TBA numbers in terms of milligrams of malonaldehyde per 1 kilogram of meat. TBA values reported are the mean of

five replicates. To consider the cooking drip and storage loss of the samples, it was necessary to correct the weight to a standard fresh weight (Pensel, 1990).

Data Analysis: The statistical analysis was completed using a two-factor (prep. and time treatments) fixed effect model with blocking (replications). Due to the interaction between the main effects, multiple comparisons were conducted based on the "marginal" multiple comparisons (Pensel, 1990). For this reason, WU, SU, CS and 0 time treatment were not included in Table 1. Analysis of variance and Duncan multiple range test were performed using (1985) procedures.

Results and Discussion

It can be seen from the statistical comparison in Table 1, that TBA numbers for CG samples were significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) than the comparable TBA numbers obtained from SC, GC, and GU samples at all Tm-Tp treatments. Except at 0 time, the GU samples had significantly lower ($P < 0.05$) TBA numbers when compared with CG, SC, GC and WC samples. The length of frozen storage did not produce significant differences whatever the size of the samples. 6F samples were not significantly different from 2F samples, neither 2R-2F or 2R-6F were significantly different from 6R-2F and 6R-6F respectively. Contrarily, TBA values of 6R-2F samples were higher than TBA values of 6F-6R samples. In general, refrigeration and cooking lead increases in TBA values (Dawson and Schierholz, 1976) independently of the sample size. However, the most detrimental combination of treatments was reducing the sample size followed by cooking. This can be seen in Figure 2, where the TBA numbers for the samples that were cooked and then ground or sliced (CG, CS) presented always the highest values, the samples had intermediate values and the uncooked samples had the lowest TBA values. Figure 2 shows the importance of the sequence in which the processes are carried out. For example, CG and SC samples were subjected to the same processes but in reverse sequence, however the results were significantly different with CS samples resulting in considerable more oxidation. Despite the disruption or denaturation of the cell membrane with the concomitant liberation of phospholipids, release of iron from the heme and incorporation of oxygen could be contributing factors for the increase of TBA numbers (Gray and Pearson, 1987; Pearson, 1988), the sequence in which these processes occur also should be considered a factor.

Conclusion

Based on the results of this study, it is possible to conclude that the sequence in which the processes were carried out had a significant influence on TBA numbers. Cooking followed by grinding and then six days of frozen storage and six additional days of refrigeration storage was the most detrimental combination of treatments. Then to predict the effect of certain treatments have on oxidation using TBA analysis, it is necessary to know the sequence and storage history of the sample.

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Figure 1: Treatments Design

Preparation treatments: WU= whole uncooked, WC= whole cooked, SU= sliced uncooked, SC= sliced and then cooked, GU= ground uncooked, GC= ground and then cooked, CW or WC= whole cooked, CS= cooked and then sliced, CG= cooked and then ground.

Temperature treatments: R= refrigerated storage, F= frozen storage, \longrightarrow = indicates refrigerated storage, \longrightarrow = indicates frozen storage, 0= zero day, 6F-6R= 6 days F and then 6 days R, 6R-2F= 6 days R and then 2 F, 6R= 6 days R, 2F-6R= 2 days F and then 6 days R, 6R-6F= 6 days R and then 6 days F, 6F-2R= 6 days F and 2 days R, 2F-2R= 2 days F and then 2 days R, 6F= 6 days F, 2R= 2 days R, 2F= 2 days F, 6F= 6 days F.

