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Effect of Transglutaminase on the Textural and Sensory Attributes of Pea Pod Protein Concentrate-Based Patty:

A Sustainable Protein Alternative for Sports Nutrition

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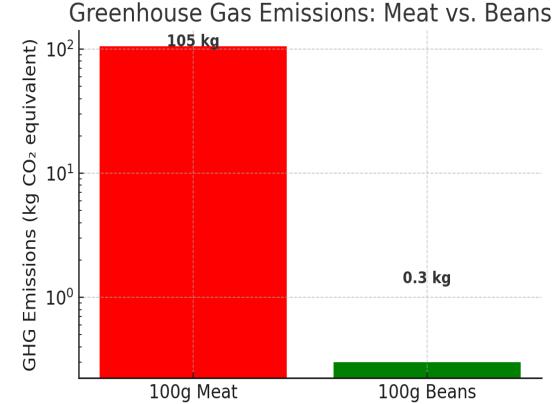
INTRODUCTION & AIM

Livestock farming consumes vast amounts of natural resources while contributing significantly to environmental degradation. Despite using 77% of global farming land, meat production remains highly inefficient compared to plant-based alternatives.

Plant-protein based diet are recently in demand due to ethical, environmental and heath related issues raised in the recent past that made food industry to explore the development of plant-based products as an alternative to animal-protein based diets.

Water Consumption: Meat: 235 trillion gallons Soy: 5 trillion gallons

Wheat: 155 gallons

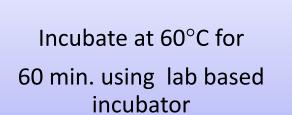


METHOD

40% PPPC, 40% Jackfruit, 20% Wheat gluten, Salt (0.2 %), Soybean oil (2 %), Garlic paste(0.6 %), Black pepper, Chilli powder & Beetroot juice (0.1 %)



