

Effect of thermal processing on the protein value of double-low rapeseed products

2. Effect of processing stages in the oil plant and of toasting in laboratory conditions

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ABSTRACT

The effects of two main processing stages (cooking and toasting) in extraction plant on the nutritional value of double-low rapeseed products were studied. Raw seeds and cooked cake taken from the oil factory were defatted and compared with toasted rapeseed meal in N balance/growth performance experiment with rats and in growth performance experiment with broiler chickens. Moreover, the effect of temperature and time of heating in the laboratory (100 and 120°C for 10, 20 or 30 min) on protein value of defatted expeller cake was also studied in N balance/growth performance experiment with rats.

The toasting process had the most depressing effect on the content of total and available lysine and of glucosinolates as compared to their level in the seeds. The rats and chickens fed with diet containing toasted rapeseed meal performed better than those fed with diets containing non-heated defatted rape seeds or cooked and defatted cake. The toasting process reduced harmful effect of rape seed on ($P \leq 0.01$) the thyroid and liver weights of rats and thyroid weight of chickens.

Increasing temperature and time of laboratory heating resulted in linear decrease ($P \leq 0.001$) in lysine, available lysine and glucosinolate contents as well as protein value of defatted cake for rats (TD, BV and NPU). However, the decrease in lysine content was much more dependent on the increase of temperature than on the prolongation of heating. The performance of rats (body weight gain, feed utilization) was influenced ($P \leq 0.01$) by both factors. Feed intake and weight gain of rats decreased as time of heating increased but only at higher temperature (120°C). The thyroid weight linearly decreased ($P \leq 0.01$) as temperature increased.

It seems that toasting of double-low RSM in mild conditions is necessary to eliminate the negative influence of residual glucosinolates on the animal performance.

KEY WORDS: double-low rapeseed meal, processing, heating, protein value, chickens, rats

INTRODUCTION

Previous studies by Grala et al. (1994) showed that the toasting temperature was not the only technological parameter which should be modified to improve the protein value of double-low rapeseed meal produced by Polish oil industry. It was found that protein value of rapeseed meal was negatively influenced by the increase of temperature in one plant, while toasting at even higher temperature in another one did not decrease protein value or pig performance. It was suggested that other parameters of processing such as water content and duration of toasting and/or cooking may affect nutritional value of rapeseed meal. During processing rape seed is heated at least three times: during conditioning-cooking, expelling and desolventizing-toasting (Pickard et al., 1986; Niewiadomski, 1990). Due to various reasons the conditions of processing are not always stable and the meal is often over-heated. It is very well known that too high temperature damages protein and amino acids, lysine in particular (Anderson-Hafermann et al., 1993) and lowers their availability for animals.

The objectives of the present study was to establish: A – the effect of consecutive plant processing stages involving heat treatment, that is cooking and toasting, on protein value of resulting rapeseed products, expeller cake and oil meal, respectively, and B – the effect of temperature and time of laboratory heating on protein value of defatted expeller cake (simulation of toasting process).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A. Effect of cooking and toasting

Materials

Rape seeds (*Brassica napus*, L., var. Jantar) and their processed products were obtained from the same oil factory where the samples of rapeseed meal were taken for previous study by Grala et al. (1994).

The samples taken from consecutive processing steps were: 1) full-fat rape seeds sampled prior to flaking; 2) expeller cake sampled after initial flaking, cooked at 85°C, but prior to solvent-extraction; 3) rapeseed meal (RSM), solvent-extracted and toasted at 100°C. The first two products were then defatted with petrol at temperature of 45 to 50°C and were coded as: defatted seeds and defatted cake, respectively. The effect of consecutive processing stages on protein value of defatted seeds, defatted cake and RSM was evaluated on rats and chickens.

