

**EFFECTS OF PROCESSING ON NUTRIENT COMPOSITION OF JACKFRUIT
(*Artocarpusheterophyllus*) SEED MEAL.**

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ABSTRACT

Antinutritional factors limit the utilization of jackfruit (*Artocarpusheterophyllus*) seeds (AHS) as feed for livestock; hence requires some form of processing. The effect of soaking and toasting on proximate composition, gross energy, mineral composition and antinutritional factors of *Artocarpusheterophyllus* were determined to investigate its suitability as feedstuff. The raw and processed seeds were dried, milled and analysed chemically. The crude protein contents of raw and processed *Artocarpusheterophyllus* seeds ranged between 6.48% and 15.33% while the crude fibre ranged between 3.65% and 11.27%. The gross energy content of the soaked seed had the highest value (4.10 Kcal/kg) which differed significantly ($P < 0.05$) from raw and toasted *Artocarpusheterophyllus* seeds. Macro and micro mineral contents of soaked AHS was significantly ($P < 0.05$) lower than other methods in all the antinutritional factors determined. The results reveal that processing techniques adopted enhanced the proximate caloric components, mineral contents and also significantly reduced the various antinutritional factors in jackfruit (*Artocarpusheterophyllus*) (AHS) seeds with toasting as the best, hence is recommended in ruminant ration for optimum productivity.

Keywords: Jackfruit seeds, Processing methods, Livestock, Poultry, Nutritive value.

INTRODUCTION

Goat production is a good business farmers can venture into. Proper feeding management is an essential aspect to achieve this goal. Inadequate nutritive feed is a major factor that affects the production of goats and other livestock in the developing countries (Eyoh *et al.*, 2019). Feed accounts for about 70 – 80% of the total cost of production in livestock and poultry (Alanyande *et al.*, 2012). This is based on over reliance on the conventional feedstuff such as soybean, groundnut and maize (Habtamu and Negussie, 2014). This has led to the use of alternative feed sources which may not be suitable for human consumption in feeding animal such as jackfruit seeds (Udidebiet *et al.*, 2004, Soetan and Oyewole, 2009). Increased need to explore alternative and cost-effective feedstuff, has brought research into the use of unconventional feeds which will have an important role in livestock production in an era where population pressure is seriously reducing grazing land for livestock. Jackfruit (*Artocarpusheterophyllus*) is one of the

important fruits belonging to the family Moraceae and to the genus Artocarpus. The juicy pulp of the ripe fruit is eaten fresh and has wide potential for preparing food items like jam, jelly and value-added products due to the presence of protein (Elevitch and Manner, 2006). The seeds are important byproducts which consist more than 15% of total weight of the fruits. The preliminary studies reported that this part of jackfruit is a good source of valuable nutrient components such as starch, protein and minerals (Ocloo, 2010). The fruit consist mainly of three regions, the fruit axis, the persistent perianth and the true fruit (Prakash *et al.*, 2009). Jackfruit is considered as a research worthy species because of its huge potential use in nutrition and can be fairly activated in suitable climates.

Azaadet *et al.*, (2007) reported that jackfruit seed contains 191 – 407 mg/100g potassium, 38 – 41 mg/100g phosphorus and 27 mg/100g magnesium with the concentration of carbohydrates and proteins varying depending on the variety and region.

There is limited information regarding the nutritional quality of this alternative feedstuff, therefore, it is important to evaluate it for optimum utilization in feeding ruminant animals. Hence, this study aimed at determining the chemical, mineral composition and antinutritional factors of jackfruit seeds.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Experimental procedure

Jackfruit seed were harvested from fallow lands in ObioAkpa and Ata ObioAkpa villages both in Abak L.G.A of Akwa Ibom State. ObioAkpa is located between latitudes 5° 17'N and 5° 27'N and between longitude 7° 27'N and 7° 58'E with an annual rainfall ranging from 3500mm – 5000mm and average monthly temperature of 25°C with relative humidity between 60 – 90%. It is in the tropical rainforest zone of Nigeria (SLUS-AK, 1989).

Mature jackfruit seed were removed manually chopped into small pieces, sundried and milled to obtain raw jackfruit meal. Triplicate samples were later taken for laboratory analysis.

