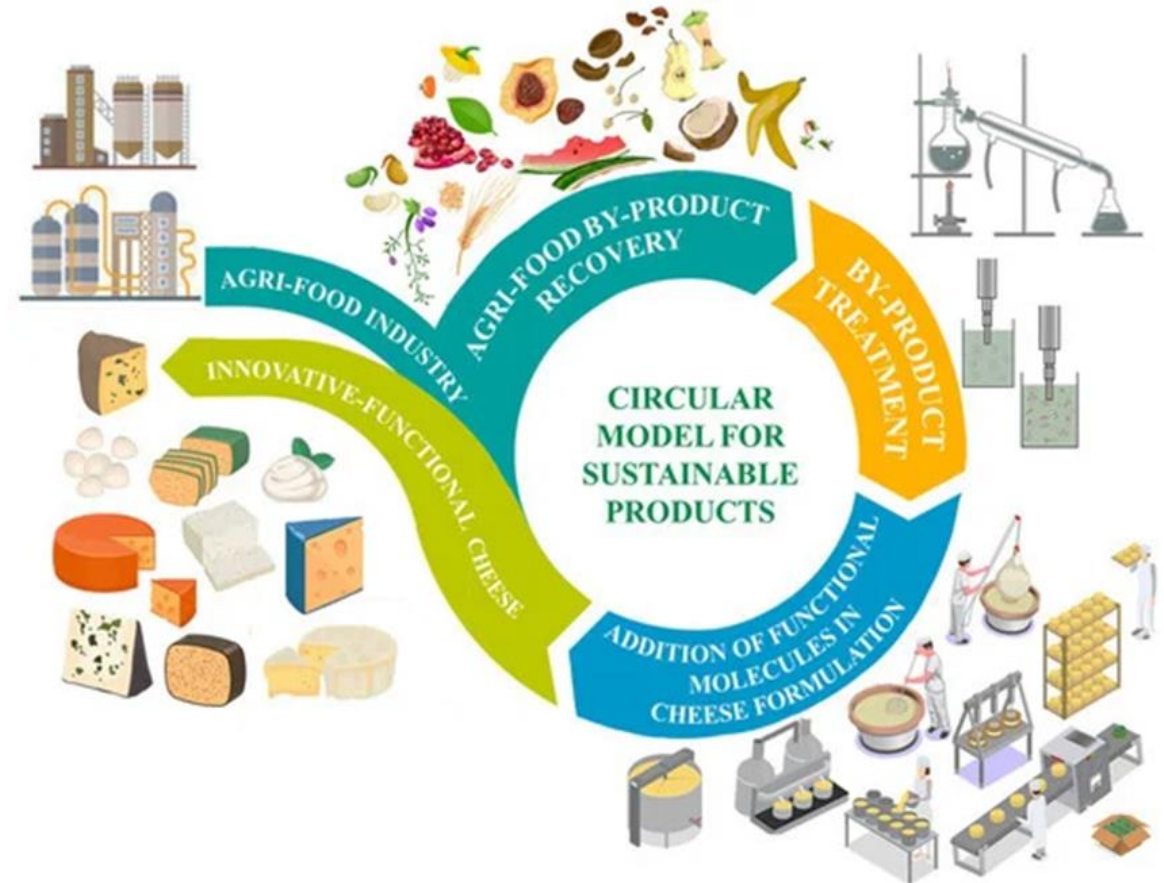


# Cross-sector circular processing for dairy product quality using agri-food by-products

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Tenure track in Food Technologies  
Department of Soil, Plant and Food Science  
Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro






*antioxidants*



*Review*

# Application of Agri-Food By-Products in Cheesemaking

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AGRI-FOOD WASTES AND BY-PRODUCTS



BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS



ANTIOXIDANT AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY



EXTENSION OF SHELF-LIFE



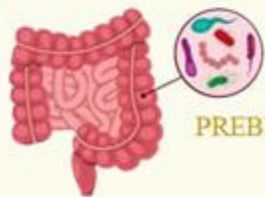
TEXTURE AND SENSORY IMPROVEMENT



TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATION

HEALTH-PROMOTING APPLICATION

PREVENTION OF FOOD-RELATED DISEASES



PREBIOTIC ACTIVITY



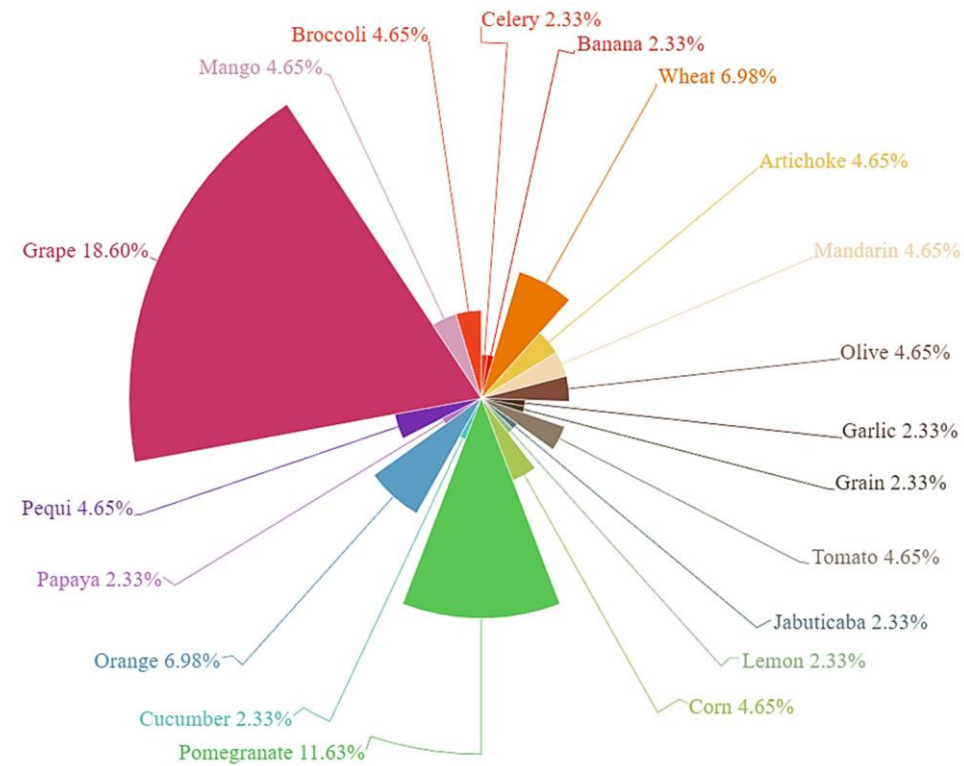
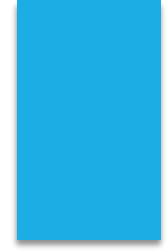
BIOACCESSIBLE AND BIOAVAILABLE ANTIOXIDANTS



FUNCTIONAL CHEESES



# BY-PRODUCTS APPLIED IN THE CHEESEMAKING BY STUDIES IN THE LITERATURE



**Table 1.** The main agri-food by-products and their bioactive compounds.

Product	By-Product	Bioactive Compounds	Reference
Artichoke	Leaves	Dietary fibers, polyphenols, minerals	[28]
Banana	Peel	Polyphenols, pectins, biogenic amines, phytosterols	[29]
Broccoli	Stem, leaves	Nitrogen–sulphur compounds, polyphenols, vitamins, essential minerals, dietary fibers	[30]
Cardoon	Root	Dietary fibers, minerals, polyphenols, sesquiterpene lactones	[31]
Celery	Leaves	Polyphenols, vitamins, carotenoids, terpenes, coumarins, unsaturated fatty acids	[32]
Chicory	Root	Inulin, chlorogenic acids, cinnarine, lignans, quercetin	[33]
Corn	Bran, germ	Polyunsaturated fatty acids, polyphenols, tocopherols, tocotrienols, phytosterols	[34]
Cucumber	Peel	Dietary fibers, polyphenols, minerals	[35]
Garlic	Leaves	Polyphenols, vitamins, carotenoids, phytoestrogens, minerals	[36]
Grain	Brewers' spent grain	Phenolic acids, noncellulosic polysaccharides, $\beta$ -glucan	[37]
Grape	Skin, pomace, seed	Polyphenols, vitamins, stilbenes, dietary fibers	[38]
Jaboticaba	Peel	Polyphenols, dietary fibers	[39]
Lemon	Peel	Essential oils, dietary fibers, polyphenols, vitamin C	[40]
Mandarin	Peel	Polyphenols, carotenoids, vitamins, dietary fibers	[40]
Mango	Peel, kernel	PUFAs, polyphenols, carotenoids, minerals, vitamins	[41]
Oat	Bran	Peptides, amino acids, $\beta$ -glucans, dietary fibers, polyunsaturated fatty acids, vitamins, minerals, polyphenols	[42]
Olive	Water, solid waste	Polyphenols, tocopherols, sterols, minerals, dietary fiber, $\beta$ -carotene	[43]
Orange	Peel	Essential oils, dietary fibers, carotenoids, polyphenols, vitamin C	[40]
Pequi	Epicarp, mesocarp	Polyphenols, terpenes, flavonoids	[44]
Pomegranate	Peel	Polyphenols, flavonoids, tannins	[45]
Tomato	Peel	Lycopene, $\beta$ -carotene	[46]
Wheat	Germ	Vitamins, minerals, polyphenols, polyunsaturated fatty acids, carotenoids, sterols	[47]



