Preparation of Panification Products Using Passion Fruit in Replacement of Wheat Flour

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Passion fruit (fruit of significant domestic production) has 52% of its weight comprised of peel (albedo), is rich in pectin, and has essential technological properties for bakery products. In the present coursework, the production of passion fruit albedo flour (FAM) was carried out, later used in different concentrations to produce pasta (4%, 8%, 12%, and 16%) and cookies (3%, 6%, 9%, and 12%). Physical and technological analyses were performed to characterize the products. The data treatment showed that the ideal concentration of FAM for pasta is 15%, and for the cookie, the maximum incorporation did not present a significant difference. We concluded that FAM has excellent potential for use in baking, being necessary further adjustments.

Keywords: Pasta. Cookie. Passion Fruit Albedo Flour.

Passion fruit (Passiflora edulis) is a fruit that has been gaining headway in the Brazilian agricultural market in the last four decades. The fruit cultivation has been explored and is already seen as an alternative for coffee producers because the faster financial return [1]. Today, Brazil is the largest producer of passion fruit in the world, yielding one million tons/year [2].

The genus Passiflora is represented by 530 species, being 140 natives of Brazil. Of these, only one is used for commercial purposes in the food production of nectars, juices, pulps, edible ice cream, jellies, and candies [3].

The productive chain uses the fruit pulp to manufacture the products, generating as residue: the bark, which represents ~52% of the passion fruit weight; and the seeds, which represent 6%-12% [4,5]. The residue created from the passion fruit processing is vast and presents a high potential uses for enrichment other food products because it is rich in pectin (a soluble fiber that aids in lowering blood glucose levels; besides presenting gelling properties of great interest to the industries’ foods), protein, B3 vitamin, and minerals [6].

Another use for the passion fruit shell is in the form of flour, which can be used in the bakery industry as an alternative to substitute the wheat flour [3]. According to ABIT (Associação Brasileira da Indústria de Panificação e Confeitaria) [7], the bakery segment creates around 800 thousand direct jobs and 1.8 million indirect in the approximately 70 thousand bakeries and patisseries in Brazil. Emphasizing the use of solid waste from agribusiness contributes to environmental conservation. Besides, it increases the nutritional value of food products [3], minimizing the occurrence of malnutrition due to lack of food, which is one of the aims of the program ONU 2030 - No Hunger and Sustainable Agriculture in Brazil.

The present study aimed to evaluate the technological and physical characteristics of passion fruit albedo flour, species genetically improved by Embrapa, as well as the biscuit and pasta produced from the increment of flour produced.

Methods

Flour Preparation

Passion fruit albedo (purple and yellow) was
cut into slices and intended for drying in a tray dryer with forced air circulation at a temperature of 80°C for 8.5 h. In order to determine the drying curves of the flour, moisture measurements were taken every 2 hours, until the albedo humidity was between 10% and 13%, below the maximum limit of 15% [8]. They were then ground in a knife mill (TECNAL, TE-651) and sieved with a 30 mesh opening vibrating sieve, packed in 50µm thick of high-density polyethylene plastic containers, and stored at room temperature, 25 ± 2°C for storage, following analyzes. Flours were characterized by grain size [9] humidity, by the use of infrared scales and water absorption (ABS), with results expressed as a percentage (%) of absorption.

**Product Development**

**Pasta**

Indian extruder model Pasta Mini 5” (Água Rasa – São Paulo) processed the fresh pasta, containing 1: 1 compression ratio thread and noodles with 23 rectangular 1 mm x 5 mm holes, internally coated with Teflon. The dough was kneaded, mixed and extruded, and then dried in a forced-air dryer for further analysis. The parameters evaluated were: cooking time method 66-50 [10], weight gain, volume gain, and loss of soluble solids. The texture of the cooked pasta was determined using the TA-XT plus Texturometer equipment with A / LKB-F, HDP / PFS and A / SPR accessories, to evaluate the firmness and shear force parameters [10].

Four noodle formulations were incorporated with passion fruit albedo flour (FAM) of the purple variety, with concentrations of 4; 8; 12 and 16%, in addition to the standard formulation (without additional passion fruit albedo flour) for comparison. The formulation consists of 3% oil, 1.5% salt, and water.

**Cookie**

The cookies were made with the incorporation of the yellow variety FAM in the proportions of F1 3%, F2 6%, F3 9%, and F4 12%, in addition to the standard formulation (F0), in which FAM is exempt for comparison purposes. All the ingredients, i.e., wheat flour, passion fruit albedo flour, sugar, butter, salt, and eggs, were mixed in a planetary mixer (Arno), its dough rolled and cut into 2cm wide, 0.8cm thick rectangles and 9cm long, for baking and other analyzes. The analyzes were made of texture profile of the raw mass (hardness, adhesiveness, flexibility, and cohesiveness) and the texture of the cookie (hardness and fracturability) in texturometerTA.XT.plus. Also, weight, diameter, thickness, expansion factor, and specific volume were evaluated. AACC, Method 10-50 D [10].

**Statistical Analysis**

The experiments were conducted in a completely randomized method, designed with three replications and evaluated by Tukey’s range test, with a 5% probability, using SAS software, version 9.0.

**Results and Discussion**

**Particle Size of Passion Fruit Flour of the Purple and Yellow Varieties**

The results obtained in the particle size characterization of passion fruit albedo flours of purple and yellow varieties were respectively 44.40% in 42 mesh (0.355 mm) and 47.05% in the same aperture, indicating that both Flours, despite the different varieties, have similar grain size.