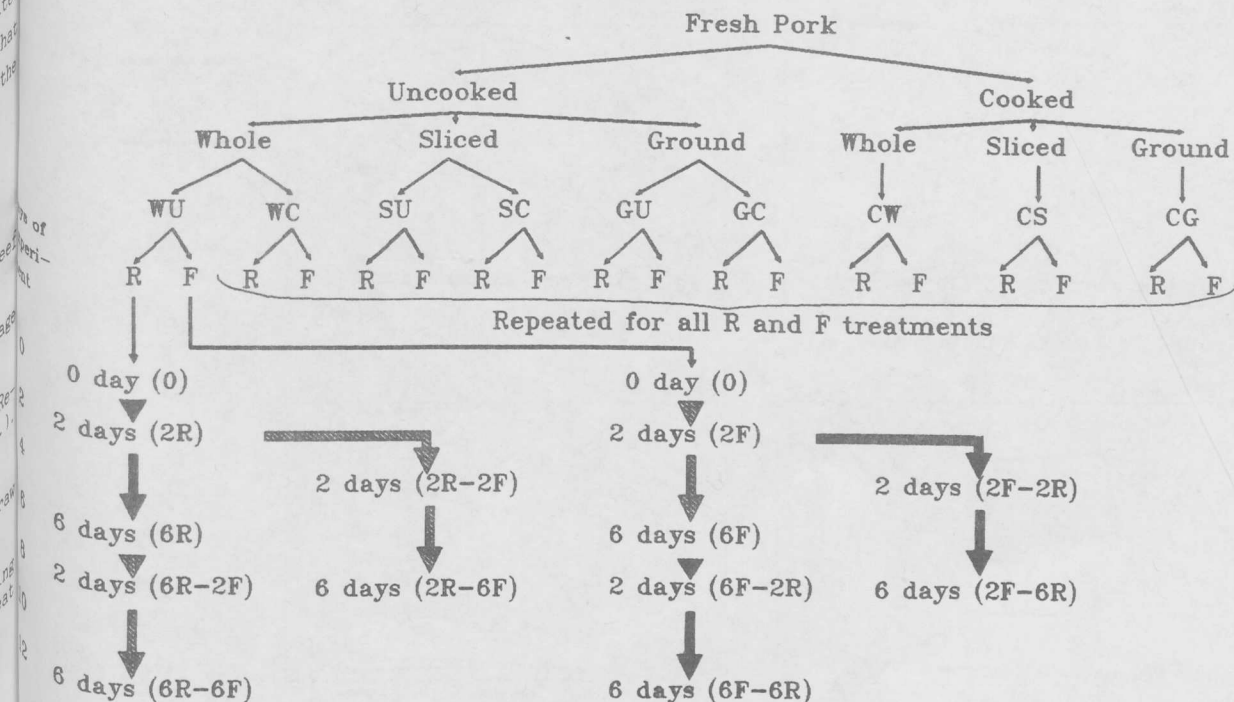


Table 1. Effect of Different Sequences of Treatments on TBA Numbers ^{a,b}

a: Cells in the same column or row, bearing the same letter are not significantly different (P<0.05)
b: TBA Number is expressed as milligrams malohaldehyde/kilogram muscle. Each value represents a mean of five replicates (\pm SD).

CG= cooked and then ground, SC= sliced and then cooked, GC= ground and then cooked, WC= whole cooked, GU= ground uncooked, R= refrigerated storage, F= frozen storage, 6F-6R= 6 days F and the 6 days R, 6R-2F= 6 days R and then 2 F, 6R= 6 days R, 2F-6R= 2 days F and then 6 days F, 6R-6F= 6 days R and then 6 days frozen, 2R-6F= 2 days R and then 6 days F, 6F-2R= 6 days F and 2 days R, 2F-2R= 2 days F and then 2 days R, 2R-6F= 2 days R and then 6 days F, 2R= 2 days R, 2F= 2 days F, 6F= 6 days F.

	6F-6R	6R-2F	6R	2F-6R	6R-6F	2R-2F	6F-2R	2F-2R	2R-6F	2R	2F	6F
CG	A 1.783 \pm 0.12	A B 1.779 \pm 0.10	A B C 1.742 \pm 0.12	A B C 1.743 \pm 0.15	B C D 1.772 \pm 0.15	C D E 1.707 \pm 0.11	C D E 1.732 \pm 0.09	D E F 1.772 \pm 0.11	E F G 1.536 \pm 0.07	F G 1.585 \pm 0.07	G 1.480 \pm 0.17	G 1.418 \pm 0.10
SC	H 0.652 \pm 0.25	H I 0.761 \pm 0.36	H I J 0.657 \pm 0.38	H I J 0.450 \pm 0.23	I J K 0.471 \pm 0.16	J K L 0.617 \pm 0.26	J L K 0.354 \pm 0.20	K L M 0.368 \pm 0.22	L M N 0.274 \pm 0.07	M N 0.316 \pm 0.16	N 0.235 \pm 0.08	N 0.227 \pm 0.18
GC	H 0.577 \pm 0.39	H I 0.560 \pm 0.30	H I J 0.308 \pm 0.05	H I J 0.641 \pm 0.38	I J K 0.590 \pm 0.28	J K L 0.493 \pm 0.14	J K L 0.481 \pm 0.18	K L M 0.351 \pm 0.17	L M N 0.438 \pm 0.14	M N 0.251 \pm 0.08	N 0.324 \pm 0.08	N 0.203 \pm 0.07
WC	H 0.761 \pm 0.29	H I 0.549 \pm 0.34	H I J 0.623 \pm 0.50	H I J 0.472 \pm 0.22	I J K 0.354 \pm 0.15	J K L 0.248 \pm 0.09	J K L 0.462 \pm 0.14	K L M 0.315 \pm 0.13	L M N 0.285 \pm 0.05	M N 0.213 \pm 0.05	N 0.064 \pm 0.05	N 0.190 \pm 0.21
GU	O 0.217 \pm 0.15	O P 0.225 \pm 0.17	O P Q 0.299 \pm 0.27	O P Q 0.154 \pm 0.20	P Q R 0.187 \pm 0.08	Q R S 0.116 \pm 0.07	Q R S 0.079 \pm 0.07	R S T 0.118 \pm 0.08	S T U 0.170 \pm 0.08	T U 0.120 \pm 0.07	U 0.068 \pm 0.06	U 0.109 \pm 0.05

Figure 2: Effect of Treatment Combinations on TBA Numbers

a- 0, 2R, 6R, 6R_2F, 6R-6F Tm-Tp Treat. b- 0, 2R, 2R-2F, 2R-6F Tm-Tp Treat.
c- 0, 2F, 6F, 6F-2R, 6F-6R Tm-Tp Treat. d- 0, 2F, 2F-2R, 2F-6R Tm-Tp Treat.