Diets and animals

Experiment 1. In the N balance trial with rats TD, BV and NPU were determined, using Thomas-Mitchell method (NRC, 1967). The rapeseed products (seeds, cake and RSM) were evaluated as the only protein source in semi-purified diets providing about 10% of crude protein (CP). Each diet was fed (11 g/rat/day) to eight 29-days old male rats from the I_{tz}: JAZ colony. After 10 days of balance trial the rats were maintained during next 21 days on the same diets offered to appetite. Feed intake (FI, g/rat/31 days), body weight gain (BWG, g/rat/ 31 days) and feed conversion (FC, g feed/g BGW) were measured. At the end of the experiment the rats were killed and the thyroid and liver weights were recorded.

Experiment 2. The experiment was conducted to compare the nutritional value of protein of defatted seeds, defatted cake and RSM for chickens. Male Astra-B broiler chickens aged 7 days were divided into three groups of 32 birds each and kept for 4 weeks in cages in pairs. Birds were offered the wheat-based diets (20% CP/DM) containing 25.5-27% of rapeseed products. Pelleted diets and water were provided to appetite. FI (kg/4 weeks), BGW (g/4 weeks) and FC (g/g BGW) were determined. The thyroid and liver weights were recorded at the end of experiment.

B. Effects of temperature and time of heating

Materials

The effects of time and temperature of toasting on the protein value of rapeseed meal was studied in laboratory, where the toasting process was imitated by heating samples in an autoclave. Defatted cake was used to prepare the rapeseed flours differing in duration and temperature of toasting. The samples of defatted cake were placed on sieves (5 cm thin layers) and then autoclaved at 100°C (pressure 20 kPa) or 120°C (pressure 100 kPa) for 10, 20 and 30 min. The autoclaved defatted cake was named as „heated cake”. Temperature of 100 and 120°C was chosen, since such toasting temperatures were applied in the oil plant (Grala et al., 1994).

Diets and animals

Experiment 3. The experiment with rats was designed and carried out similarly to Experiment 1 and the same features were measured.

Chemical analyses

The rapeseed products, diets and samples of faeces and urine were analyzed for nitrogen by Kjeldahl method. Available lysine was analyzed according to the Carpenter method modified by Booth (1971) and glucosinolates were determined according to the Youngs-Watter method modified by Byczyńska (1971).

Statistical analysis

Results were statistically analyzed using one-way ANOVA test generated by STATGRAPHICS ver. 2.1 statistical package. Differences between treatment means were evaluated using the Duncan test (Expt. 1, 3) and the least significant difference test (LSD) (Expt. 2). Single and multiple linear regression analyses were used to evaluate pattern of response of measured traits to experimental factors.

RESULTS

Contents of protein, lysine, available lysine and glucosinolates in rapeseed products

The effects of plant processing steps on the chemical composition of rapeseed products are shown in Table 1. There was no effect of cooking and toasting on CP content in the products. Contents of lysine, available lysine and glucosinolates decreased as processing progressed. Cooking and toasting decreased lysine content from 6.10 in seeds to 5.77 and 5.64 g/16 g N, respectively. Available lysine and glucosinolates were reduced mainly by toasting (5.08, 5.00, 4.42 g/16g N and 17.7, 17.6, 4.7 μ M/g fat-free dry matter, respectively).

Increasing both temperature and time of heating resulted in linear decrease ($P \leq 0.001$) in lysine, available lysine and glucosinolate contents in the heated cake (Table 2). However, the content of lysine was much more affected by temperature ($P \leq 0.01$) than by time of heating ($P > 0.05$). After heating at 100°C for 10, 20 and 30 min lysine content in the cake was 5.83, 5.71 and 5.79 and available lysine 4.93, 4.78 and 4.56 g/16 g N, respectively. Heating at 120°C reduced lysine content to 5.35, 5.43 and 5.33 and available lysine content to 4.60, 4.00 and 3.60 g/16 g N after 10, 20 and 30 min, respectively.

High temperature had a very destructive effect on glucosinolates; heating at 100°C for 30 min decreased glucosinolates to 70% of their initial level while heating at 120°C for 30 min reduced them almost to zero.

