

Physicochemical properties of cookies developed from “maida” substituted with cashew apple powder

ABSTRACT

Cashew apple (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) is one of India's most important tropical crops. It is a rich source of vitamin C, antioxidants, minerals, dietary fibers and carbohydrates. The study of the development of cookies based on cashew apple powder (CAP) was undertaken to use wasted cashew apples as well as to tap the nutritional value of cashew apples. Due to astringency and more tannin content of cashew apple, people do not like it for direct consumption. The cookies were prepared by substituting 5%, 10%, 15%, and 20% maida by CAP. These four different compositions were baked at temperature levels 160°C, 170°C, and 180°C. The prepared cookies were evaluated for their proximate composition, including moisture content, crude ash, crude fat, crude fiber, crude proteins and carbohydrates. The sensory evaluation, colour analysis and textural analysis were done as well as energy content was determined. The results revealed that cookies substituted with 5% CAP and baked at a temperature 180°C (S₁T₃) got the highest score in sensory evaluation (7.46), browning index (50.62) and hardness (10.18 N). It was concluded that if an amount of maida were replaced by CAP, people would like to consume it more than the other flour cookies.

KEYWORDS: *Anacardium occidentale*; CAP; Cashew apple; cookies, sensory evaluation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Cashew tree (*Anacardium Occidentale* L.) is an evergreen tropical tree. The cashew has been introduced by Portuguese and is a valuable cash crop in India. It belongs to the family *Anacardiaceae*. The cashew fruit has two distinct parts: the swollen and pear-shaped stalk (cashew apple) and a kidney-shaped nut attached to the apple. The apples (pseudo fruit) in general are yellow or red in colour (Bhavana and Patil, 2021).

The total cashew apple production in India was approximately 56 lakh MT in the year 2021 (Kannan *et al.*, 2021). Maharashtra accounts for one-third of the country's total cashew production of which a significant proportion (60%) is produced in the Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts (Anonymous¹, 2021). Cashew apple contains 90% whole fruit weight. The pulp of the cashew apple is very juicy with 85-90% water, 7-13% carbohydrate, 0.7-0.9% protein, 0.2% mineral, 0.1% lipid, vitamin C at high content (261.5 mg per edible part), five or six-fold compared to orange, eight-fold compared to mandarin orange, other vitamins B1, B2, etc., and minerals Ca, P, Fe, etc. (Tran *et al.*, 2014).

Breads and biscuits are a major part of the bakery industry and cover around 80% of total bakery products in India. This belongs to the unorganized sector of the bakery industry and covers over 70% of the total population. In India, biscuits industry came into limelight and started gaining a sound status in bakery industry in later part of the 20th century when urbanized society called for readymade food products at a tenable cost. Biscuits were assumed as sick man's diet in earlier days. Now, it has become one of the most loved fast food products for every age group.

Biscuits are easy to carry, easy to eat, cholesterol free and at reasonable cost. Maharashtra have the largest intake of biscuits. The rural sector consumes around 55% of the biscuits in the bakery products. Biscuit contributes to over 13% of total production of bakery and above 80% of the biscuits are manufactured by the small-scale sector of the bakery industry comprising both factory and non-factory units. (Anonymous², 2022)

The cashew apple has been used to develop cookies. It was found to be a nutritive diet because it contains vitamin C (Tran *et al.*, 2014). Also, good for digestion because it has higher dietary fiber as reported by Jose *et al.*, (2008). Cashew apples have been utilized instead of wasted. It adds to the income of the cashew-producing farmer. Even though the cashew apple production is higher in India about 90% of cashew apples are wasted because no well-developed technology for using cashew apples is available. Also, people are not consuming cashew apples directly because of higher astringency and tannin content (Suganya and Dharshini, 2011). So, some processing technology needs to be developed. Therefore, it is necessary to develop cashew apple products that will use cashew apples as a nutritive diet and on other hand will add to the farmer's income. Therefore, the study was conducted to develop cashew apple cookies.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1 Material

The cashew apples were procured from the cashew field of CAET, Dapoli. Those were dried 50-55°C for 27 h while other materials like maida, sugar, dalda, milk powder, baking powder, salt and essence were procured from the Dapoli local market.

