

Butylated Hydroxyanisole (BHA) to Maximize the Oxidative Stability of Snacks: A Case Study with *Sev* and *Boondi*

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ABSTRACT Deep fat fried traditional food products form an important item of food in the daily diet of people not only in India but all over the world. The present study was undertaken to extend the shelf life of traditional snack foods such as *Sev* and *khara boondi* using butylated hydroxy anisole as an antioxidant at 0.1% level. The samples were prepared using Bengal gram flour and packed in polypropylene cover and stored for a period of 4 months. The products were examined for their physico chemical and organoleptic changes during the storage period for 120 days. There was an increase in the moisture content in *Sev* (2.2% to 3.7%), and in *boondi* (3.3% to 4.1%). Peroxide value of *Sev* (6.6 to 32.7 meq) and *boondi* (8.5 to 33.2 meq) also increased during storage. The increase in *Sev* and *Boondi* during storage was similar in control and treated samples. The products were found acceptable only upto 90 days of storage at room temperature and subsequently they became rancid. The study demonstrates that the shelf life of traditional snacks can be extended for 60 days to 90 days if treated with BHA.

INTRODUCTION

During the last two decades, traditional food products market has witnessed a very rapid growth not only in India but all over the world. In India, traditional foods are prepared at homes and commercial establishments using a cereal, pulses and vegetable combination. Several studies have been conducted on the preparation and storage of these traditional snacks and sweets in various packaging materials like glass containers, polyethylene covers etc. by various workers (Bhat et al. 1982; Pruthi et al. 1983; Beerh and Coworkers 1985; Saxena and Coworkers 1986; Kalra et al. 1987; Thakur and Arya 1990; Saxena et al. 1991; Sen and Sen 1993; Sandhu and Bawa 1993; Kulkarni and Coworkers 1994; Sharma et al. 1996; Saxena et al. 1996; Kalra et al. 1998 a and b; and Jonnalgadda 2001).

Their results revealed that very few studies have been conducted with traditional food like *Sev* and *Boondi*. Most of the studies are on potato chips, traditional sweets, fried dals and corn blended snacks. Shelf life of the products ranged between 2 to 3 months. Deteriorative changes like loss of flavor, development of rancidity and soft texture in these traditional products are mainly due to exposure to atmosphere and light. These undesirable changes could be delayed by the use of antioxidants and appropriate packaging material. Hence, the

present study was undertaken with the objective to extend the shelf life of traditional foods like *Sev* and *Boondi* using Butylated Hydroxy Anisole.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The Bengal gram flour (besan) and groundnut oil used in the preparation of *Boondi* and *Sev* was obtained from a super market. The antioxidant, Butylated hydroxy anisole was obtained from Sagar chemical from Mumbai. The chemicals used in the analysis were of analytical grade and were obtained from Hy-glass and chemicals. The packaging material Polypropylene 200 mm gauge was obtained from Vishnu enterprises. The recipes of the traditional foods, *Boondi* and *Sev* were standardized and then prepared. The antioxidant was added to the Bengal gram flour at 0.1 gm of BHA per kg and dough was passed through moulds and deep-fried in groundnut oil. After the preparation, products were cooled and packed in polypropylene covers, and sealed using sealing machine and then stored for a period of 4 months. Similarly, control samples of *Sev* and *Boondi* were prepared without adding any antioxidant and packed and stored at room temperature for a period of 4 months.

The samples were collected by quartering procedure and analysed for various changes with respect to Moisture (air oven method), Fat

(soxhlet method) and Rancidity parameters (free fatty acids, acid value and peroxide value using standard AOCS procedures). The samples were analysed at 0 day and monthly for 3 months and then once in 15 days till the samples were acceptable. Sensory evaluation of the *Sev* and *Boondi* in respect to colour, texture, taste, and flavour was done by a trained panel on a 5 point hedonic rating test (Ranganna 1992).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results are displayed in tables 1 and 2. The moisture content of the samples increased throughout the storage period. It ranged from 2.2 to 3.7% for treated *Sev*, 2.8 to 4.6% for control *Sev*, 3.3 to 4.1% treated *Boondi* and 4.92-5.07% for control *Boondi*. The fat content ranged between 41.1 to 43.8% (treated *Sev*) 40.4 to 41.5% and 46.27 to 47.9% for treated *Boondi* and 41.1 to 43.8% for control *Boondi*.

It is observed from the tables 1 and 2 that there is no significant difference between the peroxide value of control and treated samples during

storage upto first 2 months. However, there was an increase in the peroxide value with the increase in storage period. The values varied from 6.6-32.57 meq/kg in treated *Sev* and 6.9-54.0 meq/kg in control *Sev*, 8.47-33.21 meq/kg in treated *Boondi* and 9.7 to 42.3 meq/kg in control *Boondi* sample. Similarly, there was no significant difference in acid value between the control and treated samples of *Sev* and *Boondi* upto 2 months. Later it increased with increase in length of storage time. The values ranged from 2.47 to 3.61 mg of KOH treated *Sev*, 2.95 to 4.54 mg of KOH in control *Sev* and 2.55 to 3.12 mg of KOH in treated *Boondi* and 2.62 to 3.31 mg of KOH in control *Boondi*.