TABLE 1

Effect of processing stages on the content of lysine, available lysine and glucosinolates in rapeseed products

Rapeseed product:	Defatted seeds ¹	Defatted cake ²	RSM ³
Processing stage:	before heating	after cooking	after toasting
Crude protein, % DM	40.9	42.4	42.0
Lysine, g/16 gN	6.10	5.77	5.64
Available lysine, g/16 gN	5.08	5.00	4.42
Glucosinolates, $\mu\text{M/g fDM}^4$	17.7	17.6	4.7

¹ solvent-extracted rape seeds³ rapeseed meal² solvent-extracted expeller cake⁴ dry matter, fat free

TABLE 2

Effects of temperature and time of heating on content of lysine, available lysine and glucosinolates in defatted cake (heated cake)

Temperature, °C	100			120			Factor ¹		T _{xt} ²
	10	20	30	10	20	30	T	t	
Lysine, g/16 gN	5.83	5.71	5.79	5.35	5.43	5.33	**	NS	*
Available lysine, g/16 gN	4.93	4.78	4.56	4.60	4.00	3.60	**	**	**
Glucosinolates, $\mu\text{M/g fDM}$	15.4	14.1	12.3	9.2	3.0	0.3	**	**	**

¹ factors: T = temperature, t = time² interaction of temperature and time** - $P \leq 0.01$ * - $P \leq 0.05$ NS - not significant. The linear effect ($P \leq 0.001$) of increasing temperature and time of heating on lysine, available lysine and glucosinolate contents in extracted cake was observed

Protein value of rapeseed products

The effects of processing stages in the oil plant on the protein value of defatted seeds, defatted cake and RSM for rats (Expt. 1) are shown in Table 3. TD of protein of evaluated products did not differ giving values of 82.1, 83.4 and 83.3%, respectively. BV and NPU of defatted seeds were lower ($P \leq 0.05$) than those of defatted cake and were similar to those of RSM. FI and BWG increased ($P \leq 0.01$), and FC decreased ($P \leq 0.01$) as processing progressed. The values were: 417, 475, 571 g for FI; 98, 135, 165 g/31 days for BWG and 4.28, 3.52, 3.48 for FC.

Cooking (defatted cake) did not cause any decrease in weights of thyroid and liver while toasting (RSM) resulted in their significant decrease ($P \leq 0.01$). The results correspond to glucosinolate content in defatted seeds and defatted cake (Table 1).

Results of feeding chickens the rapeseed products are shown in Table 4. In contrast to results with rats, the cooking and toasting stages resulted only in significant increase ($P \leq 0.01$) in FI, but not BWG. FC increased ($P \leq 0.05$) as processing progressed (2.07, 2.12 and 2.15 kg/kg BWG, respectively).

The thyroid weights of chickens did not show the same regularity as glucosinolate content in rapeseed products. Thyroid glands of chickens fed the diet with defatted cake were significantly ($P \leq 0.01$) larger than those of birds fed the diet with defatted seeds (217 vs 284 mg/kg BW, respectively), in spite of similar glucosinolate content. Thyroid glands of chickens fed the RSM diet were

TABLE 3
Protein value and performance of rats fed with the diets containing rape seed products obtained from different processing stages (Experiment 1)

Diet with:	Defatted seeds	Defatted cake	RSM	SE
Processing stage:	before heating	after cooking	after toasting	
TD, %	82.1	83.4	83.3	0.31
BV	85.1 ^b	90.2 ^a	86.7 ^{ab}	0.63
NPU, %	69.8 ^b	75.2 ^A	72.2 ^{AB}	0.48
Feed intake, g/31 days	417 ^B	475 ^B	571 ^A	8.81
Body weight gain, g/31 days	98 ^C	135 ^B	165 ^A	2.94
Feed conversion, g/g	4.28 ^B	3.52 ^A	3.48 ^A	0.03
Thyroid, mg/100 g BW ⁵	15.9 ^B	16.5 ^B	7.5 ^A	0.67
Liver, mg/g BW	116 ^B	105 ^B	92 ^A	1.81

^{ab} differences in rows significant at $P \leq 0.05$

^{AB} differences in rows significant at $P \leq 0.01$

smaller (93 mg/kg BW; $P \leq 0.01$) than those of birds fed the diets with defatted seeds (217 mg) or defatted cake (284 mg). Liver weights of chickens did not differ among the groups.

The effect of temperature and time of heating in laboratory conditions on protein value of the cake for rats is shown in Table 5. TD of protein was not influenced by heating at 100°C while it decreased progressively by heating at 120°C for 10, 20 and 30 min (82.2, 80.8 and 79.5%, respectively). BV was not affected by heating at 100°C for 10 and 20 min (90.4 and 89.9, respectively) while prolongation the time to 30 min at 120°C depressed BV progressively to 80.3.

Both factors affected negatively ($P \leq 0.01$) FI and BWG as well as FC ($P > 0.05$) of rats. However, FI and BWG were depressed by prolongation of heating only at 120°C. In contrast, FC values consequently increased with increasing both temperature and time of heating. Mild heating at 100°C for 10 min produced FC value of 3.25 while excessive heating at 120°C for 30 min raised that value to 4.42.

A linear decrease ($P \leq 0.001$) in thyroid gland weights was observed as temperature and time of heating of extracted cake increased. Heating at 120°C for 30 min reduced the thyroid weight of rats 30% below that obtained for the meal heated at 100°C for 10 min. The thyroid weights were linearly dependent ($P \leq 0.001$) on glucosinolate content in heated cake. The weights of rat liver did not differ among groups fed the diets containing cake heated in experimental conditions and ranged from 90 to 95 mg/g BW.

DISCUSSION

Cooking and toasting in the oil plant affected content of lysine, available lysine and glucosinolates. It was noted that the decrease of lysine concentration

TABLE 4
Performance of broiler chickens fed with the diets containing rapeseed products obtained from different processing stages (Experiment 2)

Diet with:	Defatted seeds	Defatted cake	RSM	SE
Processing stage:	before heating	after cooking	after toasting	
Feed intake, kg/4 weeks	2.01 ^B	2.04 ^{AB}	2.13 ^A	0.02
Body weight gain, g/4 weeks	971	960	990	9.91
Feed conversion, g/g	2.07 ^b	2.12 ^{ab}	2.15 ^a	0.01
Thyroid, mg/kg BW ⁵	217 ^B	284 ^A	93 ^C	6.76
Liver, g/kg BW	22.2	22.7	23.2	0.24

^{ab} differences in rows significant at $P \leq 0.05$

^{AB} differences in rows significant at $P \leq 0.01$

TABLE 5

Effects of temperature and time of heating on protein value of defatted cake for rats (Experiment 3)

Temperature, °C	100			120			Factor ¹		T _{xt} ²
	10	20	30	10	20	30	T	t	
TD, %	82.7	82.1	83.1	82.2	80.8	79.5	**	*	**
BV	90.4	89.9	85.6	85.4	83.8	80.3	**	**	NS
NPU, %	74.7	73.7	71.2	70.2	67.7	63.8	**	**	NS
Feed intake, g/31 days	570	576	572	596	560	523	NS	NS	*
Body gain, g/31 days	169	172	163	166	149	120	**	*	*
Feed conversion, g/g	3.25	3.39	3.42	3.53	3.60	4.42	**	**	**
Thyroid, mg/100g BW ³	12.6	11.6	11.3	11.4	9.5	8.8	**	NS	NS
Liver, mg/g BW	91	90	93	95	91	93	NS	NS	NS

¹ factor: T = temperature; t = time² interaction of temperature and time³ body weight** - $P \leq 0.01$ * - $P \leq 0.05$ NS - not significant. The linear effect ($P \leq 0.001$) of increasing temperature and time of heating on thyroid weights was observed

was observed during processes whereas decrease in available lysine and glucosinolate contents occurred only during toasting. The greater damaging effect of toasting than that of cooking on protein quality is in agreement with findings by Buraczewska and Grala (1991) in respect to total and available lysine concentrations, as well as with the results presented by Katzer and Mińkowski (1989) and by Anderson-Hafermann et al. (1993) regarding protein solubility.

Lack of the effect of cooking on glucosinolate content in the cake was probably due to rather low temperature (85°C). However, during this process enzymatic hydrolysis of glucosinolates to ITC, VOT, nitriles and thiocyanate ion may occur (Niewiadomski, 1990). Dąbrowski et al. (1989) reported that cooking at 95°C for 15 min may decrease the level of glucosinolates by 20%, mainly due to hydrolysis of indole glucosinolates. In our study glucosinolates were measured as equivalent of isothiocyanates (ITC) and vinyl-oxazolidinethiones (VOT), thus, it is not possible to find out whether indole glucosinolates were hydrolysed and/or reduced at the temperature of 85°C during cooking. Glucosinolates were reduced during toasting (100°C) which is in agreement with the observation on rape seed processing by Shires et al. (1983), Dąbrowski et al. (1989), Katzer and Mińkowski (1989).

Protein value (BV and NPU) of cooked defatted cake measured on rats (Expt. 1) was higher than found for defatted seeds and RSM. The protein value of seeds and cake was not directly dependent on total or available lysine concentrations in protein, in contrast to those samples which were heated (autoclaved) in the laboratory (Expt. 3) or to RSM toasted in the oil plant (Grala et al., 1994). Similarly to our study, other authors also showed that mild hydro-thermal treatment of double-low rape seeds increased their biological value (Słomiński et al., 1985; Rakowska et al., 1987; Rotkiewicz, 1991).

Feed intake and rat performance improved as processing progressed, in spite of the decrease of total and available lysine contents, particularly in RSM. That was probably due to the reduction of glucosinolates in the toasted RSM as compared to the non-heated seeds and the cooked cake. In experiment with chickens a beneficial effect of processing stages was noted for FI and thyroid weight. However, a simultaneous deterioration of FC may suggest that chickens were much more sensitive than rats to the reduced lysine content.

It is well known that the level of glucosinolates and active myrosinase in rape seed may have adverse effect on physiological status (thyroid and/or liver enlargement) and/or growth performance of animals (Vermorel et al., 1987, 1988; Rotkiewicz, 1991). It was found that the breakdown products of glucosinolates such as VOT, nitriles and thiocyanate ion show goitrogenic effects (Heaney et al., 1987; Macholz et al., 1987; Chichłowska, 1990). Besides, it was established that intact glucosinolates may be hydrolysed in the digestive tract of animals by bacteria enzymes which possess myrosinase-like activity (Campbell et al., 1987;

Diedrich and Kujawa, 1987; Rotkiewicz et al., 1987; Słominski et al., 1988; Nugon-Baudon et al., 1990). Nitriles (up to 95% of total products) and thiocyanate ions (Campbell and Słominski, 1989) are mainly formed as a result of the microbiological hydrolysis of glucosinolates. May be that such products were responsible for the great enlargement of thyroid glands of rats fed the diet with defatted cake found in our study. Similar results were reported by Paik et al. (1981) who assumed that nitriles present in autolysed raw or cooked meal are much more toxic than goitrin (VOT). In the present study, the observed worse performance of animals fed non-heated seeds or the cooked cake than those fed the toasted RSM could be due to the above-mentioned factors since cooking in plants is not sufficient to inactivate myrosinase while toasting is effective (Shires et al., 1983; Kozłowska et al., 1983; Katzer and Mińkowski, 1989).

The results of Experiment 3 showed that increasing both temperature and time of toasting decreased protein value of the heated cake. These results confirmed findings obtained in the study by Grala et al. (1994) who showed that increasing toasting temperature from 90 to 100°C markedly decreased protein value of RSM, especially the content of total and available lysine as well as the apparent ileal digestibility of protein and amino acids, N utilization and pig performance. In the present study the protein quality (TD, BV, NPU) and growth performance of rats (FC, BWG) decreased as lysine and available lysine contents in protein was reduced. BV was highly correlated with the concentration of available lysine in the heated cake ($r = 0.87$, $P \leq 0.001$).