AGRI-FOOD WASTES AND BY-PRODUCTS



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EXTENSION OF SHELF-LIFE



TEXTURE AND SENSORY IMPROVEMENT

TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATION

HEALTH-PROMOTING APPLICATION

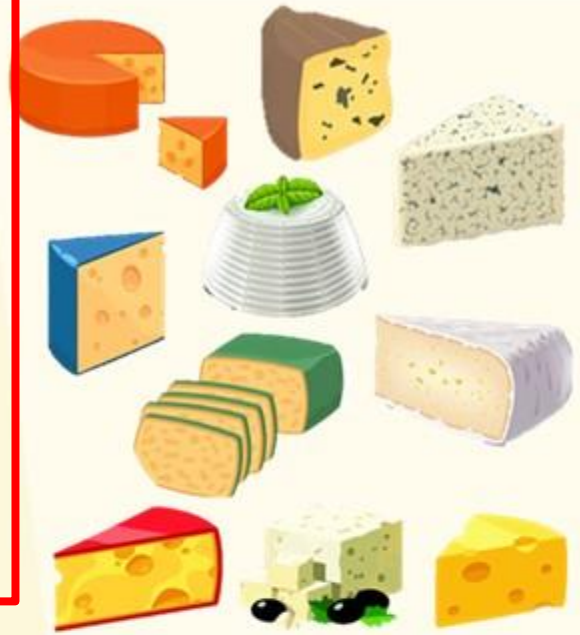
PREVENTION OF FOOD-RELATED DISEASES



PREBIOTIC ACTIVITY



BIOACCESSIBLE AND BIOAVAILABLE ANTIOXIDANTS

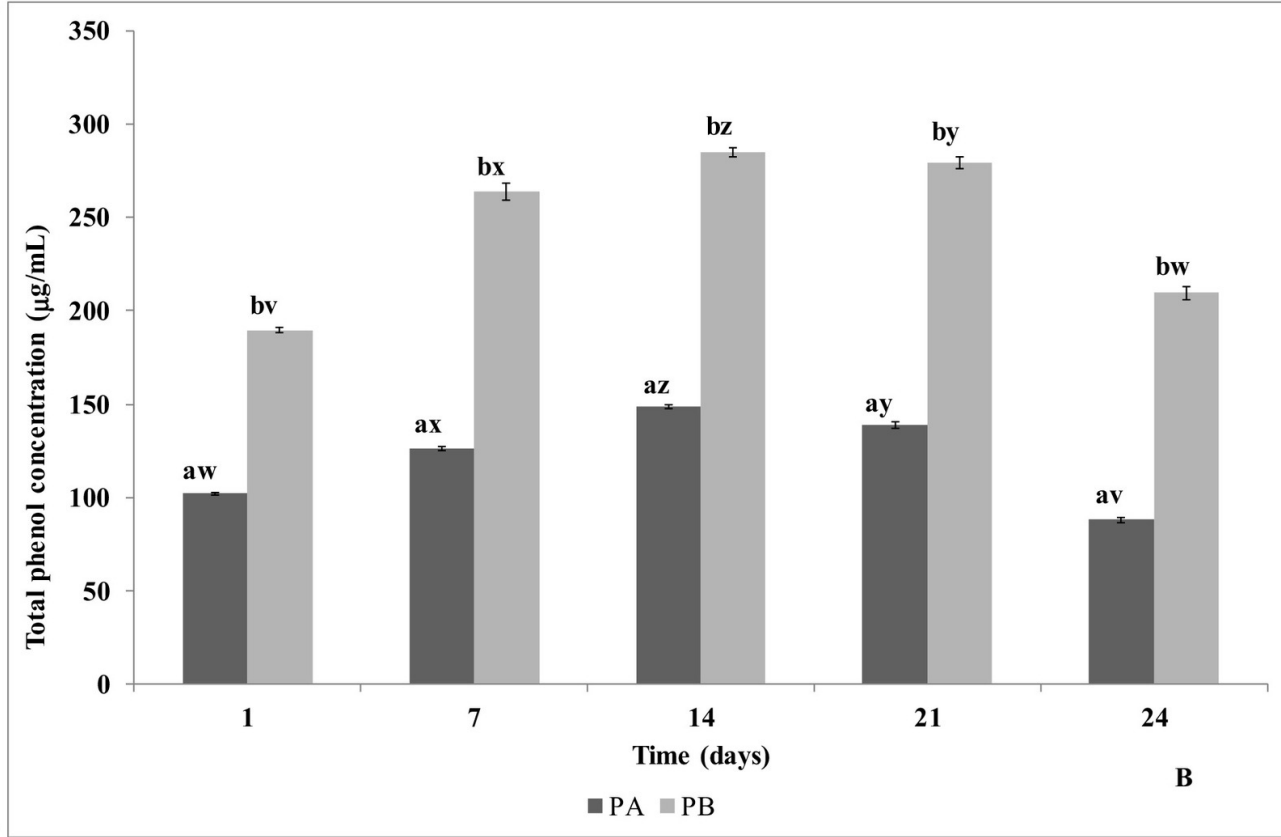
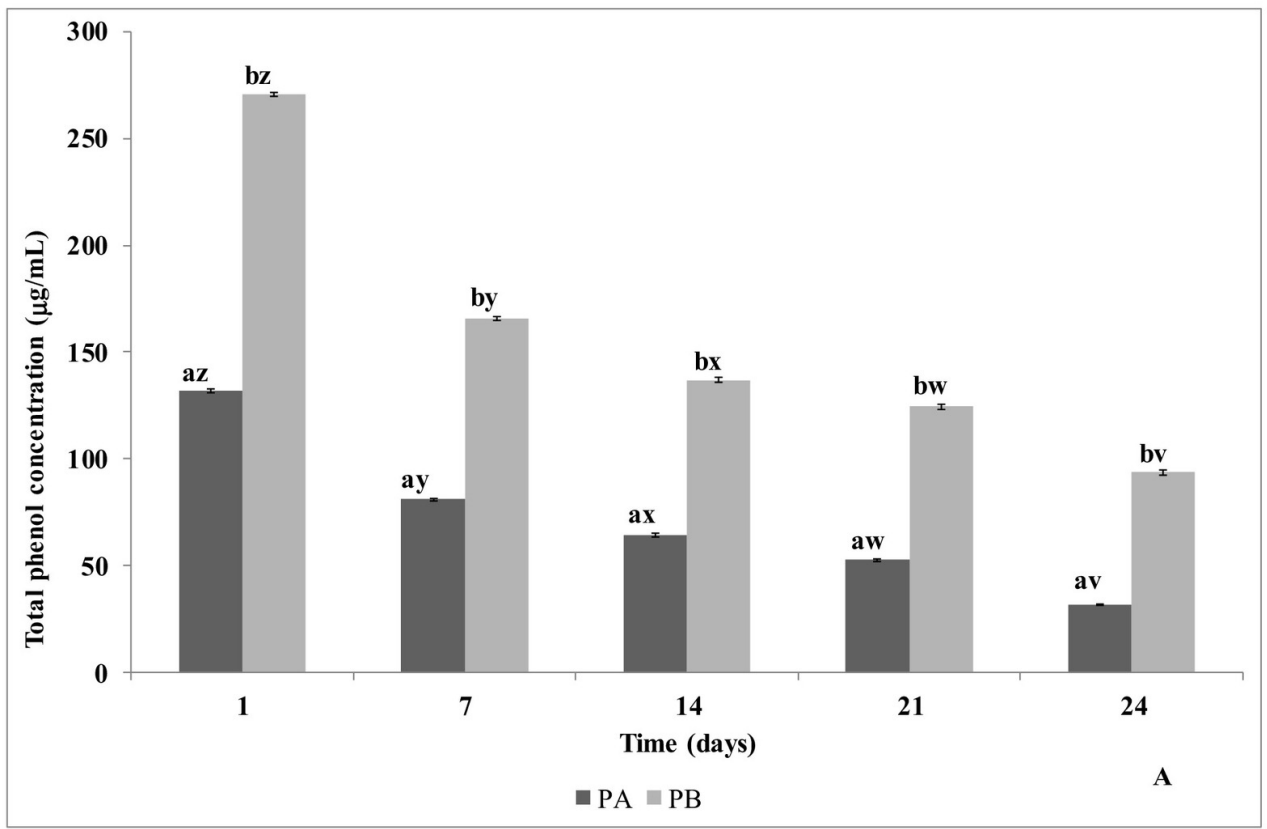


FUNCTIONAL CHEESES



# Antimicrobial efficacy of a polyphenolic extract from olive oil by-product against “Fior di latte” cheese spoilage bacteria

Roila et al., 2019

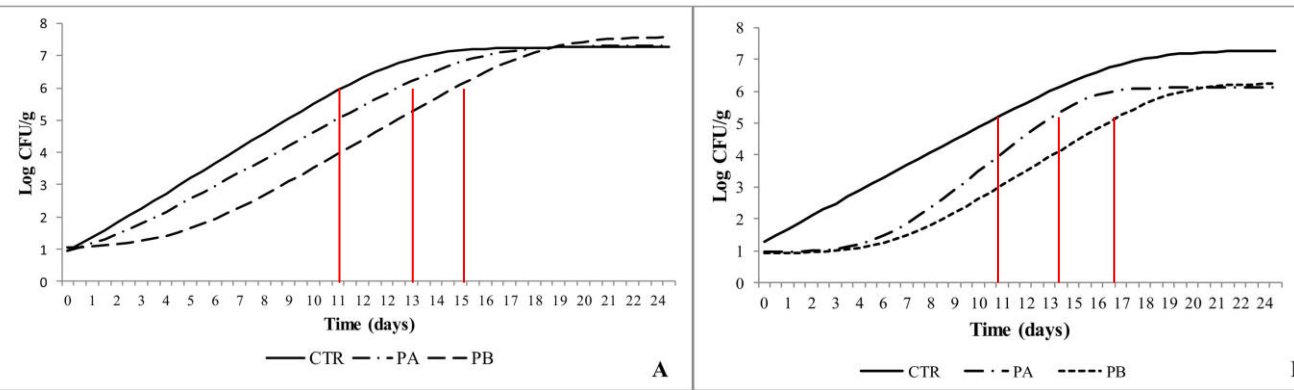


Total polyphenols content in the governing liquid (A) and “Fior di latte” cheeses (B) treated with two different concentrations of olive mill **wastewater** polyphenols extract: (250 µg/mL) PA and (500 µg/mL) PB.

# Antimicrobial efficacy of a polyphenolic extract from olive oil by-product against “Fior di latte” cheese spoilage bacteria

106 cfu/g

105 cfu/ml



Estimated growth curves of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* (A) and of *Enterobacteriaceae* (B) using the Baranyi and Roberts model, in “Fior di Latte” cheeses treated with two different concentrations of olive oil polyphenols extract (250 µg/mL) PA and (500 µg/mL) PB and CTR samples.

Table 1. Estimated growth dynamic parameters using the Baranyi and Roberts model for *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *Enterobacteriaceae* growth in “Fior di latte” cheese.