2.2 Preparation of Cashew Apple Powder

The fresh cashew apples were washed thoroughly and sliced into 1cm×1cm pieces. The slices were spread uniformly over the tray as a thin layer and dried using a tray dryer at 50-55 °C, till the final moisture content of 6.5-7% (wb.) was obtained. After drying, the residue was kept to cool and ground in a hammer mill. Afterward, the material was sieved to obtain a powder with a particle size of 50µm. The sieved powder was stored in a sealed plastic container at room temperature prior to use.

2.3 Details of the Experiment

The cookies were made by using four levels of the cashew apple powder 5%, 10%, 15% and 20% which were coded as S₁, S₂, S₃ and S₄ respectively. The prepared samples were baked at temperature levels of 160°C, 170°C and 180°C which are denoted by T₁, T₂ and T₃ respectively.

Table 1. Ingredients composition of cookies

Ingredients	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄
Maida (g)	950	900	850	800
CAP (g)	50	100	150	200
Dalda (g)	500	500	500	500
Sugar (g)	500	500	500	500
Milk powder (g)	25	25	25	25
Salt (g)	5	5	5	5
Essence (ml)	15	15	15	15
Baking powder (g)	10	10	10	10

2.4 Preparation of CAP-based Cookies

The cookies were prepared by mixing ingredients as per the formula given in Table 1. The dough prepared was kept for resting for 15 minutes. The sheet of appropriate thickness was prepared with the help of a wooden roller. The cookies were cut round in shape transferred to the tray and baked at test temperature. The developed cookies were kept for cooling at room temperature for 1 h and then packed in an airtight container for further analysis.

