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Development of Ready to Eat Buffalo Meat Product using Tapioca Flour

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ABSTRACT

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Buffaloes are a potential source of nutritionally high quality meat. Buffalo meat is the healthiest meat among red meats known for human consumption. In order to improve the palatability of the buffalo meat a value added meat extruded product was developed using the tapioca flour as a binder. Hence a study was conducted to found the quality characteristics of buffalo meat extruded product using tapioca flour in three different proportions viz., 15:85, 25:75 and 35:65. The Physico-Chemical characteristics such as Cooking Yield, Expansion Ratio, Bulk Density, Water Absorption Index, Water Solubility Index were significantly higher in 15:85 proportions compared to other two and Sensory Evaluation were also found to be better in 15:85 proportions. Hence it is stored at ambient temperature for three months and subjected to further analysis such as physico-chemical characteristics (viz. pH, thiobarbituric acid no. tyrosine value, hardness and fracturability) and sensory analysis on every fort night interval during the storage period of three months. There was a significant increase in the thiobarbituric acid no. tyrosine value and hardness throughout the storage period but no significant difference were found in sensory evaluation hence it could be concluded that tapioca powder can be included in buffalo meat extruded product in 15:85 proportion.

Introduction

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO, 2008) has termed buffalo as an important asset that is “undervalued.” Meat produced from buffaloes has gained increased popularity in several south eastern and middle-eastern Asian countries and Africa because of its reduced fat, reduced cholesterol, and other healthier attributes. In terms of buffalo

production and population, India is the most important place in the world. With more than 50% of the buffaloes in the world, India has become the largest bovine meat exporter. Buffalo meat does not possess any religious taboo against its consumption, is emerging as important red meat source, and is gaining popularity in many parts of the world. India produced 1.53 million tonnes (MT) of buffalo meat of which 1.1 MT were exported to more

than 48 countries around the world (APEDA, 2014). India overtook Brazil as the top bovine meat exporter (boneless frozen meat) in the world, and Indian buffalo meat exports are expected to increase by 20% to 1.7 MT because of competitive pricing and quality. A small proportion of buffalo meat is domestically consumed in India as hot-boned boneless meat without chilling or any further processing. China (including mainland China) produces 0.62 MT of buffalo meat, most of which is sold as fresh meat and only small proportion of which is processed into dried meat, sausages, and ham. Hence a new initiative was taken to develop ready to eat extruded meat snacks out of buffalo meat.

Extrusion cooking is a relatively recent form of food processing. Forcing material through a hole is the process of extrusion. Sausage extruders were developed in the nineteenth century as simple forming machines. Eventually pasta was produced in extruders. Flour and water were added at one end of the machine, and a screw mixed and compressed the dough before extruding it through numerous holes or dies that gave the pasta its shape. During the 1930s heat was added to the barrel containing the screw; puffed corn curl snacks resulted. The pressure developed as the dough moved along the screw; this, together with the heat under pressure, caused the corn to puff upon exiting the dies. As extrusion cooking processed more types of food, extruders became more specialized for food applications. Twin-screw extruders containing two screws were adapted from the polymer industry, and these machines are considerably more versatile than the single screw extruders. Extruded products are often subjected to further processing, such as frying, baking, and rolling (Camire, 2002). Extrusion can produce safe, lightweight, shelf-stable foods that can be stored for use during famines and natural disasters. Many opportunities exist for product development research in extrusion.

The present study was aimed at developing the ready to eat snacks with protein rich flour using extrusion technology and further evaluating the shelf life of the developed products and also evaluate the effect of ambient storage on the quality characteristics of ready to eat snacks incorporated with optimum levels of tapioca flours.

Materials and Methods

Buffalo meat procured from Corporation Slaughter house, Perambur, Chennai – 12 was utilized for this study. The purchased meat was packed hygienically and brought to the Department of Meat Science and Technology, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai – 7. Fat and connective tissue were removed manually. The buffalo meat was cut into small pieces and then minced in a meat mincer using 4.5mm plate. The minced meat was then dried in hot air oven at 100⁰C for two hours and subsequently at 80⁰C for 12-14 hours and finally made into a powder. The buffalo meat powder obtained was sieved to get refined meat powder. The refined meat powder was packed in polyethylene packaging materials until used (Table 1).