Microorganism and parameters	CTR	PA	PB	SEM	p-Value
<i>P. fluorescens</i>					
Initial value (log CFU/g)	0.957	0.971	1.064	0.035	0.087
$\lambda$ (h)	47.83 <sup>a</sup>	33.75 <sup>a</sup>	103.86 <sup>b</sup>	14.733	0.008
$\mu_{max}$ (log CFU/mL/h)	0.0271 <sup>b</sup>	0.0191 <sup>a</sup>	0.0197 <sup>a</sup>	0.001	<0.001
Final value (log CFU/g)	7.235	7.325	7.605	0.142	0.189
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>					
Initial value (log CFU/g)	1.047	0.949	0.956	0.062	0.128
$\lambda$ (h)	0.00 <sup>a</sup>	120.86 <sup>b</sup>	125.81 <sup>b</sup>	19.48	<0.001
$\mu_{max}$ (log CFU/mL/h)	0.0175	0.0224	0.0167	0.003	0.245
Final value (log CFU/g)	7.103	6.116	7.075	0.430	0.209



# Antimicrobial efficacy of a polyphenolic extract from olive oil by-product against “Fior di latte” cheese spoilage bacteria

Table 2. Estimated sensory shelf life analyses of the “Fior di latte” cheese by Weibull distribution.

Percentage	CTR days	PA days	PB days
1%	2.129	3.630	5.307
5%	4.025	5.996	8.084
10%	5.332	7.484	9.734
1st quartile 25%	7.895	10.197	12.616
<b>Median 50%</b>	11.132	13.368	15.831
3rd quartile 75%	14.595	16.549	18.932
90%	17.795	19.348	21.582
95%	19.722	20.981	23.098
99%	23.331	23.951	25.810

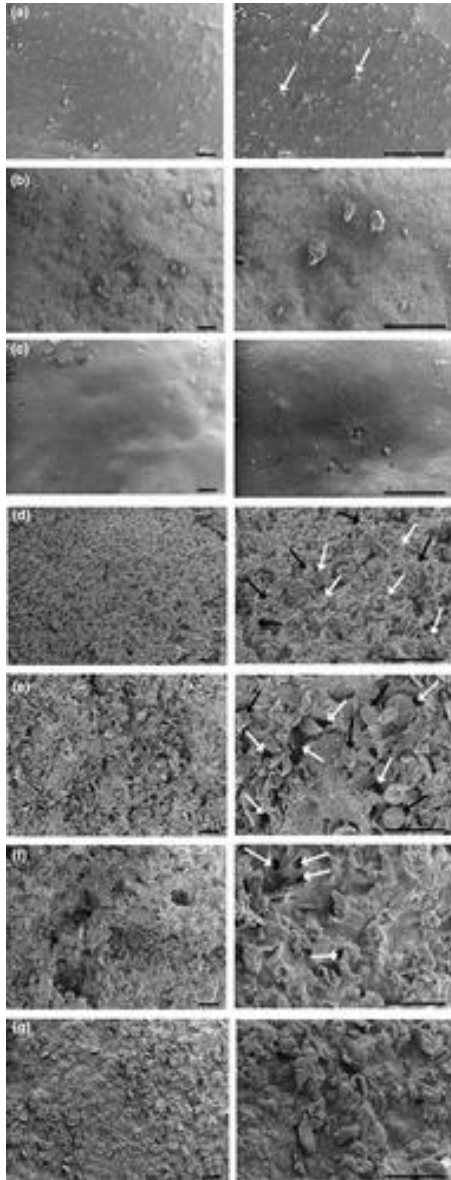
↓ Texture  
Flavour  
Appearance

CTR: “Fior di latte” cheese maintained in untreated governing liquid; PA: “Fior di latte” cheese maintained in GL added with polyphenolic extract derived from olive oil by-product to a final concentration of 250 µg total polyphenols/mL; PB: “Fior di latte” cheese maintained in GL added with polyphenolic extract derived from olive oil by-product to a final concentration of 500 µg total polyphenols/mL.

# Gelatin-starch composite coating containing cucumber peel extract and cumin essential oil: Shelf life improvement of a cheese model