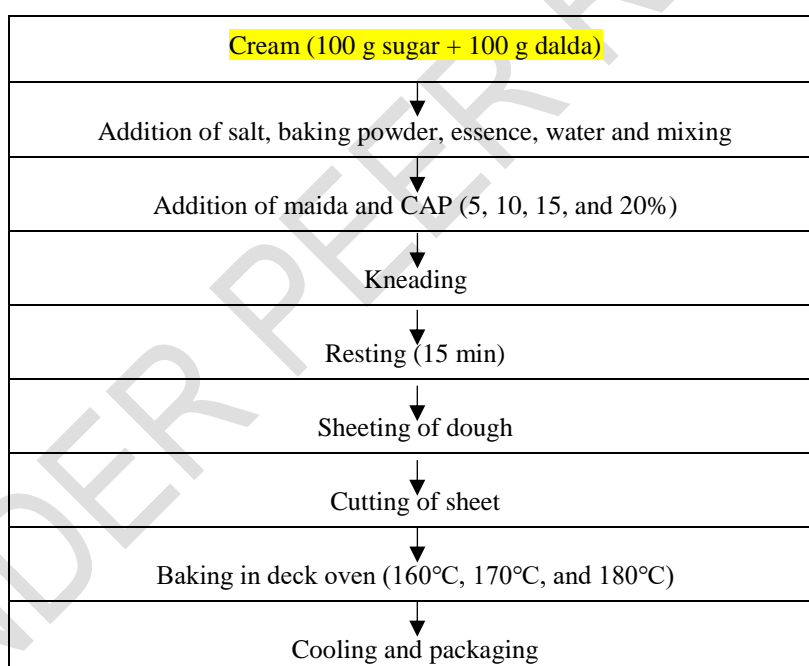


Figure 1. Process flow chart for CAP-based cookies

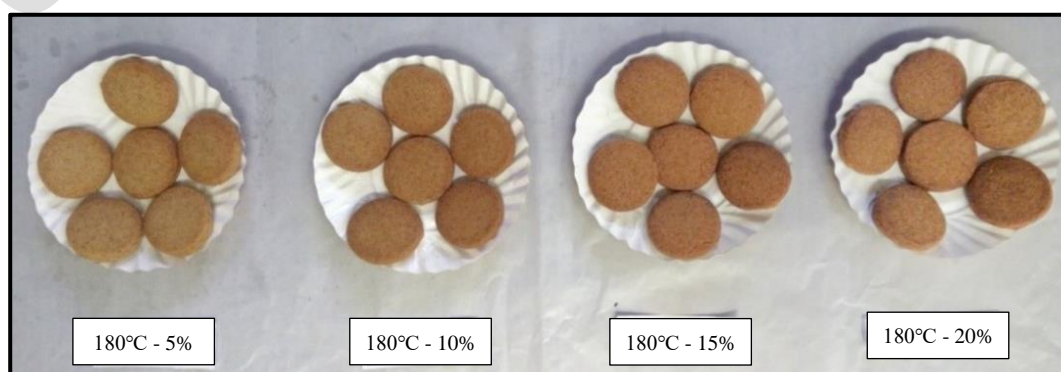


Figure 2. Developed CAP based cookies

2.5 Proximate Composition

Cookies was analyzed for moisture, protein, fat, ash, fiber and nitrogen-free extract by the methods of AOAC (2003) in NAIP lab, Department of Process and Food Engineering, CAET, DBSKKV, Dapoli.

2.5.1 Moisture Content

Moisture was determined by the oven drying method. Approximately 10 g of well-mixed sample was accurately weighed into a clean, dried moisture can (W_1). Then it was allowed in an oven at 100-105°C for 6-12 h until a constant weight was obtained. Then the crucible was placed in the desiccator for 30 min to cool. After cooling it was weighed again (W_2). The following formula calculated the percent moisture content:

$$\text{Moisture (\%)} = \frac{\text{Initial weight} - \text{Final weight}}{\text{Initial weight}} \times 100$$

2.5.2 Ash Content

For the determination of ash, a clean empty crucible was placed in a muffle furnace at 600°C for an hour, cooled in a desiccator and then the weight of the empty crucible was noted (W_1). 5 grams of each of sample was taken in a crucible (W_2). Then the crucible was placed in a muffle furnace at 600°C for 4-6 h. After the ashing furnace was switched off. The crucible was cooled and weighed (W_3). The following formula calculated the percent ash content:

$$\text{Ash (\%)} = \frac{W_3 - W_1}{W_2} \times 100$$

Where,

W_1 = Weight of empty crucible (g)

W_2 = Weight of sample (g)

W_3 = Weight of sample (g)

2.5.3 Crude Protein

The protein in the sample was determined by using the Kjeldahl equipment (KELPLUS DISTYL EMVA, India). Percent crude protein content of the sample was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\text{Crude Protein (\%)} = 6.25 \times \% \text{ Nitrogen}$$

2.5.4 Crude Fat

Crude fat was determined by the ether extract method using the Soxhlet apparatus (Pelican equipment, Model SCS 6). The percent crude fat was determined by using the following formula:

$$\text{Crude Fat (\%)} = \frac{\text{Wt. of ether extract} \times 100}{\text{Wt. of sample}}$$

2.5.5 Crude Fiber-

Crude fiber of the sample was determined by using fiber plus apparatus. The calculations for crude fiber were done by using the following formula:

$$\text{Crude fiber (\%)} = \frac{W_1 - W_2}{W} \times 100$$

Where,

W_1 = Weight of after oven drying (g)

W_2 = Weight after ashing (g)

W = Initial weight of sample (g)

2.5.6 Nitrogen-Free Extract-

Nitrogen-Free Extract (NFE) was calculated by difference after analysis of all the other items in the proximate analysis.

$$\text{NFE (\%)} = 100 - \% \text{ moisture} + \% \text{ crude protein} + \% \text{ crude fat} + \% \text{ crude fiber} + \% \text{ ash}$$

2.5.6 Energy Calculation-

The percent calories in selected samples were calculated by multiplying the percentage of crude protein and carbohydrate by 4 and crude fat by 9. The values were then converted to calories per 100 g of the sample.

