

Short Communication

Cis and *Trans* Monoenoic Fatty Acids of Hydrogenated Mango Kernel Fats

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(received September 20, 2007; revised December 13, 2007; accepted December 15, 2007)

Abstract: The fats produced as a result of hydrogenation of the oils of three varieties of mango kernel (*Mangifera indica*), were found to consist of *trans* fatty acids, C_{16:1} (0.02-0.60 %), C_{18:1} (2.69-4.48 %), C_{20:1} (0.02-0.04 %), C_{22:1} (traces-0.05 %), C_{24:1} (traces-0.02 %) in addition to *cis* fatty acids.

Keywords: *Mangifera indica*, agro-waste, hydrogenation, mango kernel fats, fatty acids

Edible vegetable oils are hydrogenated by passing hydrogen through them in the presence of nickel catalyst under specific conditions (Raie *et al.*, 1990). The vegetable ghee thus produced is used as cooking fat and is extensively used for the preparation of foods like doughnuts, french fries, cookies, breads and cakes. The hydrogenated fat thus produced resists deterioration through oxidation (Swern, 1982). During the process of hydrogenation, *trans* acids are produced (Katan *et al.*, 1995), which are not recommended for edible purposes (Willett *et al.*, 1994; Booyens *et al.*, 1988). Oleic acid (C_{18:1}) is the major acid in vegetable ghee which is converted into C_{18:1} *trans* oleic acid known as elaidic acid. Gurr (1983) reported that the hydrogenated fat providing the *trans* fatty acids can easily be metabolized and provide energy in the body at the cost of unsaturated fatty acids. One of the factors responsible for cardiovascular diseases, is reported to be *trans* fatty acids which raise the low density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol level and lower the high density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, when consumed at a sufficient level. According to Gatto *et al.* (2002), Judd *et al.* (2002) and Katan (2000) the increase in LDL cholesterol is directly proportional to the amount of *trans* fatty acids consumed. Pakistan produces excellent varieties of mangoes in large quantities which are consumed locally and exported as well. Mango kernels are abundantly available as agro-waste material in Pakistan. The present study was made on the kernel oils of three varieties of mango i.e., Chaunsa, Sindhri and Desi.

The oil was extracted through treating the powdered dried mango kernel with chloroform\ methanol (2:1, v/v) solvent mixture (Kallio *et al.*, 2006). The oils were hydrogenated to

produce fats of high melting point. The hydrogenated fats were converted into methyl esters of fatty acids, purified by thin layer chromatography (TLC) and later on separated into saturated fatty acids, *trans* fatty acids and monoenoic fatty acids by the use of AgNO₃ impregnated TLC (Raie and Rehman, 1992). The *cis* and *trans* fatty acids were identified by GC analysis.

The quantity of oils produced by Chaunsa, Sindhri and Desi kernels was 4.80 g, 5.44 g and 5.90 g, respectively. Methylation was performed as per standard methods; methanol/benzene/acetyl chloride were used for methylation.

The R_f values of *trans* fatty acids were less than saturated fatty acids but higher than monoenoic fatty acids. All the fatty acids were separated quantitatively as methyl esters. The infrared spectra of *trans* fatty acids at 966 cm⁻¹ was distinct from the *cis* acids but the carbonyl absorption of *trans* and *cis* fatty acids as methyl esters is the same i.e. 1740 /cm. Amounts of saturated *trans* and mono-enoic methyl esters in the oils of the three varieties of mango are given in Table 1.

High percentage of saturated fatty acids was found in seed oils of the three varieties of mangoes (Table 2). The fatty acids analysis of three varieties of mango kernel oils without hydrogenation shows composition of saturated fatty acids to be 52.79-60.51 %, monoenoic fatty acids 31.78-39.77 %, dienoic fatty acids 3.18-6.21 % and trienoic fatty acids 3.24-4.72 % (Ali *et al.*, 2007).