The free fatty acid content ranged from 1.2 to 1.8 and 1.48 to 2.31 in treated and control *Sev* and 1.28 to 1.59 and 1.32 to 1.64 in treated and control *Boondi*. The sensory evaluation scores for the *Boondi* (treated) (Figs. 1 and 2) revealed that the scores are similar for control and treated samples. There was a consistent decrease in texture, colour, flavour and overall acceptability of products as the storage period increased. Physico chemical

Table 1: Changes during storage of khara Boondi samples packed in polypropylene bags and stored at room temperature (13 - 38°C)

Storage months	Moisture %	Peroxide value meq. O ₂ / kg	Acid value	FFA (% oleic acid)
<i>Control (C)</i>				
0	4.9 ± 0.29	9.7 ± 0.31	2.6 ± 0.09	1.3 ± 0.03
1	4.9 ± 0.36	17.1 ± 0.61	2.9 ± 0.26	1.4 ± 0.05
2	4.9 ± 0.00	23.3 ± 0.49	3.0 ± 0.78	1.5 ± 0.06
3	5.0 ± 0.10	33.8 ± 0.31	3.3 ± 0.98	1.6 ± 0.56
3.5	5.0 ± 0.12	47.2 ± 0.38	3.3 ± 0.55	1.7 ± 0.13
<i>Treated (T)</i>				
0	3.34 ± 0.24	8.5 ± 0.67	2.6 ± 0.76	1.3 ± 0.04
1	3.50 ± 0.03	15.7 ± 0.26	2.6 ± 0.49	1.3 ± 0.02
2	3.71 ± 0.17	20.1 ± 0.08	2.7 ± 0.66	1.5 ± 0.05
3	3.78 ± 0.25	23.5 ± 0.24	3.0 ± 0.36	1.5 ± 0.1
3.5	4.10 ± 0.08	33.2 ± 0.09	3.1 ± 1.24	1.6 ± 0.04

Mean±S.D

Table 2: Changes during storage of Sev samples packed in polypropylene bags and stored at room temperature (13-38°C).

Storage months	Moisture %	Peroxide value meq. O ₂ / kg	Acid value	FFA (% oleic acid)
<i>Control (C)</i>				
0	2.8 ± 0.11	6.9 ± 1.25	2.9 ± 1.03	1.5 ± 0.92
1	3.4 ± 0.24	16.4 ± 0.67	3.0 ± 0.13	1.5 ± 0.87
2	3.8 ± 0.95	29.8 ± 0.57	3.7 ± 0.25	1.6 ± 0.93
3	4.0 ± 0.91	39.1 ± 0.13	4.5 ± 0.99	2.2 ± 0.67
3.5	4.6 ± 0.09	54.9 ± 19	4.5 ± 1.22	2.3 ± 0.63
<i>Treated (T)</i>				
0	2.2 ± 0.30	6.6 ± 0.02	2.5 ± 1.20	1.2 ± 0.87
1	2.6 ± 0.17	15.6 ± 0.04	2.8 ± 0.19	1.3 ± 0.65
2	2.8 ± 0.13	20.9 ± 0.39	2.9 ± 0.22	1.5 ± 0.94
3	3.6 ± 0.13	28.9 ± 0.30	3.1 ± 0.02	1.6 ± 0.32
3.5	3.7 ± 0.01	32.5 ± 0.26	3.6 ± 0.98	1.8 ± 0.54

Mean±S.D

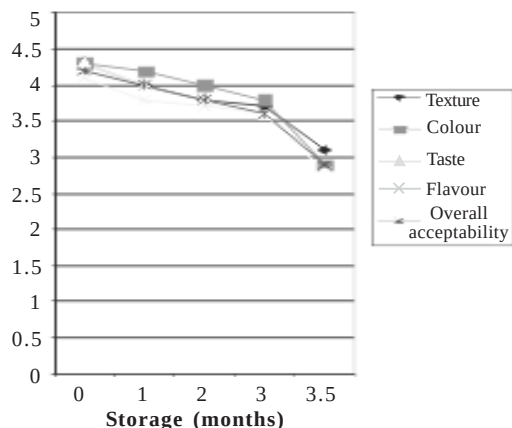


Fig. 1. Mean scores of sensory evaluation of Boondi samples during storage

analysis showed that the control samples for both Sev and Boondi were acceptable only for one month, and acceptability of treated samples for Boondi and Sev was 2 months. The control samples of Boondi and Sev were acceptable upto 3 months beyond which they became rancid and bitter to taste and soft textured. The study reveals that incorporating the antioxidant led to a retardation in physico-chemical changes. However sensory evaluation of control and treated samples did not differ significantly.

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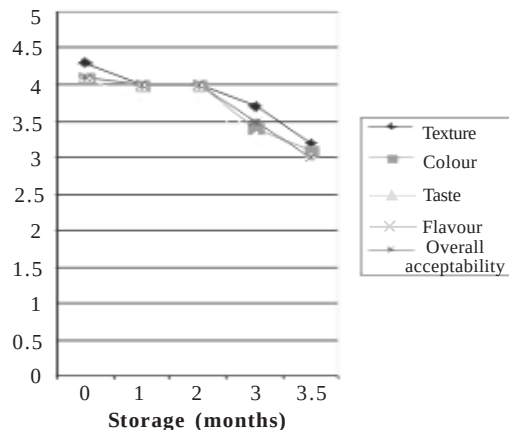


Fig. 2. Mean scores of sensory evaluation of Sev samples during storage

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