2.6 Sensory Evaluation:

Cashew apple powder cookies were prepared in the study and sensory evaluation were carried out after 3 days of cookies preparation using an untrained and consumer panel of 27 panelists. The food product was rated on a nine-point hedonic scale.

2.7 Colour Analysis

The colour of the cookies was measured by Hunter Lab Scan- XE, on the software Easymatch QC-I, at ICT, Mumbai. The equipment was standardized with standard white tile. The cookies were kept under the aperture of colour measuring device. It represents the colour in L^* , a^* and b^* values. The experiment was repeated three times and the average value was reported. The browning index (BI) was calculated by the formula:

$$\text{BI} = (\Delta L^2 + \Delta a^2 + \Delta b^2)^{1/2} \times 1$$

Where,

L = Lightness / Darkness

a = Redness / Greenness

b = Yellowness / Blueness

2.8 Textural Analysis

The texture of cookies was measured with QTS Texture Analyser at ICT, Mumbai. The distance between the two beams was 10 mm. The downward movement was continued until the cookies broke. The peak force was

reported as fracture strength. The experiment was repeated for thrice times and the average peak force (N) was reported.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Proximate Compositions

The proximate composition of CAP cookies showed significant variation in crude fiber, crude ash and protein content. The crude ash content of the cookies varied from 0.6% (5% CAP) to 1.0% (20% CAP). Higher crude fiber was observed in cookies with 20% CAP (2.04%) and a lower level was detected in biscuits with 5% CAP (0.89%). The protein content was varied from 8.63% (cookies with 5% CAP) to 6.31% (cookies with 20% CAP). The increase in the crude fiber and ash content can be attributed due to higher level of fiber in the cashew apple powder. Thus, it can be concluded that fortification positively affected the nutritional quality of cookies as crude fiber and ash content increased significantly as shown by the analysis. The energy content varies from 530.84 (with 10% CAP) to 476.76 cal/100g (with 15% CAP).

Table 2. Overall proximate composition of cookies

Treatment	Moisture Content (%)	Ash Content (%)	Crude proteins (%)	Crude fats (%)	Crude fiber (%)	Nitrogen free extract (%)	Energy content (cal /100g)
S ₁	6.75	0.60	8.63	25.80	0.89	57.32	495.99
S ₂	7.38	0.60	7.38	33.50	1.18	49.96	530.84
S ₃	7.60	0.60	6.94	23.20	1.62	60.05	476.76
S ₄	7.45	1.00	6.31	24.60	2.04	58.60	481.05

3.2 Sensory Evaluation-

The effect of increasing the CAP level on the sensory parameters of the cookies was analyzed. For all the parameters the scores given by the panelist were found in the range of 6.40 to 7.46, which is an acceptable range. Consumer acceptance regarding flavour, taste, appearance and overall acceptability was significantly higher for cookies prepared from 5% CAP varies from those prepared with 10%, 15% and 20% CAP addition. The different treatments i.e. % CAP and baking temperatures had a significant effect on overall acceptability of cookies at a 5% level of significance with coefficients of variance of 2.538 as shown in Table 4.

Table 3. Sensory evaluation of cookies

Treatment	Appearance	Flavour	Taste	Texture	Overall acceptability
S ₁ T ₁	7.37	7.07	7.04	7.07	7.21
S ₁ T ₂	7.26	6.85	6.67	6.44	6.81
S ₁ T ₃	7.70	7.52	7.41	7.37	7.46
S ₂ T ₁	7.26	7.07	7.19	7.15	7.14

S ₂ T ₂	6.85	7.07	6.78	6.48	6.84
S ₂ T ₃	7.59	7.26	7.33	7.07	7.33
S ₃ T ₁	6.78	7.00	7.00	6.70	6.87
S ₃ T ₂	6.81	6.78	7.00	6.96	6.89
S ₃ T ₃	7.07	7.11	7.26	6.96	7.10
S ₄ T ₁	6.70	6.78	6.52	6.67	6.49
S ₄ T ₂	6.56	6.56	6.30	6.59	6.47
S ₄ T ₃	6.89	6.56	6.44	6.41	6.56

Table 4. ANOVA for the effect of different treatments on overall acceptability

Source	df	SS	MS	F	SEM	CD (5%)
Treatment	11	4.5412	0.4128	13.337**	0.0836	0.292
Replications	3	0.2422	0.0807	2.6086		
Error	33	1.0215	0.0309			
Total	47	5.8049				

** Significant at 5%, CV=2.538

3.3 Colour Analysis-

The colour measurement of composite cookies substituted with different levels of CAP was determined. From the result, it was noticed that the lightness (L^*) of the composite cookies displayed a decreasing trend along with the increasing substitution level of the CAP (Fig. 3). The L^* value indicates that the CAP cookies are darker in colour at a higher level of substitution. The same trend is observed in a^* and b^* values. The browning index of cookies decreases as the level of CAP increases.

Table 5. Colour analysis of cookies

Treatment	L^*	a^*	b^*	BI
S ₁ T ₁	43.86	9.97	22.09	50.29
S ₁ T ₂	40.82	11.01	21.59	47.87
S ₁ T ₃	44.41	10.14	22.41	50.62
S ₂ T ₁	38.28	9.69	19.28	43.94
S ₂ T ₂	37.45	10.00	19.81	43.53
S ₂ T ₃	37.15	9.94	19.51	43.12
S ₃ T ₁	33.12	8.83	15.63	37.68
S ₃ T ₂	38.97	8.08	18.09	43.72
S ₃ T ₃	38.69	8.19	17.99	43.45
S ₄ T ₁	34.36	7.26	14.06	37.83
S ₄ T ₂	32.71	7.67	14.97	36.78
S ₄ T ₃	34.91	7.49	16.00	39.13