These results correspond very well with the earlier studies where increasing temperature and time of rape seed heating resulted in a decrease of nutritional value of protein and of animal performance (Rakowska et al., 1987; Pastuszevska and Rakowska, 1989; Rotkiewicz, 1991) The negative effects of temperature and time of heating on total and available lysine concentrations and reduced lysine and N utilization by rats is due to Maillard reaction (Hurrell, 1990). The extent of protein damage during Maillard reaction depends on time and temperature of heating and such constituents of the seed as free sugars (Pickard et al., 1986), moisture, tannin, ITC and VOT (Björkman, 1973, cited by Rotkiewicz, 1991).

The protein value (BV, NPU) of defatted cake determined in a short time balance experiment was high, but the growth performance (FI, BWG) of rats fed the same diet for longer period was poor and similar to that observed for overheated cake (120°C for 30 min). The results suggest that both insufficient toasting and overheating may affect animal performance negatively, but in each case the reason of poor performance may be different. In growth performance trial the results are mainly limited by factors restricting feed intake such as glucosinolates and their breakdown products (ITC, VOT, nitriles), while in short N balance trial results are affected by factors strictly related to digestibility and

quality of protein and availability of lysine. This is in agreement with the results of the previous study by Grala et al. (1994) with pigs.

The laboratory toasting at 100°C for 10 or 20 min did not decrease protein value, but probably inactivated myrosinase what can be concluded from observations on rats showing smaller thyroid weight as compared to animals fed defatted seeds or defatted cake. That confirms the results of Rakowska et al. (1987; 1989) who reported that heating at 100°C for 10 min inactivated myrosinase completely without negative effect on the biological value of protein. As a result, the performance of rats fed the cake heated at 100°C was better than the other, not heated rapeseed products.

CONCLUSIONS

Experiments with the use of rapeseed meal heated at various temperature and time duration and with the rapeseed products coming from consecutive processing stages showed that mild toasting (at 100°C for 10 or 20 min) is beneficial to the nutritional value of the double-low rapeseed meal. Both the lack of toasting and overheating affect negatively performance of rats and chickens.

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STRESZCZENIE

Wpływ procesów termicznych na wartość pokarmową białka z rzepaku podwójnie ulepszanego. 2. Wpływ etapów odolejania przemysłowego i tostowania w warunkach laboratoryjnych

W doświadczeniu bilansowym i wzrostowym na szczurach oraz wzrostowym na kurczętach oznaczono wpływ kolejnych etapów odolejania rzepaku w warunkach przemysłowych (prażenie i tostowanie), porównując wartość białka nasion surowych, wycioku poddanego prażeniu w temp. 85°C i śruty tostowanej w temp. 100°C. Określono także wpływ temperatury (100 i 120°C) oraz czasu (10, 20 i 30 min) ogrzewania wycioku w warunkach laboratoryjnych na wartość odżywczą białka w testach na szczurach. Kryterium wartości odżywczej produktów rzepakowych była zawartość lizyny ogólnej i lizyny dostępnej, zawartość glukozynolanów oraz wyniki doświadczeń bilansowych i wzrostowych na szczurach i wzrostowych na kurczętach-broilerach.

Zawartość lizyny ogólnej obniżała się pod wpływem prażenia i tostowania, natomiast na lizynę dostępną i glukozynolany miało wpływ głównie tostowanie. Strawność białka nasion, wycioku i śruty nie różniła się, zaś wartość biologiczna białka wycioku była większa niż nasion i nie różniła się od śruty. Przyrosty szczurów otrzymujących pasze z kolejnych etapów odolejania zwiększyły się, natomiast kurczęta we wszystkich grupach przyrastały podobnie.

Wykazano, że zarówno temperatura jak i czas ogrzewania w warunkach laboratoryjnych powodują istotne ($P \leq 0.001$) zmniejszenie zawartości lizyny ogólnej i dostępnej. Zmniejszonej zawartości obu form lizyny w białku towarzyszyło obniżenie wartości biologicznej białka (BV i NPU) oraz ograniczenie wzrostu szczurów.

Nieprawidłowy proces tostowania może mieć ujemny wpływ na wartość odżywczą białka rzepaku, jednak łagodne tostowanie (100°C przez 10 lub 20 min) jest konieczne, gdyż samo prażenie przed ekstrakcją oleju nie zapewnia wyeliminowania szkodliwego działania substancji antyżywnościowych.