Extruded buffalo meat product formulation

Extruded meat product was formulated with buffalo meat in combination with plant binders constituting 100 per cent of the formulation and above various additives was added. The formulation is described below

Preparation of buffalo meat extruded product

The buffalo meat powder and respective flours were taken to the Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, Agricultural Engineering and Research Institute, Coimbatore. The buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour along with other ingredients were mixed thoroughly was passed through

U.S.No.14 sieve. To this mixture 10% (V/W) water was added and packed in polyethylene bags and allowed to equilibrate for one hour.

Extrusion cooking

Six batches of extruded products were prepared by incorporating buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour in proportions of 15:85, 25:75 and 35:65 respectively along with minor ingredients as additives. The preconditioned mix of raw material was fed into the twin screw extruder at 95⁰C for 1-2 minutes and thus extrudates were prepared. Expanded extrudates were air dried at room temperature (37⁰C). The dried extrudates were cut into small pieces (approximately 10cm in length) and deep fried in oil and immediately subjected to sensory evaluation to select the optimum proportion of buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour. Then the selected optimum proportion of buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour were packed in polyethylene bags and stored at room temperature (37⁰C) until further analysis.

Cooking yield (Per Cent)

The weight of buffalo meat extruded products were recorded just before cooking and immediately after cooking from which the cooking yield was calculated between the difference of product after cooking and before cooking.

Hardness and fracturability by texture analyser

Hardness (g) and fracturability (mm) of the dry extrudates was determined from the peak of the displacement plot of the extrudate during shearing in a Texture Analyzer (Stable Micro Systems – TA-HDi, Surrey, England) using a Warner-Bratzler blade (Kharagpur, West Bengal, India). The cross head pre test speed, test speed and post test speed were 1.00, 0.50 and 5.00 mm/min, respectively. The

full load scale was 5 kg depending on the hardness of the extrudates. The shear blade used was 1.22 mm thick with a shear angle of 90⁰. Single extrudate cylinders placed in the cell were sheared into two pieces by the shear blade and the maximum force registered during shearing was recorded.

Water Absorption Index (WAI)

The water absorption index was measured according to the method described by Bryant *et al.*, (2001). 2.5g of ground sample was suspended in 30ml of distilled water (30⁰C) in a 50 ml preweighed centrifuge tube. The tubes were placed in a 30⁰C water bath and intermittently stirred for 30 min. the suspension was centrifuged for 10 min at 3,000 X g and the supernatant was decanted into a preweighed 50 ml beaker. The weight of the precipitate was used to calculate the WAI which was reported as a ratio (weight gain/ weight of sample).

Water Solubility Index (WSI)

The supernatant liquid obtained from water absorption index determination used for determination of water solubility index. The supernatant liquid collected in the preweighed 50 ml beaker was kept in a hot air oven (95⁰C) to evaporate to dryness. After drying, the beakers were cooled and weighed. The water solubility index was calculated as weight of dried solids to initial weight of the sample and expressed in %.

Bulk density

Bulk density of snack foods was determined based on the procedure described by Choudhury and Gautam (2003). Bulk density was estimated by determining the mass and apparent volume of individual dry, cylindrical extruded rods (5 to 10 cm long). Apparent volume was calculated as the product of length and cross-section area of the extruded

rods. Five extrudate cylinders were randomly selected from each sample. Ten diameters and five lengths were measured at different points on each cylinder. The average values for five extrudate cylinders were used for calculation of apparent volume of each sample. Bulk density was calculated by dividing the mass by volume.

Thiobarbituric Acid Number (TBA)

Twenty gram of samples was blended in the laboratory blender with 50 ml of cold 20 per cent Trichloroacetic acid for two minutes. The blended contents were rinsed with 50 ml of distilled water, mixed together and filtered through the filter paper (Whatman No.1, 18.5 cm diameter) and filtrate was collected in a 100 ml capacity-measuring cylinder.

The filtrate termed the Trichloroacetic acid (TCA) extract was used in the estimation of TBA number and tyrosine value (TV). Thiobarbituric acid (TBA) number was measured by a modified method by Strange *et al.*, (1977). 5ml of the TCA extract was mixed with 5 ml of TBA reagent in a test tube. The test tube was kept in water bath at 100⁰C for 30 min along with a test tube containing a blank of 5ml of 10 percent TCA and 5ml of TBA reagent. After cooling the test tubes in running water for about 10 minutes, the developed colour was measured as absorbance at 530 nm in the spectrophotometer (UV-VIS spectrophotometer, ELICO, SL 164 Double beam) at medium sensitivity and reported as TBA number.