Transglutaminase enzyme added at concentration varied from 0-0.7 wt %





All ingredients mix together at 60 rpm for 6 min. using lab scale dough mixer



Patty formation using handheld patty maker in order to ensure uniformity



Steamed patty for 20 min. using food steamer at 95°C

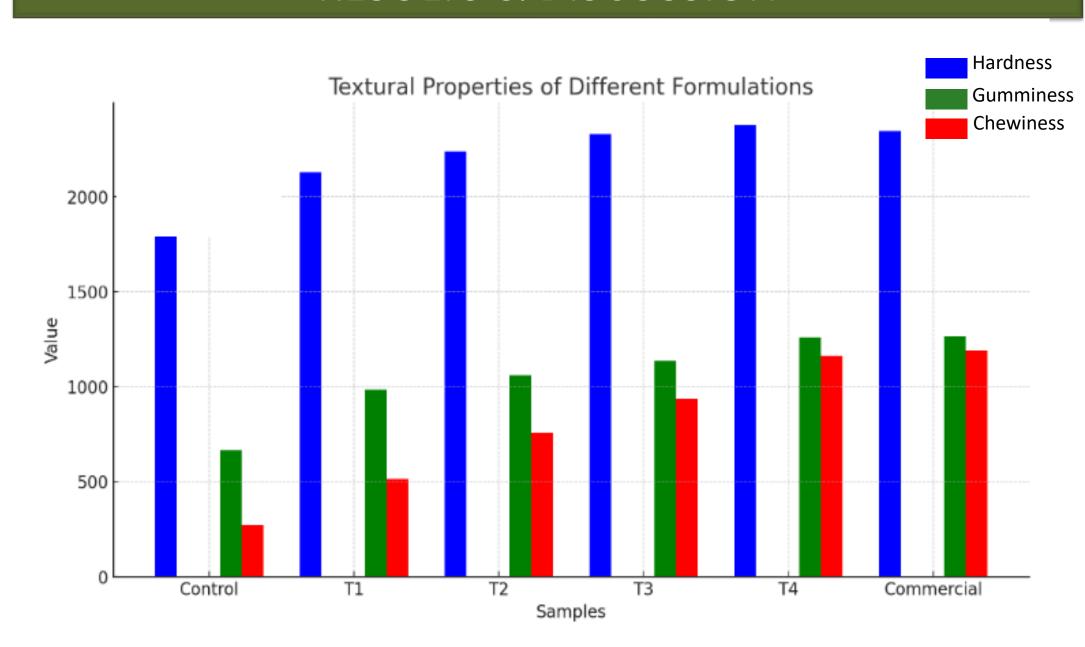


Final patty formed stored at refrigeration condition 5°C for further analysis

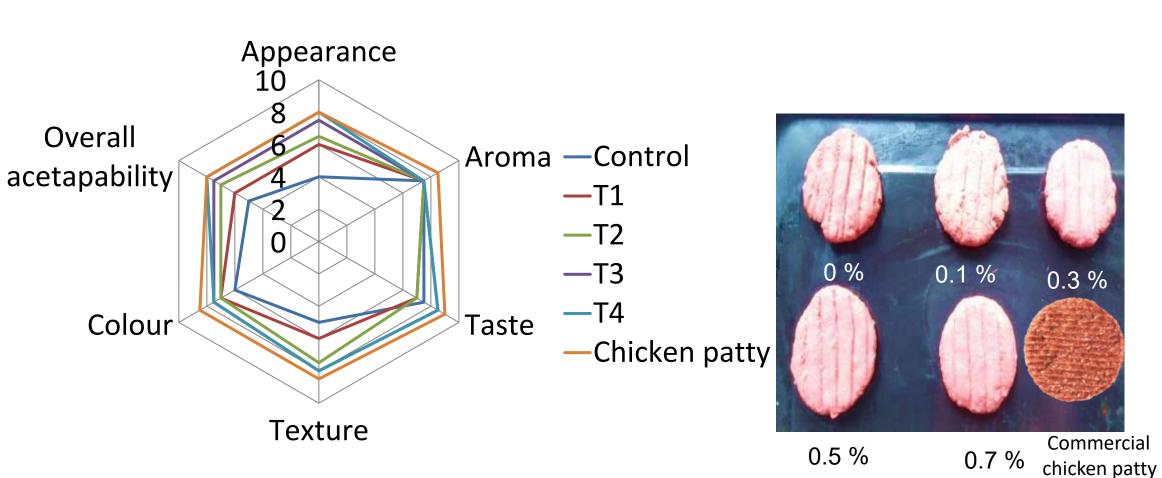


Air frying of steamed patty for 5 min. at 180°C

RESULTS & DISCUSSION



Different levels of transglutaminase Control = 0% T_1 = 0.1% T_2 = 0.3% T_3 = 0.5% T_4 = 0.7%



Effect of different levels of transglutaminase enzyme

- *Appearance: The commercial sample scores (8) highest, with T3 (7) and T4 (7.5) showing better visual appeal than the control (4).
- Texture: Improves with enzyme addition, with T3 and T4 (Hardness 2375.69 g) performing best, though T4 may be slightly too firm.
- *Flavor & Taste: T2 (7) and T3 (7) score better than the control (6), but T4 (5) shows a slight drop, likely due to excessive binding affecting flavor release.
- The PPPC-based patty contained 47% protein, which is more than twice the protein content of the commercial chicken patty (20%)
 - *Sensory evaluation was conducted using a 9-point hedonic scale.

CONCLUSION

The 0.7% enzyme-treated sample (T4) exhibited high hardness, gumminess, and chewiness (2375.69 g, 1260.4 g, 1160.4 g) and a protein content of 47%, serving as a rich protein source for plant-based sports nutrition.

A plant-based patty formulated with 40% PPPC, 20% wheat gluten, 40% jackfruit, and 0.7% enzyme closely mimics the texture and protein profile of a commercial patty, showing promising potential as a high-protein, plant-based alternative for sports nutrition

FUTURE WORK / REFERENCES

More research is needed to understand the enzyme's impact on various protein sources and improve the overall palatability of the plant-based food product

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- Yu, X., Li, T., Yue, M., Zhang, S., Zhang, Y., Wang, X., ... and Ma, C. 2025. Impact of transglutaminase on structural and rheological properties of pea protein-cornmeal-wheat gluten blends for meat analogue production. *J. Food Eng.*, 390: