



Calidad de Sémolas y Pasta

Pasta cooking quality: the role of raw material and the effect of processing

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Pasta: an evolving product

1980 Pasta from durum wheat semolina → 2000 Gluten-free pasta → 2015 Wholegrain pasta / Pulse pasta → Today Tradhy → Pre-cooked pasta

Yellow color «Al dente» firmness → Exclude gluten from the diet of people affected by celiac disease → Enrichment in fiber, proteins, etc. → Ready-to-eat meals

Simplicity of formulation (only 2 ingredients)

- Low cost and long shelf-life (3 years)
- Easy preparation and adaptability to different tastes and traditions
- Balanced from a nutritional standpoint (sauces)
- Low glycaemic index
- From a basic food to a "functional food"

Cooking quality:

- Low cooking loss
- Al dente firmness (degree of resistance to the first bite)
- Absence of stickiness (force with which it adheres to other materials)
- Low bulkiness (adhesion rate of cooked pasta strands among them)

Cooking quality

GLUTEN

T = 25°C T > 60°C

Interaction till complete coagulation
 Formation of an undeformable network
 Keeping the starch materials inside the pasta

STARCH

T = 25°C T > 60°C Excess of water

Progressive swelling till gelatinisation
 Partial solubilisation
 Dispersion of starch materials on pasta surface and into cooking water

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- Low bulkiness (adhesion rate of cooked pasta strands among them)

Cooking quality

GLUTEN

T = 25°C T > 60°C

If starch gelatinization prevails on protein coagulation

Interaction till complete coagulation
 Formation of an undeformable network
 Keeping the starch materials inside the pasta

STARCH

T = 25°C T > 60°C Excess of water

Progressive swelling till gelatinisation
 Partial solubilisation
 Dispersion of starch materials on pasta surface and into cooking water

If protein coagulation contains starch gelatinization

POOR COOKING QUALITY

GOOD COOKING QUALITY

Cooking quality

If starch gelatinization prevails on protein coagulation

Raw materials

Processing conditions

If protein coagulation contains starch gelatinization

POOR COOKING QUALITY

GOOD COOKING QUALITY

The role of raw materials

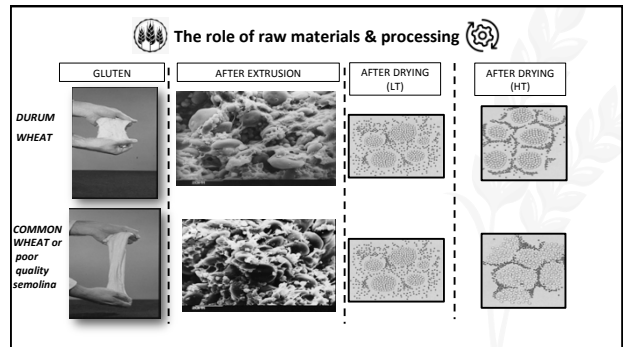
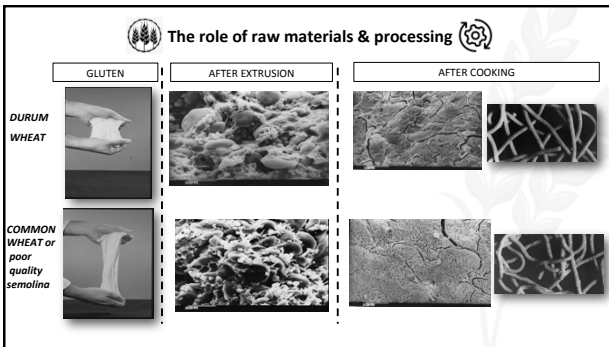
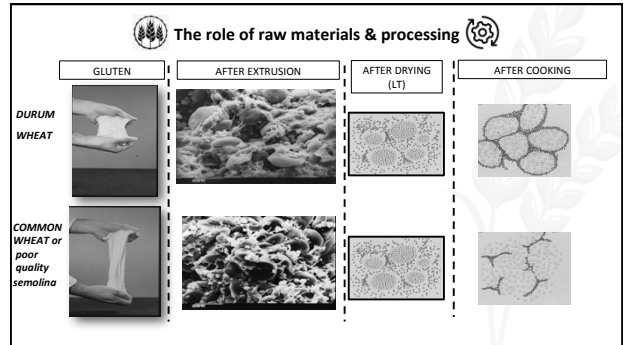
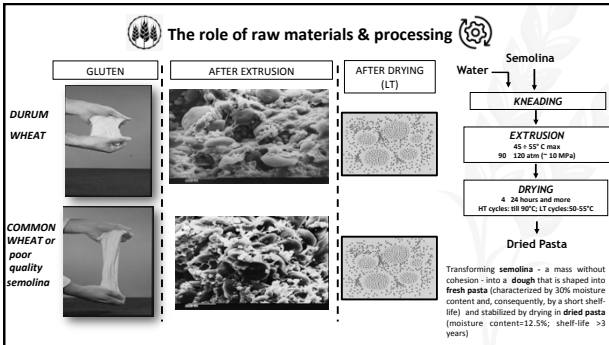
1980 Pasta from durum wheat semolina → 2000 Gluten-free pasta → 2015 Wholegrain pasta / Pulse pasta → Today Tradhy → Pre-cooked pasta

Durum wheat semolina

Number of research articles

Period	Durum wheat	Common wheat
1985-1995	~100	~50
1996-2006	~250	~100
2007-2018	~450	~200

Key words: pasta and durum wheat; pasta and common wheat



The role of raw materials & processing

HT drying - Issues:

- Heat-Damage: loss of lysine bioavailability, formation of new molecules (?), sensory modifications

the amount of unavailable Lysine is 30 - 50%! (prot.)

Reaction stage	Compounds involved	Produced derivatives	Determined molecule
Early	Reaction of: malonaldehyde, glucose or fructose with lysine residues	Protein-bound (lys)ketones	Formide
Advanced	Degradation of free malonyl-amine acids	Glycoxybenzimid (ACPF)	ACPF
	Protein-bound (lys)ketones	Protein-bound (lys)pyrimidobialde (α-PL)	(α-PL)

Cooking Properties and Heat Damage of Dried Pasta as Influenced by Raw Material Characteristics and Processing Conditions

R: lysine residue
R': glucose residue

The role of raw materials & processing

PARAMETERS OF SEMOLINA QUALITY
from the pasta-maker point-of-view

- Gluten tenacity and strength
- Color
- Ash content
- Particle size
- Damaged starch
- Amylase activity

PARAMETERS OF PASTA QUALITY
from the consumer point-of-view

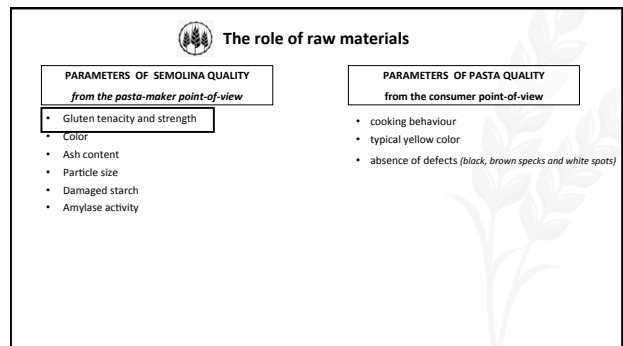
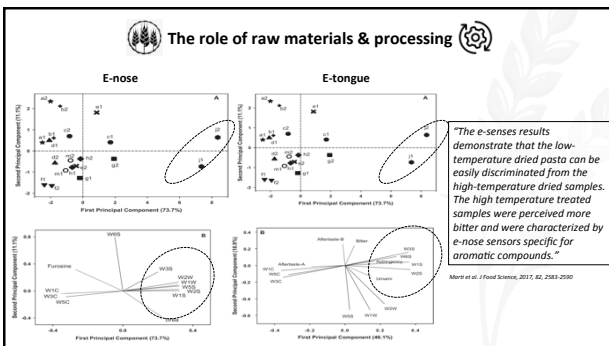
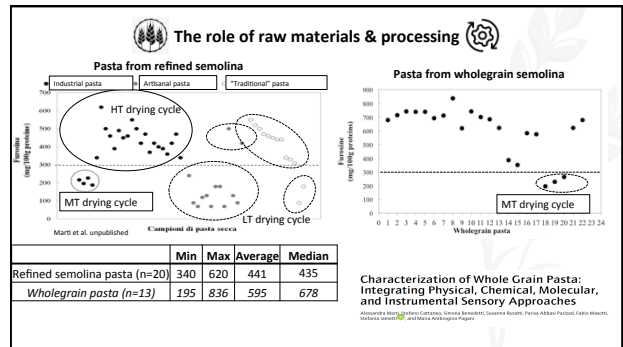
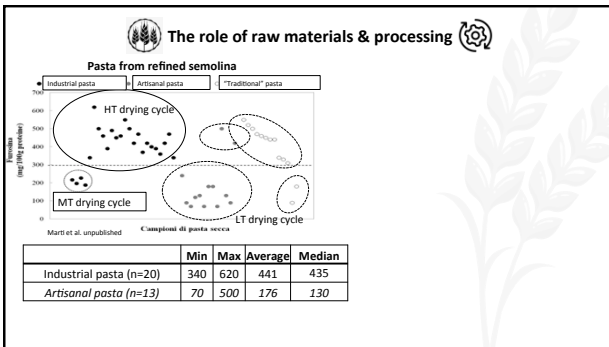
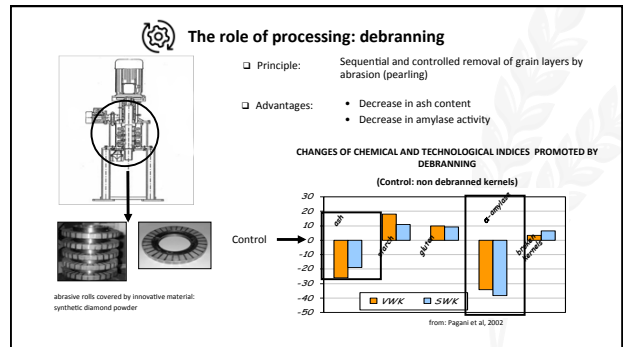
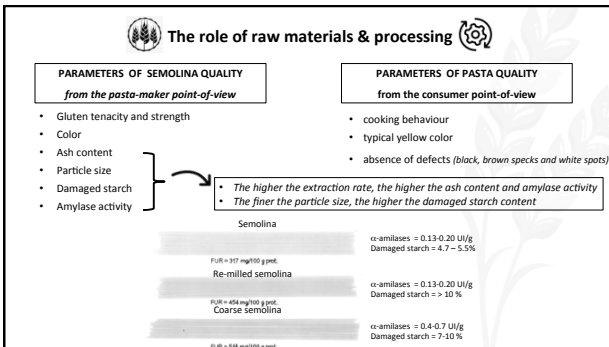
- cooking behaviour
- typical yellow color
- absence of defects (*black, brown specks and white spots*)

Table 2: Modifications generated by each step of pasta production chain and their implications on the Maillard reaction

Production step	Product	Possible modifications	Implications for the Maillard reaction
Field selection and grain storage	Kernel	Spontaneous increase of enzymes content Enzymatic phenomena (amylolysis and proteolysis) Reduction of moisture and increase of sugar content	
Dehulling	Kernel		
Milling	Semolina	Concentration of amylolytic enzymes Increase of products from enzymatic activity High degree of starch granules which presents higher amylose/amylopectin ratio	Increase of the concentration of reactants (i.e. reducing sugars)
Storage	Semolina	Enzymatic activities continued	
Kneading and extrusion	Fresh pasta	Important amylase activity Importance of reducing sugars with free amino groups	
Drying	Dried pasta	The Maillard reaction goes on	Activation energy for Maillard reaction (early and advanced stages) accumulation of reaction products

Cooking Properties and Heat Damage of Dried Pasta as Influenced by Raw Material Characteristics and Processing Conditions

R: lysine residue
R': glucose residue



Measuring gluten strength

Test	Principle	Time required	Sample amount
Gluten Index	It measures the amount of wet gluten remaining on a specially constructed sieve after centrifugation under standardized conditions	~15 min	10g
Glutograph	It measures the extensibility and elasticity of washed wet gluten, isolated from flour/semolina	~15 min	10g
Alveograph	It measures resistance to 3-D extension of a thin sheet of dough prepared at a constant hydration level (63.3%)	~50-60min	250g
GlutoPeak	It measures torque and time required for gluten aggregation	~5 min	8.5-10g

Measuring gluten strength: the Glutograph test

It measures the **extensibility** and **elasticity** of washed wet gluten, isolated from flour/semolina

- Extensibility: the gluten network deforms instead of break
- Elasticity: the gluten network is able to resume its shape after being stretched

The measuring system consists of two parallel, round, corrugated plates mounted at a defined distance opposite to each other.

The sample is put in between these two plates.

While the upper plate stands still, the lower one is turned with a constant force - independent of shear angle and sample.

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Measuring gluten strength

Sample	Gluten	Glutograph	Result
DURUM WHEAT			Resistant to extension
COMMON WHEAT For poor quality semolina			Extensible and elastic gluten

Measuring gluten strength: the Glutograph test

Temperature induced changes in dough elasticity as a useful tool for defining the firmness of cereal grains

High loss values correspond to low firmness and, likely, to "weak" material structures whereas low values are representative of high firmness and strong (stiff) structures

Measuring gluten strength

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Measuring gluten strength: the Alveograph test

It measures resistance to 3-D extension of a thin sheet of dough, prepared at a constant hydration level

P = Tenacity (resistance to extension)
L = extensibility
W = baking strength (curve area)
le = P200/P₁ elasticity index (P200: pressure 4 cm from the start of the curve, *le* will be 0 if the extensibility is shorter than 4 cm)

Measuring gluten strength

	GLUTEN	GLUTOGRAPH	ALVEOGRAPH
DURUM WHEAT			
COMMON WHEAT or poor quality semolina			

Measuring gluten strength

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Glutograph	It measures the extensibility and elasticity of washed wet gluten, isolated from flour/semolina	~15 min	10g
Alveograph	It measures resistance to 3-D extension of a thin sheet of dough prepared at a constant hydration level (43.3%)	~50-60min	250g
GlutoPeak	It measures torque and time required for gluten aggregation	~5 min	8.5-10g

Measuring gluten strength: the GlutoPeak test

It measures the gluten aggregation properties

- Rapid (<5 min)
- Small-scale (<10g)
- High shear-based (up to 3,000 rpm)
- No sample prep
- Easy to clean

Description how to run the new test

1. Insert the paddle into the device (Fig. 1)
2. 10g solvent (water) will be weighed out in the sample cup
3. The cup will be placed in the instrument (Fig. 2)
4. The sample is added with a hopper into the cup (Fig. 3)
5. The measuring head is placed in the starting position (Fig. 4)
6. The instrument starts automatically and mixes the sample
7. The software will automatically record and display the data

Measuring gluten strength: the GlutoPeak test

It measures the gluten aggregation properties

- Rapid (<5 min)
- Small-scale (<10g)
- High shear-based (up to 3,000 rpm)
- No sample prep
- Easy to clean

- After a time (dependent on the property of the sample), the gluten aggregates
- A uniform gluten network is formed, which results in a strong increase in torque
- Further mixing destroys the network, the torque decreases

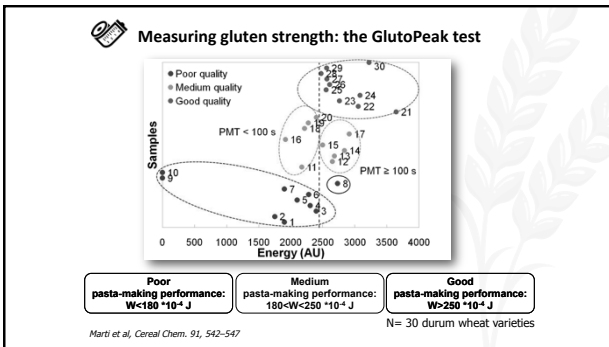
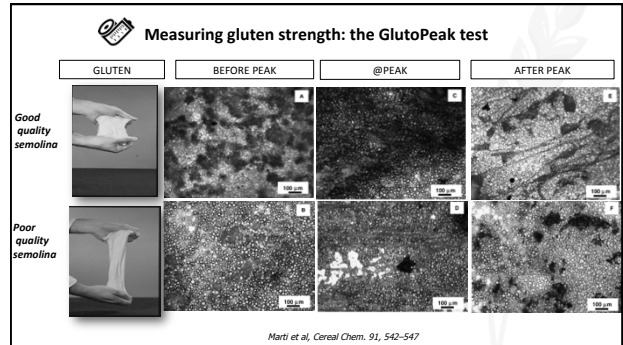
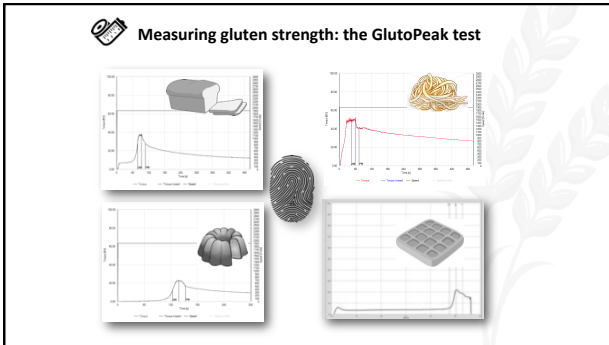
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- No sample prep
- Easy to clean