After the process of hydrogenation, dienoic and trienoic acids disappears altogether which is comprehensible due to conversion of trienoic acids to dienoic and dienoic to monoenoic, *trans* and saturated fatty acids (Swern, 1982) (Table 2).

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Table 1. *Cis* and *trans* fatty acids methyl esters in mango kernel fats

Fractions of methyl esters	R _f values	Chaunsa		Sindhri		Desi	
		Wt (mg)	Percent	Wt (mg)	Percent	Wt (mg)	Percent
Saturated	0.58	88.0	73.33	90.0	75.0	87.0	72.50
<i>Trans</i>	0.48	5.5	4.58	4.0	3.33	5.0	4.17
Monoenoic	0.36	26.5	22.09	26.0	21.67	28.0	23.33

Linolenic acid in the soybean oil, earlier in low percentage (7.70%), disappears after hydrogenation; however, high percentage of linoleic acid, 46.90% was reduced to 14.90% and 16.70%, by using 23.0% imported and 21.0% locally prepared nickel catalyst, respectively (Raie *et al.*, 1990), but does not disappear. The melting point of fat, before and after hydrogenation was 34.0-35.8 °C and 37.0 °C, respectively. The previous workers reported the melting point of fats to be 32.0-35.8 °C (Uzoho *et al.*, 1997; Van Pee *et al.*, 1981), which is comparable with our findings. However, the temperature after hydro-

genation is raised to 37 °C, which is the normal body temperature and recommendable for edible fats as these can be easily digested. The process of hydrogenation for vegetable oils is checked for partial saturation of unsaturated fatty acids and is sold under the name of vegetable ghee; it is utilized for the production of margarine, shortening and peanut butter etc., and is commercially used for the preparation of bakery and food products. The hydrogenation process saves the oil from flavour reversion and rancidity (Swern, 1982). The partial hydrogenation of mango seed oil would raise the melting point

Table 2. Fatty acid composition of three varieties of mango kernel fats before and after hydrogenation

Fatty acids	Fatty acid (%)			Fatty acid (%)		
	before hydrogenation			after hydrogenation		
	Chaunsa	Sindhri	Desi	Chaunsa	Sindhri	Desi
C _{12:0}	0.17	0.15	0.13	0.16	0.18	0.14
C _{14:0}	0.20	0.50	0.28	0.21	0.54	0.31
C _{16:0}	9.10	10.10	8.91	9.05	12.94	8.95
C _{16:1}	0.07	2.70	0.05	—	—	—
C _{16:1 trans}	—	—	—	0.03	0.60	0.02
C _{18:0}	42.03	44.31	49.20	62.00	60.28	60.57
C _{18:1}	39.05	30.27	31.10	22.09	21.67	23.33
C _{18:1 trans}	—	—	—	4.48	2.69	4.05
C _{18:2}	4.20	6.21	3.18	traces	traces	traces
C _{18:3}	3.24	4.72	4.53	—	—	—
C _{20:0}	0.53	0.45	0.83	0.84	0.56	1.12
C _{20:1}	0.32	0.12	0.31	—	—	—
C _{20:1 trans}	—	—	—	0.02	0.04	0.03
C _{22:0}	0.64	0.24	0.27	0.89	0.28	0.41
C _{22:1}	0.28	0.03	0.19	—	—	—
C _{22:1 trans}	—	—	—	0.04	traces	0.05
C _{24:0}	0.12	0.18	0.89	0.18	0.22	1.00
C _{24:1}	0.05	0.02	0.13	—	—	—
C _{24:1 trans}	—	—	—	0.01	traces	0.02
Saturated	52.79	55.93	60.51	73.33	75.00	72.50
<i>Trans</i>	—	—	—	4.58	3.33	4.17
Unsaturated	47.21	44.07	39.49	—	—	—
Monoenoic	—	—	—	22.09	21.67	23.33

of the product but the modification by hydrogenation of mango kernel fat would not lead to product simulating the cocoa butter in thermal properties (Chaudhuri *et al.*, 1983).

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