Tyrosine value

Tyrosine value was determined by the modified method of Strange *et al.*, (1977). About 2.5 ml of the TCA extract was diluted with equal quantity of distilled water in a test tube. To this, 10 ml of 0.5N NaOH was added followed by 3ml of diluted Folin and Ciocalteu's phenol reagent (1 part Folin and

Ciocalteu's phenol reagent + 2 parts distilled water). After mixing and keeping for 15 minutes at room temperature, the developed colour was measured as absorbance at 660nm in the spectrophotometer (UV-VIS spectrophotometer, ELICO, SL 164 Double beam) at medium sensitivity, using a blank containing 5ml of diluted Folin and Ciocalteu's phenol reagent. By the reference to the standard graph, the tyrosine value was calculated as mg of tyrosine per 100 g of sample.

Results and Discussion

The buffalo meat extruded products were prepared by incorporating buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour in different proportions of 15:85, 25:75 and 35:65 respectively. The optimum level of inclusion of buffalo meat and tapioca flour was selected based on physico-chemical characteristics and sensory evaluation (Table 2–5).

Physico-chemical characteristics

Cooking yield (per cent)

The cooking yield was significantly ($P < 0.05$) high in 15:85 (93.72 ± 0.42) proportion than the other two proportions of tapioca flour and there was no significant ($P > 0.05$) difference between 25:75 (91.89 ± 0.50) and 35:65 (91.59 ± 0.67) proportions of tapioca flour.

The increase in cooking yield with increasing levels of tapioca flour may be due to the increase in starch content. Similarly, Venkatachalam (2009) stated that there was a significant increase in cooking yield as the proportion of chicken meat in the extruded product.

Expansion ratio

The expansion ratio was significantly ($P < 0.01$) higher in 15:85 (5.45 ± 0.91) and 25:75 (5.09

± 0.71) proportions than that of 35:65 (3.68 ± 0.45) proportion. The expansion ratio decreased with decrease in the proportion of tapioca flour. The result was in agreement with the statement of Gogoi *et al.*, (1996) in which only starch granules can participate in the formation of a stable expanded structure after gelatinization and Mohamed (1990) who mentioned that decrease in expansion ratio is because of the protein content which does not puff as that of starch.

Bulk density

No significant difference ($P>0.05$) was observed between the three different proportions of tapioca flour. But, Gogoi *et al.*, (1996) stated that the extrudates with high protein content resulted in increased bulk density.

Water absorption index

The water absorption index was significantly ($P<0.01$) high in 15:85 (5.43 ± 0.003) proportion than the other two proportions of tapioca flour and there was no significant ($P>0.05$) difference between 25:75 (3.82 ± 0.002) and 35:65 (3.98 ± 0.24) proportions of tapioca flour. The results were similar to the findings of El-Samahy *et al.*, (2007) in which there was a decrease in water absorption index due to the decreasing of starch.

Water solubility index

There was no significant ($P>0.05$) difference between the three different proportions of tapioca flour. The result was similar to the findings of Mittal and Lawrie (1984), where the water solubility index was not affected by the proportion of meat offals in the mixture.

Sensory evaluation

There was no significant ($P>0.05$) difference in the organoleptic scores for appearance,

flavour, texture and saltiness between the three different proportions of tapioca flour.

There was no significant ($P>0.05$) difference in crispiness score between the 15:85 (5.41 ± 0.11) and other two proportions of tapioca flour and significant ($P<0.05$) decrease in crispiness score was noticed in 35:65 (5.15 ± 0.14) than 25:75 (5.70 ± 0.07) proportion.

There was no significant ($P>0.05$) difference in overall acceptability scores between the 15:85 (5.42 ± 0.08) and other two proportions of tapioca flour and significant ($P<0.05$) decrease in overall acceptability score was noticed in 35:65 (5.14 ± 0.09) than 25:75 (5.64 ± 0.16) proportion. The result was in agreement with the findings of Jauregui *et al.*, (2003) in which there was a tendency towards lower scores as more meat was added.