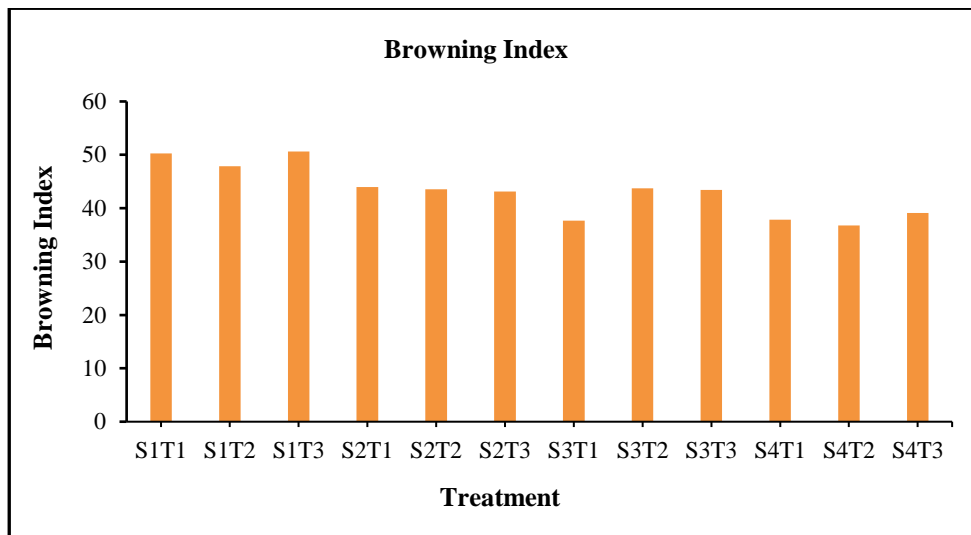


Figure 3. Effect of CAP on the browning index of cookies

3.4 Textural Analysis-

The textural parameters are one of the most important quality attributes, which affect the overall quality and hence demand of cookies. The instrumental textural profile analysis was conducted to confirm and improve the textural properties as obtained from the subjective evaluation of texture. A decreasing trend was observed for hardness when increasing the cap level up to 15% (Fig. 4). The values were found to be varied from 7.39 to 10.18 N. From the result, it can be seen that as the level of the CAP increases, the hardness of the cookies decreases.

Table 6. Textural analysis of cookies

Treatment	Hardness (N)
S ₁ T ₁	9.42
S ₁ T ₂	9.48
S ₁ T ₃	10.18
S ₂ T ₁	7.53
S ₂ T ₂	7.88
S ₂ T ₃	7.62
S ₃ T ₁	7.40
S ₃ T ₂	7.71
S ₃ T ₃	7.34
S ₄ T ₁	7.39
S ₄ T ₂	8.12
S ₄ T ₃	7.41

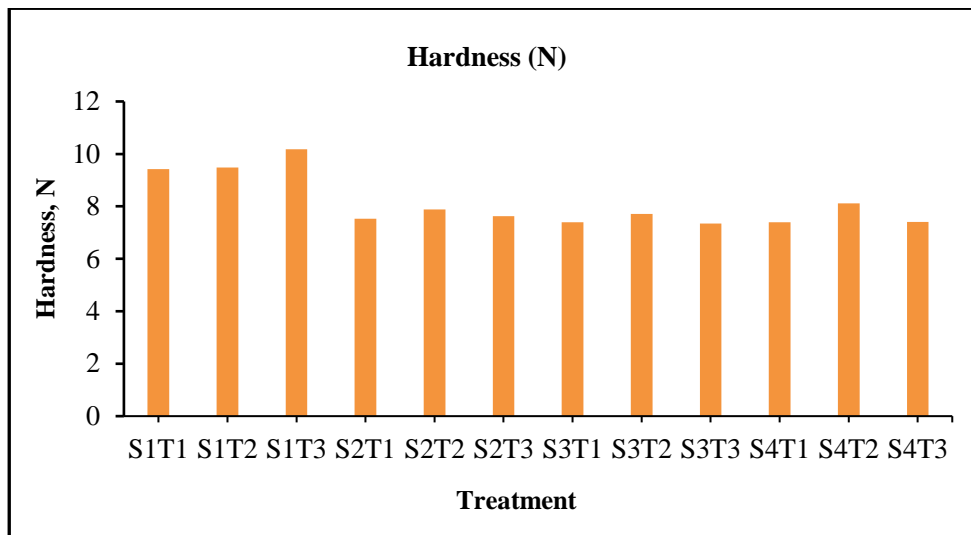


Figure 4. Effect of CAP on the hardness of cookies

4. CONCLUSIONS

Cashew apple is a rich source of vitamins, especially vitamin C and after the process of drying the cashew apple powder still can be considered as good source of vitamin C. The bakery industry in India is growing by two-digit numbers i.e. by more than 10% in this century which opens the door for the utilization of CAP in different bakery products. If we replace some amount of maida was replaced by CAP, people would like to consume it more than the other flour cookies. In addition to CAP, crude fiber and crude ash content of the cookies get increased which shows the future scope of CAP for increasing fiber content in the food products. The different treatments, % CAP and baking temperatures had a significant effect on overall acceptability of cookies at a 5% level of significance with coefficients of variance of 2.538. Also, the study showed that cookies developed with 5% CAP and baked at a temperature of 180°C (S₁T₃) got the highest score in sensory evaluation (7.46), browning index (50.62) and hardness (10.18 N).

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