The particle size of the food after grinding is an essential aspect in the preparation of flour derivative, since a more excellent uniformity of the granulometry allows the preparation of a final product with better sensorial quality, mainly texture, taste and visual aspect. The food absorbs water evenly, resulting in uniform cooking of the product. Therefore, the grain size of the FAM of the two varieties does not present satisfactory uniformity for the preparation of bakery products [11].

**Moisture of Passion Fruit Albedo Flour (Purple and Yellow) Varieties**

Passion fruit albedo flour had a moisture content of 10.78 ± 0.3% for the purple variety and 11.56 ±
0.3% for the yellow variety. Moisture is a crucial aspect for the preservation of food quality, as it can directly influence the chemical composition, microorganism development, chemical, and enzymatic reactions, causing, among other damages, the decrease in the shelf life of the product [12].

Flour Water Absorption Capacity

Absorption analysis was performed on the two varieties of passion fruit albedo flour present in triplicates. It was also made with wheat flour incorporated with passion fruit albedo in the proportions 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, and 25%. The results obtained for yellow, purple, and wheat flour AMF were respectively 559.83 ± 1.36, 549.84 ± 0.17, and 58.39 ± 0.20.

Both varieties are similar when we compared the results between the absorption values found in passion fruit albedo flour. Also, passion fruit flour has a much higher absorption compared to wheat flour. This superior FAM absorption value can be explained by the high fiber content present in passion fruit peel, especially pectin, when compared to the fiber content present in cereal bran and pulses. Furthermore, this high content of soluble fiber increases the nutritional value of foods, providing a reduction in glycemic response, helping in problems such as diabetes, cardiovascular problems, and obesity [13].

Optimum Cooking Time

Increasing FAM incorporation in the dough formulation led to a decrease in cooking time with a mean of 7.00 ± 0.01 min. Cooking time depends on dough cohesion through the interaction of gliadin and glutenin proteins and starch present [14].

Absorption of the Water

Absorption occurs in a significant model described as 0.011 [FAM] + 2.03 with R² = 0.83, and its increase was already an expected factor due to the high fiber content found in FAM. Flours with a higher fiber and protein content retain a higher absorption [15]. Optimum cooking time was reduced, and absorption increased, leading to faster moistening and swelling of the starch, increasing gelatinization in a shorter time.

Loss of Solids

The loss of solids occurs by a significant model with -0.03 [FAM]² +, 72 [FAM] + 6.24 with R² = 0.99, the results show that from the incorporation of 5% of FAM, poor quality flour is already obtained, and the addition only increases the loss of solids and the maximum loss with the incorporation of 11.91% of FAM. Flours with greater grain size and fibrous parts, increase the loss of solids [11].

Increase of the Volume

For this parameter, we obtained a significant model described as 0.01 [FAM] +2.42 with R² = 0.86, an increase in the incorporation of FAM in the mass formulation generated a similar volume increase. The parameters weight gain and volume increase are related to the water absorption capacity of the pasta during cooking and depend on the shape of the pasta. The volume increase is classified as good with values in the range of 200 to 300% [16], which did not occur, the values below were found, and only the incorporation of 12% was satisfactory.

Texture Analysis of Pasta Samples

Firmness

The results show a significant model described as 0.401 [FAM]²-12.36 [FAM] + 332.6 with R² = 0.85 (Figura 1). The incorporation of the FAM generated a decrease in the firmness parameter, with its minimum point of 15.41% of the addition of passion fruit albedo flour. The use of nontraditional products interferes with the formation of the gluten matrix, weakening its bonds, making the system more fragile, and facilitating water penetration [17].

Shear Strength

The shear strength parameter has a significant
mathematical model, described as $0.041 \text{[FAM]}^2 - 1.161 \text{[FAM]} + 23.587$ with $R^2 = 0.94$; as well as firmness, this parameter has its value reduced with the increase of the addition of passion fruit flour to the pasta, being its minimum value with the incorporation of $14.23\%$ of FAM in its formulation (Figura 2).

Texture Analysis of Cookie Samples

Expansion and Thickness Index, Weight Loss, and Specific Mass

The results obtained from the expansion and thickness indices, weight loss and specific mass did not present a significant model, having as mean and standard deviation results $0.96 \pm 0.01; 0.94 \pm 0.38; 0.18 \pm 0.01$ and $0.97 \pm 0.15$ respectively.

Cookie Texture: Hardness and Fracturability

The hardness test results do not show a significant model, with average and deviation of $5791.26 \pm 692.48$. We observed the increase in fiber content in the product with the increase in the value of parameters related to food texture, such as hardness [18].

The fracturability, which forces the cookie to fracture, has a significant model with $\text{Fra} = 0.0042 \text{[FAM]}^2 + 0.072 \text{[FAM]} + 0.69$ with $R^2 = 0.92$. As hardness, it grows with the increased incorporation of passion fruit flour into the cookie dough formulation. It was expected, as a harder cookie is more difficult to break, the tensions of the forces required for the fracture become larger, having its peak with the addition of $8.57\%$ of FAM (Figure 3).

Conclusion

We observed that the yellow and purple FAM did not present significant differences in the analyzed parameters. For the noodles, the best results were in the addition of $15\%$ of FAM, where the shear strength and hardness were minimal, and the water absorption was close to the expected. Regarding the cookie, the addition of FAM did not present significant results. FAM presented technological problems, but improvements such as the uniformity of granules would be beneficial, significantly improving the quality of baked goods.

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Figure 1. Firmness parameter in pasta, in different percentages of passion fruit flour.
**Figure 2.** Shear strength parameter in pasta, with different percentages of passion fruit flour.

![Shear strength parameter in pasta](image1)

**Figure 3.** Parameter Fracturability in the cookie, in different percentages of passion fruit flour.

![Parameter Fracturability in the cookie](image2)

**References**

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