The results of Experiment II revealed that cooking yield, expansion ratio and water absorption index was significantly higher in 15:85 proportion of buffalo meat tapioca flour. Similarly, there was considerably improved crispiness and overall acceptability scores of sensory evaluation in 15:85 proportion. Hence, based on the above findings and cost economics the buffalo meat extruded product containing 15:85 proportion of buffalo meat powder and tapioca flour respectively was selected as optimum buffalo meat extruded product.

Thiobarbituric Acid Number (TBA No)

The mean \pm S.E values of thiobarbituric acid number of buffalo meat extruded product with optimum proportions of tapioca flour for 0, 15, 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 days were 0.12 ± 0.01 , 0.20 ± 0.05 , 0.44 ± 0.11 , 0.68 ± 0.09 , 0.81 ± 0.08 , 1.18 ± 0.18 and 1.37 ± 0.23 respectively. Analysis of variance revealed highly significant ($P<0.01$) difference of TBA No between storage periods which may be due to the lipid oxidation of the buffalo meat

extruded product. The results were similar to the findings noticed by Anna Anandh *et al.*, (2005) in which there was a significant increase in TBA No. through out the period of storage. Park *et al.*, (1993) found a decrease in TBA value during the first 15 days of storage period and increased slowly thereafter.

Tyrosine Value (TV)

The mean ± S.E values of tyrosine value of buffalo meat extruded product at optimum proportions of tapioca flour for 0, 15, 30, 45,

60, 75 and 90 days were 0.88 ± 0.12 , 0.99 ± 0.05 , 1.38 ± 0.13 , 1.39 ± 0.10 , 1.53 ± 0.12 , 1.62 ± 0.13 , 1.73 ± 0.11 respectively. Analysis of variance revealed highly significant ($P < 0.01$) difference of tyrosine value between storage periods.

The results were similar to the findings of Strange *et al.*, (1977) in which they reported that the tyrosine value may be increased as bacterial load increased during the storage period (Table 4).

Table.1

Sl. No	Ingredients	Percentage w/w		
1	Buffalo meat	15	25	35
2	Plant binders (Tapioca flour)	85	75	65
3	Sodium tri polyphosphate	0.3	0.3	0.3
4	Salt	2	2	2
5	Water	12.5	12.5	12.5
6	Onion	3	3	3
7	Garlic	1	1	1
8	Sodium nitrite	120ppm	120ppm	120ppm
9	Water (V/W)	10	10	10

Table.2 Mean ± SE values for Cooking yield (per cent), Expansion ratio, Bulk density, Water absorption index and Water solubility index of buffalo meat extruded product with different proportions of tapioca flour

Traits	n	Different proportions of buffalo meat and tapioca flour			F-value
		15:85	25:75	35:65	
Cooking Yield (per cent)	6	93.72 ^b ± 0.42	91.89 ^a ± 0.50	91.59 ^a ± 0.67	3.71 [*]
Expansion ratio	6	5.45 ^b ± 0.91	5.09 ^b ± 0.71	3.68 ^a ± 0.45	1.71 ^{NS}
Bulk density	6	0.34 ^a ± 0.03	0.26 ^a ± 0.04	0.29 ^a ± 0.04	1.54 ^{NS}
Water absorption index	6	5.43 ^b ± 0.003	3.82 ^a ± 0.002	3.98 ^a ± 0.24	39.15 ^{**}
Water solubility index	6	17.79 ^a ± 1.42	16.99 ^a ± 0.40	18.71 ^a ± 0.63	0.44 ^{NS}

Means bearing same superscript in a row do not differ significantly ($P > 0.05$)

Table.3 Mean ± SE scores for sensory evaluation of buffalo meat extruded product with different proportions of tapioca flour

Sensory Attributes score	n	Different proportions of buffalo meat and tapioca flour			F-value
		15:85	25:75	35:65	
Appearance	6	5.74 ^a ± 0.20	5.71 ^a ± 0.15	5.45 ^a ± 0.18	0.78 ^{NS}
Flavour	6	5.68 ^a ± 0.14	5.71 ^a ± 0.07	5.36 ^a ± 0.18	1.93 ^{NS}
Texture	6	5.51 ^a ± 0.12	5.64 ^a ± 0.08	5.22 ^a ± 0.16	3.03 ^{NS}
Crispiness	6	5.41 ^{ab} ± 0.11	5.70 ^b ± 0.07	5.15 ^a ± 0.14	6.01 [*]
Saltiness	6	5.63 ^a ± 0.16	5.67 ^a ± 0.04	5.31 ^a ± 0.18	1.87 ^{NS}
Overall acceptability	6	5.42 ^{ab} ± 0.08	5.64 ^b ± 0.16	5.14 ^a ± 0.09	4.33 [*]