- Maximum Torque is correlated to gliadin content ($r=0.70$; $p<0.001$; $n=19$)
- Aggregation time and Energy are correlated to glutenin ($r=0.72$; $p<0.001$) and GMP ($r=0.77$; $p<0.001$; $n=19$) content

Marrs et al. J Cereal Science 66, 89-95



Measuring gluten strength: the GlutoPeak test

Characterization of Durum Wheat Semolina by Means of a Rapid Shear-Based Method

Alessandra Marti,^{1,2} Cristina Cecchini,¹ Maria Grazia D'Elia,¹ Jens Dreissenet,² and Maria Ambrogina Pagani²

Cereal Chem. 91(6):542-547

ABSTRACT

TABLE V
Correlation Coefficients of Pasta Quality Attributes and Rheological Indices*

Index	Stickiness		Firmness		Bulkiness		Overall Score	
	All Samples (n = 30)	30 < GI < 65 (n = 9)	All Samples (n = 30)	30 < GI < 65 (n = 9)	All Samples (n = 30)	30 < GI < 65 (n = 9)	All Samples (n = 30)	30 < GI < 65 (n = 9)
Gluten index	0.52***	ns	0.65***	ns	0.20***	0.49**	0.65***	0.51**
Maximum torque	0.55***	-0.66**	ns	ns	0.42***	0.49**	0.38**	-0.59**
Peak maximum time	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	-0.67***	ns	ns
Energy	0.69***	ns	0.54***	0.55*	0.68***	0.69***	0.69***	0.76***
W-alveographic	0.69***	ns	0.54***	0.55*	0.68***	0.69***	0.69***	0.76***

* GI = gluten index; *, **, and *** indicate P < 0.1, 0.05, and 0.01, respectively, and ns = not significant.

- N=30 samples
- LT drying

Measuring gluten strength: the GlutoPeak test

Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR), n = 120

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Protein content (g/100 g)	0.87	0.85	0.90	
Farinograph				
Water absorption (%) (Far-Abs)	2	0.91	0.90	0.95
Dough development time (min) (Far-Dev)	3	0.25	0.17	0.24
Stability (min) (Far-Stab)	3	0.90	0.88	0.83
Alveograph				
W (10 ³ %) (Alv-W)	2	0.83	0.81	0.75
P (Alv-P)	2	0.43	0.37	0.33
F (mmHg) (Alv-F)	3	0.82	0.80	0.87
L (mm) (Alv-L)	1	0.05	-0.05	0.05
Extensograph 45 min				
Energy (cm ²) (Ext-45En)	2	0.77	0.74	0.79
Resistance to extension (BU) (Ext-45Res)	3	0.47	0.41	0.41
Extensibility (mm) (Ext-45Ext)	2	0.59	0.55	0.64
Max resistance to extension (BU) (Ext-45Max)	2	0.76	0.73	0.78
Ratio (Ext-45Ra)	3	0.07	-0.05	-0.17
Ratio max (Ext-45RaMax)	3	0.49	0.42	0.52

- Maximum Torque is able to predict the protein content and farinograph water absorption
- Aggregation energy index is able to predict the conventional parameters related to dough mixing stability, tenacity, strength, and resistance to extension