Processing methods

Soaking

One kilogram of raw jackfruit seed was soaked in 20 litres of water and allowed for 24 hours at a room temperature of 22 - 23°C. The soaked water was decanted and samples withdrawn, sundried, chopped into pieces and milled to obtain soaked jackfruit meal. Triplicate samples were taken for laboratory analysis.

Toasting

One kilogram of raw jackfruit seed was introduced into cooking pot that was allowed to toast for 30 minutes before the seeds were decanted. The toasted crisp seeds were milled to obtain toasted jackfruit meal. Triplicate samples were also taken for laboratory analysis.

Analytical Procedure

The raw soaked and toasted jackfruit seeds were analysed for proximate compositions using AOAC (2002) procedure.

The gross energy of the samples were determined using the methods provided by McDonald *et al.*, (1995). Zinc (Zn), Iron (Fe), Calcium (Ca), Copper (Cu) and Manganese (Mn) of raw, soaked and toasted jackfruit meals were determined by Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (Model AA280 FS; Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) while Sodium (Na) and Potassium (K) of raw, soaked and toasted jackfruit meal were determined by Jenway Flame Photometer (model PFPT; Cole-Parmer, Vernon

Hills, IL, USA), according to the method of AOAC (2000). Ascorbic acid method was employed to determine the total phosphorus as orthophosphate on measuring the absorbance at 850nm with KH_2SO_4 as standard (Spectrophotometer Bausch and Lomb 21, Germany), James *et al.*, (2008).

Quantitative analysis of tannin, hydrogen cyanide (HCN), phytate and oxalate of raw, soaked and toasted jackfruit meal were determined using the methods described by Arntfield *et al.*, (1985), Vaintraub and Lapteva (1988), AOAC (2000), Chang *et al.*, (2002), Onwuka (2005), Abideen *et al.*, (2015) respectively.

Statistical Analysis

Data collected were subjected to analysis of variance procedures as described by Steel and Torrie (1980). Significant means were separated using Duncan's Multiple Range Test (Duncan, 1955).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Proximate Composition of Raw, Soaked and Toasted Jackfruit Meals

| Proximate composition | Raw | Soaked | Toasted | SEM |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Dry matter (DM) % | 90.67 ^a | 90.06 ^c | 90.36 ^b | 0.019 |
| Crude protein (CP) % | 15.33 ^a | 14.63 ^b | 6.48 ^c | 0.053 |
| Ether extract % | 4.23 ^a | 3.76 ^b | 3.57 ^c | 0.011 |
| Crude fibre % | 11.27 ^a | 3.65 ^c | 4.22 ^b | 0.009 |
| Ash % | 5.14 ^a | 4.68 ^b | 3.65 ^c | 0.016 |
| Nitrogen free extract (NFE) % | 64.92 ^a | 63.50 ^b | 62.09 ^c | 0.063 |
| Gross energy (GE) (Kcal/g) | 2.91 ^c | 4.10 ^a | 3.98 ^b | 0.001 |

^{a, b, c} means on the same row with different superscripts differ ($P < 0.05$) significantly.

SEM: Standard Error of Mean

The proximate composition of raw, soaked and toasted jackfruit meal is presented in Table 1. All the parameters observed in this study were significantly ($P < 0.05$) different between raw and the processed jackfruit except for energy. Raw seeds cause digestive ailments in man and probably same in non-ruminant animals due to common gastro intestinal tract shared by man and livestock (Akinmutimi, 2006). This explains the emphasis on processing of seeds before use in feed formulation for animals.

The value of processed crude protein decreased significantly ($P < 0.05$) as compared to raw jackfruit seed meal. This may be attributed to solubilization and leaching of nutrient content of meal as a result of water treatment (Adejoro *et al.*, 2013; Onu and Madubiuke, 2006). The crude protein range of 6.48 – 15.33% in this study is in contrast with the report of Soepadmo (1992); Tiamuyu and Solomon, 2007). Heat treatment of raw feedstuff may result in denaturation or destruction of the protein. This may be a pointer to the decreasing trend as observed in the crude protein of this study. However, it is within range of CP (6.5 - 16) % recommended for ruminants (McDonald *et al.*, 1995; Ikyumeet *et al.*, 2018).