Means bearing same superscript in a row do not differ significantly (P>0.05)

Table.4 Mean ± SE values for physico chemical analysis of buffalo meat extruded product with optimum proportions of tapioca flour under ambient storage condition

Parameters	Storage period in days						
	0	15	30	45	60	75	90
TBA No.	0.12 ^a ±0.01	0.20 ^a ±0.05	0.44 ^{ab} ±0.11	0.68 ^b ±0.09	0.81 ^b ±0.08	1.18 ^c ±0.18	1.37 ^c ±0.23
Tyrosine value	0.88 ^a ±0.12	0.99 ^a ±0.05	1.38 ^b ±0.13	1.39 ^b ±0.10	1.53 ^b ±0.12	1.62 ^b ±0.13	1.73 ^b ±0.11
Hardness (kg)	6.12 ^a ±0.62	7.04 ^a ±0.96	6.72 ^a ±0.57	7.59 ^a ±0.70	6.48 ^a ±0.49	6.45 ^a ±0.95	6.54 ^a 0.77
Fracturability (mm)	10.14 ^a ±1.02	9.74 ^a ±1.05	9.34 ^a ±0.83	8.48 ^a ±0.72	9.21 ^a ±0.68	9.81 ^a ±0.99	9.18 ^a ±0.72

Means bearing same superscript in a row do not differ significantly (P>0.05)

Table.5 Mean ± SE scores for sensory evaluation of buffalo meat extruded product with optimum proportions of tapioca flour under ambient storage condition

Parameters	Storage period in days			
	0	30	60	90
Appearance	5.74 ^a ± 0.20	5.61 ^a ± 0.23	5.82 ^a ± 0.19	5.81 ^a ± 0.11
Flavour	5.54 ^a ± 0.01	5.56 ^a ± 0.21	5.63 ^a ± 0.31	5.54 ^a ± 0.10
Texture	5.49 ^a ± 0.12	5.60 ^a ± 0.26	5.85 ^{ab} ± 0.75	6.39 ^b ± 0.15
Crispiness	5.41 ^a ± 0.11	5.53 ^a ± 0.08	5.87 ^{ab} ± 0.23	6.36 ^b ± 0.20
Saltiness	5.63 ^a ± 0.16	5.68 ^a ± 0.18	5.99 ^{ab} ± 0.22	6.41 ^b ± 0.14
Overall acceptability	5.33 ^a ± 0.14	5.46 ^a ± 0.07	5.56 ^a ± 0.10	5.55 ^a ± 0.10

Means bearing same superscript a row do not differ significantly (P>0.05)

Hardness (kg)

The mean \pm S.E values of hardness of buffalo meat extruded product at optimum proportions of tapioca flour for 0, 15, 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 days were 6.12 ± 0.62 , 7.04 ± 0.96 , 6.72 ± 0.57 , 7.59 ± 0.70 , 6.48 ± 0.49 , 6.45 ± 0.95 and 6.54 ± 0.77 respectively. Analysis of variance revealed highly significant ($P < 0.01$) difference between storage periods.

These results were in congruent with the statement of Rhee *et al.*, (1997) who found that the beef extrudates had lower hardness values and Brncic *et al.*, (2006) who mentioned that the increase in the feed moisture content increased the hardness in the final extrudates.

Fracturability (mm)

The mean \pm S.E values of fracturability of buffalo meat extruded product at optimum proportions of tapioca flour for 0, 15, 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 days were 10.14 ± 1.02 , 9.74 ± 1.05 , 9.34 ± 0.83 , 8.48 ± 0.72 , 9.21 ± 0.68 , 9.81 ± 0.99 and 9.18 ± 0.72 respectively. Analysis of variance revealed highly significant ($P < 0.01$) difference between storage periods. The high value of fracturability for the buffalo meat extruded product prepared from the optimum proportion of tapioca flour were due to the fracture behaviour of starch used as (Luyten *et al.*, 2004).

There was a significant increase in the thiobarbituric acid no. tyrosine value and hardness throughout the storage period but no significant difference were found in sensory evaluation hence it could be concluded that tapioca powder can be included in buffalo meat extruded product in 15:85 proportion.

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