Marti et al. LWT 94, 96-103

Measuring gluten strength: the GlutoPeak test

Flour	Solvent	Speed	Temperature	Reference
5.5 g gluten	12 ml water	3000 rpm	30°C	Int J Food Sci and Technol 45, 1641-1646
9.2 g	10.8 ml water	3000 rpm	30°C	Cereal Chem 88:253-259
10.9 g	9.1 ml water	3000 rpm	30°C	Cereal Chem 88:253-259
8 g	10 ml water/salt solutions	2750 rpm	35°C	Food Research International 44, 899-906
8.5 g	9.5 ml 0.5M CaCl2	1900 rpm	34°C	J Food Quality 35, 68-75
8 g	8.6 ml water	2196 rpm	35°C	J Cereal Sci 54, 561-567
8 g	10 ml water	2750 rpm	35°C	Cereal Chem 91:318-320
9 g	9 ml water	3000 rpm	35°C	J Food Quality 36, 113-118
8 g	10 ml water	3000 rpm	35°C	Cereal Chem 91:542-547
9 g	10 ml water	2750 rpm	35°C	Cereal Chem 91:542-547
8.5 g	9.5 ml 0.5M CaCl2	1900 rpm	34°C	J Cereal Sci 46, 89-95
9 g	10 ml 0.33 M NaCl	3000 rpm	35°C	LWT 64, 99-103
9 g	9 ml water	3000 rpm	36°C	Cereal Chem 93, 384-388
9 g	9 ml water	2750 rpm	36°C	Food Research Int 89, 330-337
9 g	10 ml water	2750 rpm	35°C	Cereal Chem 93, 450-456
8.5 g	9.5 ml 0.5M CaCl2	1900 rpm	34°C	Cereal Chem 94:209-204
8 g	10 ml water	2700 rpm	34°C	J Cereal Sci 76, 116-121
8.5 g	9.5 ml 0.5M CaCl2	1900 rpm	34°C	Cereal Chem 94:723-732


The role of processing: debranning

Table 4
Pasta cooking properties: optimal cooking time, water absorption, cooking loss, antioxidant capacity (expressed as FRAP) and anthocyanins content of cooked pasta. P-C, control pasta from refined wheat flour; P-CB, CB-enriched wheat pasta; P-F1, F1-enriched wheat pasta; P-F2, F2-enriched wheat pasta.


	P-C	P-CB	P-F1	P-F2
Optimal cooking time (min)	4	4	4	4
Water absorption (g/100 g)	128.6 ± 0.8 ^a	105 ± 1.1 ^b	110 ± 2 ^b	127 ± 1 ^a
Cooking loss (g/100 g)	2.5 ± 0.4 ^a	2.8 ± 0.1 ^{ab}	3.2 ± 0.3 ^a	3.18 ± 0.03 ^a
FRAP ^a (μmol Fe(II)/g)	n.d.	2.41 ± 0.04 ^b	2.6 ± 0.1 ^a	2.3 ± 0.2 ^b
Anthocyanins (mg/g)	n.d.	28 ± 2 ^b	67.9 ± 0.9 ^a	60 ± 1 ^a

Mean ± SD (Water absorption and cooking loss: n = 5; FRAP and Anthocyanins: n = 4 from two independent extractions). Different letters in the same row indicate statistically significant differences (LSD; p < 0.05). n.d. = not determined.


P-CF
100%
Wheat flour




P-CB
20.4% CB



P-F1
85.8% WF



P-F2
80.0% WF



Fiber content 8.5%

Formulation of enriched pasta in bran (P-CB) or in debranning fractions (P-F1; P-F2).

The role of processing: air-classification

Principle: The combination of air currents with centrifugal force can separate flour particles into different fractions according to size and density.

Advantages:

- To obtain fractions with higher contents of compounds of interest.
- Addition of less quantity of material with the same content of bioactive compound

Figure from Pastore, 2012, Trends in Food Science & Technology 21, 52-62




Table 1
Main components of barley flours.

Genotype	Flour fraction	Yield (%)	Protein (%)	Starch (%)	TDF (%)	β-Glucans (%)
CDC Alamo	Microsized	-	12.6 ^a	53.2 ^a	12.8 ^a	7.8 ^a
CF1	10.4	14.0 ^a	42.3 ^a	25.5 ^a	11.5 ^a	-
CF2	28.4	13.6 ^a	43.0 ^a	25.5 ^a	15.6 ^a	-
PF2	61.2	15.0 ^a	63.0 ^a	3.8 ^a	2.3 ^a	-
Priora	Microsized	-	13.7 ^a	55.3 ^a	11.5 ^a	5.4 ^a
CF1	16.5	15.0 ^a	51.1 ^a	24.6 ^a	8.1 ^a	-
CF2	29.8	14.4 ^a	46.4 ^a	21.8 ^a	11.2 ^a	-
PF2	51.7	12.4 ^a	66.7 ^a	3.3 ^a	3.0 ^a	-

CF1 and CF2 are the coarse fractions from the first and second air classification, respectively. PF2 is the fine fraction from the second air classification (see Fig. 2). ANOVA showed a significant effect of genotype and flour fraction as well as their interactions on each component (p < 0.005). Values followed by the same letter are not significantly different (p < 0.05; Tukey test).