The ether extract (EE) content followed the same trend as crude protein with raw (4.23 %) having the

highest while toasted (3.57) recorded the lowest. In terms of energy yielding potential, fat is not an essential dietary ingredient and may be replaced by carbohydrate. However, in the nutrition of farm animals the high energy density fat is advantageous. The hydrolysis of triglycerides yields glycerol and fatty acids, which serve as concentrated sources of energy (Esonu, 2006). However, EE values obtained in this study was higher than (0.75%) and the range of 0.13% - 0.77% reported by Mohamad *et al.* (2019) and Ejeifore *et al.*, (2014), respectively for jackfruit seeds.

The crude fibre of raw and processed jackfruit meal was 3.65 – 11.27%, and was higher than that reported by Azad *et al.*, (2007) for jackfruit seeds. The values obtained from this study were in line with 6.5 and 5% crude fibre of conventional feedstuffs like soybean meal and groundnut cake respectively but higher than feedstuffs like maize and guinea corn with 2.0% crude fibre, respectively (Olomu, 1995; Eyohet *et al.*, 2019). Fibre has some nutritional and health benefits in human and livestock. Nutrition especially in gastro intestinal tract by reducing gastric emptying time in the small intestine, enhanced bile salt and cholesterol excretion, increased faecal bulk and faecal transit time through

the bowel (Amadiet *et al.*, 2018, okeet *et al.*, 2007). Adequate consumption of dietary fibres from a variety of feeds help for bulk provision in feeds (Aremuet *et al.*, 2015).

Ash content is the residual of inorganic materials remaining after the organic matter has been removed by heating (Mohamad *et al.*, 2019). The reported ash content in this study ranged from 3.65 – 5.14%, these values were in consistent with (5.12 – 5.13%) reported by (Onu and Madubuike, 2006). Jubrilet *et al.*, (2018) pointed out that these may be variations due to geographical location, stage of maturity and soil type.

The Nitrogen Free Extract (NFE) ranged from 62.09 – 64.92% with raw showing a higher value of 64.92%. Their values were higher than NFE values obtained for conventional energy source such as maize (57.90%) (Olomu, 1995). Morton (1987) reported that processing causes the granules to breakdown, softens the cellulose and makes the starch more available for utilization. The carbohydrate content also suggests that the seeds could be a good supplement to scarce cereal grains as sources of energy for feed formulations.

Table 2: Mineral Composition of Raw, Soaked and Toasted Jackfruit Meals

| Parameters | Raw | Soaked | Toasted | SEM |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Iron (Fe) % | 16.0 ^c | 172.5 ^a | 168.4 ^b | 0.098 |
| Zinc (Zn) % | 10.43 ^c | 33.28 ^a | 31.27 ^b | 0.011 |
| Copper (Cu) % | 2.57 ^c | 5.57 ^b | 6.70 ^a | 0.112 |
| Manganese (Mn) % | 6.07 ^c | 13.57 ^a | 11.70 ^b | 0.092 |
| Calcium (Ca) % | 0.074 ^c | 0.51 ^a | 0.49 ^b | 0.001 |
| Phosphorus (P) % | 0.11 ^b | 0.30 ^a | 0.30 ^a | 0.001 |
| Potassium (K) % | 0.15 ^c | 0.80 ^a | 0.77 ^b | 0.001 |
| Sodium (Na) % | 0.09 ^c | 0.21 ^a | 0.19 ^b | 0.001 |

^{a, b, c} means on the same row with different superscripts are significantly (P<0.05) different.

SEM: Standard Error of Mean

The result of mineral composition (both macro and micro) of raw and processed jackfruit meal is as in Table 2. There were significant (P<0.05) difference between the raw and processed meals for all the minerals. Processing reduced the mineral content of the samples with raw having the highest reducing effect followed by toasted and soaked jackfruit meals. The reduction in this case may be due to the method of processing or due to the removal of the seed coat of jackfruit seeds before processing. The removal of the seed coat has been implicated in the reduction of minerals in grains (Olanipekun *et al.*, 2015). Soaked seed meal recorded the highest values of potassium (0.80%), Calcium (0.51%) and phosphorus (0.30%). This implies that when used in ration formulation would enhance good neural condition and muscular contraction, blood coagulation, bone and teeth formulation, better membrane function and carbohydrate metabolism (McDonald *et al.*, 1995, Eburuaja, 2010). The dietary formular based on these meals for growing animals will require calcium and phosphorus supplementation to effect good metabolic processes on the body.

Sodium also recorded the highest values in soaked method implying that this would lead to the reduction in quantity of salt used in feed formulation. Sodium deficiency as reviewed by Olomu (2011), may lead to reduced appetite and growth rate, muscular dystrophy, lung infection and adrenal hypertrophy in addition to retarded sexual maturity among other effects.

The results of micro minerals followed similar pattern like that of macro mineral except for copper where toasted recorded the highest (6.70%). High copper would enhance blood formulation because of high value of iron (Robert *et al.*, 2006), normal utilization of carbohydrate because manganese serves as co-actor to enzymes responsible for carbohydrate metabolism (McDonald *et al.*, 1995, Alayande *et al.*, 2012), such as kinase, decarboxylate, peptidase, enhance zinc promotion in wound healing and also play important role in taste, appetite and growth. It also provides copper as a component of cytochrome oxidase, which is important in oxidative phosphorylation (McDonald *et al.*, 1995).

Table 3: Antinutritional Factors in Raw, Soaked and Toasted Jackfruit Meal

| Parameter | Raw | Soaked | Toasted | SEM |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Phytate (%) | 0.19 ^a | 0.14 ^b | 0.13 ^c | 0.001 |
| Oxalate (%) | 0.17 ^a | 0.12 ^b | 0.11 ^c | 0.002 |
| Tannin (%) | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.000 |
| Hydrogen cyanide (HCN) (mg/kg) | 13.50 ^a | 3.07 ^b | 2.77 ^c | 0.018 |

^{a, b, c} means on the same row with different superscripts are significantly (P<0.05) different.

SEM: Standard Error of Mean

The results on antinutritional factors of raw and processed jackfruit meals are shown in Table 3. Antinutritional factors diminish animal productivity and may also cause toxicity during periods of scarcity or confinement when the feed rich in these substances is consumed by animals in large quantities (Ramchandra *et al.*, 2019). Generally, processing significantly ($P < 0.05$) reduced the antinutritional factors.

The phytate content ranged from 0.19 in raw to 0.14 in soaked and 0.13 in toasted. Phytates are phosphorus containing compounds that bind with minerals and inhibits mineral absorption.

Phytate is not digestible to humans or non-ruminants, this is because these animals lack the digestive enzymes phytase required to remove phosphate from the inositol in the phytate molecule. On the other hand, ruminants readily digest phytate because of the phytase produced by rumen microorganisms (Egbuna and Ifemeje, 2015).

Oxalates followed a similar trend with phytate with the highest value (0.17%) in the raw. Oxalate when digested comes in contact with the nutrients in the gastro intestinal tract. It binds the nutrients, rendering them inaccessible to the body. In ruminants, oxalate is of minor significance since ruminal microflora can readily metabolize soluble oxalated (Habtamu and Nigusse, 2014). The values obtained in this study were below the toxic levels as reported by Samanet *et al.*, (2016), which may contribute to other potential advantages. For instance, oxalates ingested by ruminants from grasses are degraded in the rumen and same made use of by the ruminant without any adverse effect (Nwarforet *et al.*, 2017). The tannin content also ranged from 0.01 in raw, 0.01 in soaked and 0.00 in toasted. Tannins are known to be heat stable and the decreased protein digestibility in animals and humans probably by either making protein partially unavailable or inhibiting digestive enzymes and increasing faecal nitrogen (Yilikal, 2015, Smith *et al.*, 2013). It is important to deduce that toasted jackfruit meal had no tannins at all indicating that it was better detoxified compared to other processing methods.

Hydrogen cyanide values ranged from 13.50mg/kg in raw to 3.07mg/kg in soaked and 2.77mg/kg in toasted. The toasted jackfruit meal recorded the least value of HCN in this study than other processing method. These values obtained in this study were above the lethal dose of HCN for ruminant animals which is 2.0 – 4.0mg/kg body weight (Sarah, 2007, Smith Patel *et al.*, 2013). However, the values are less than the 50mg/kg required as the maximum level tolerated by monogastric (poultry) (Udedibieet *et al.*, 2004, Okoliet *et al.*, 2012). Excess cyanide ions inhibit the cytochrome oxidase. This stops ATP formation, tissues suffer energy deprivation and death follow rapidly.

CONCLUSION

Based on the result of this study, it could be concluded that the processing techniques employed enhanced the proximate and mineral contents besides reducing the array of antinutritional factors in jackfruit (*Artocarpusheterophyllus*) with toasted being the best. This may suggest a remedial measure to high content of antinutrients in seeds which limits its utilization as feedstuff in ruminant production.

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