The role of raw materials & processing

1800 Pasta from durum wheat semolina → 2000 Gluten-free pasta → 2015 Wholegrain pasta → Today Pre-cooked pasta

Weakening of gluten network

- Worsening of cooking quality

Solutions:

- Formulation:** Using high quality semolina, Adding vital gluten
- Processing:** Pre-processing (debranning, air classification), Kneading, Shaping

The role of processing: kneading

Aim:

- Dosing the raw materials
- Water distribution
- Protein hydration

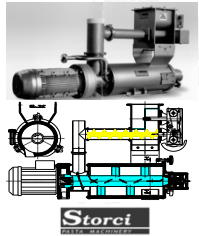
Issues:

- Competition of fiber and proteins for water

Solutions:

- Homogenous water distribution within the flour

PREMIX



The role of processing: kneading

AIM:

- Dosing the raw materials
- Water distribution
- Protein hydration

Issues:

- Competition of fiber and proteins for water


Solutions:

- Homogenous water distribution within the flour
- Water distribution towards unhydrated semolina particles

Advantages:

- No mechanical action: limited oxidation to the top layer
- No dirty materials in the system
- Easy to clean

BELTMIX



The role of raw materials & processing

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Weakening of gluten network

- Worsening of cooking quality

Solutions:

- Formulation:** Using high quality semolina, Adding vital gluten
- Processing:** Pre-processing (debranning, air classification), Kneading, Shaping

The role of processing: shaping

- Aim:**
 - (Partial) gluten development
 - Formation of an homogeneous mixture
 - Shaping the product
- Issues:**
 - Weakening of gluten network by fiber
- Solutions:**
 - alignment of protein fibrils

HIGH PRODUCTIVITY
(1000+10000 kg/h)

30% H₂O
2 + 3 min
45 + 55° C
30 + 120 atm
9 + 12 MPa

LOW PRODUCTIVITY
(100+1000 kg/h)

32 + 33% H₂O; 5 + 20 min; 20 + 30° C
No over pressure
(but in the contact point of rolls)

The role of processing: shaping

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 - (Partial) gluten development
 - Formation of an homogeneous mixture
 - Shaping the product
- Issues:**
 - Weakening of gluten network by fiber
- Solutions:**
 - alignment of protein fibrils

International Journal of Food Science & Technology
Original article
Quality characteristics of dried pasta enriched with buckwheat flour
Alessandra Marzi, Luciana Pizzani, Mariela Reed, Maria Lucchini & Maria Antonietta Puglisi*
JIFST, Volume 44(11) 2019, pp. 1-10

Table 3 Cooking and textural properties of *Pizzoccheri* samples

<i>Pizzoccheri</i>	Optimal cooking time (min)	Water absorption (%)	Solid content of cooking water (g/100 g)	Before cooking		After cooking	
				Stress (N/mm ²)	Strain	Young Modulus (N/mm ²)	Adhesiveness (L)
Sample A	12	97c	5.0b	17.57a	3.76a	0.44a	7.09b
Sample B	10	97a	4.2a	22.28b	6.15b	0.34b	5.45a
Sample C	15	89b	4.6ab	43.91c	6.05b	0.58b	7.38b

Means followed by different letters in a column are significantly different at $P < 0.05$.

- sample A: extrusion
- sample B: sheeting
- sample C: extrusion + sheeting

Take home points

- Pasta cooking quality is defined by both the characteristics of the raw materials and the processing conditions.
- Some processing conditions (e.g. HT drying) can improve the cooking quality of pasta made from raw materials with poor technological quality but they can not delete the differences among semolina samples with different pasta-making aptitude.
- While formulating healthy cereal based products, industries need to balance nutritional value (i.e. fiber-enrichment level) with product quality.
- Non conventional raw-materials can be used but balanced formulation (high protein semolina), peculiar pre-processing (debranning) and pasta-making conditions (sheeting, LT drying) are needed to counteract their poor technological properties.

Gracias!

31 Jornadas Técnicas
Asociación Española de Técnicos Cerealistas
Zaragoza 2019

aeef.es
Organiza

Asociación Española de Técnicos Cerealistas
FEC
Federación Española de Cereales

Patrocinador PLATINO: mas seeds
Patrocinadores ORO: Tarazona, LESAFFRE
Patrocinadores PLATA: ait