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

Esparvarini et al., 2022



Control

T0

CPE

CEO

GS

GS-CPE

GS-CEO

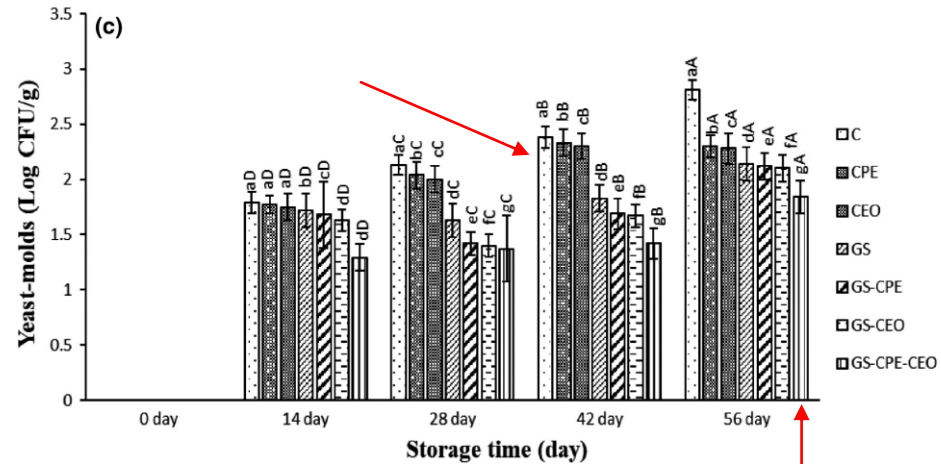
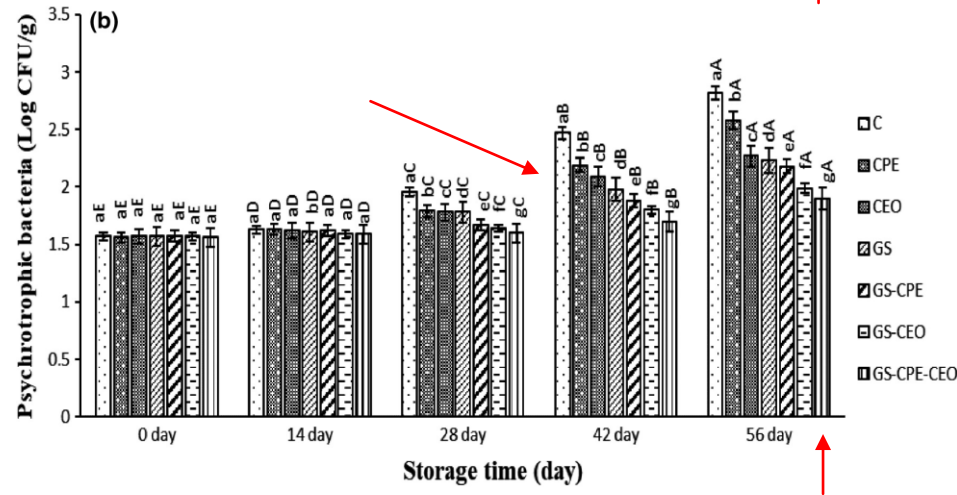
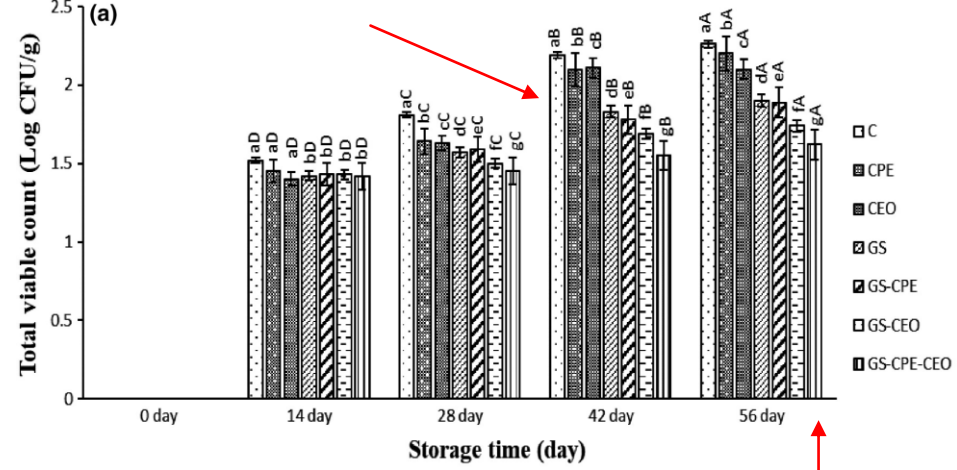
GS-CPE-CEO

Each slice was sunk for 2 min in the respective solutions. Then, the samples were removed and allowed to drain on a sterilized metal net to form the edible coatings; next, the treated samples were packaged in low-density polyethylene (LDPE) bags.

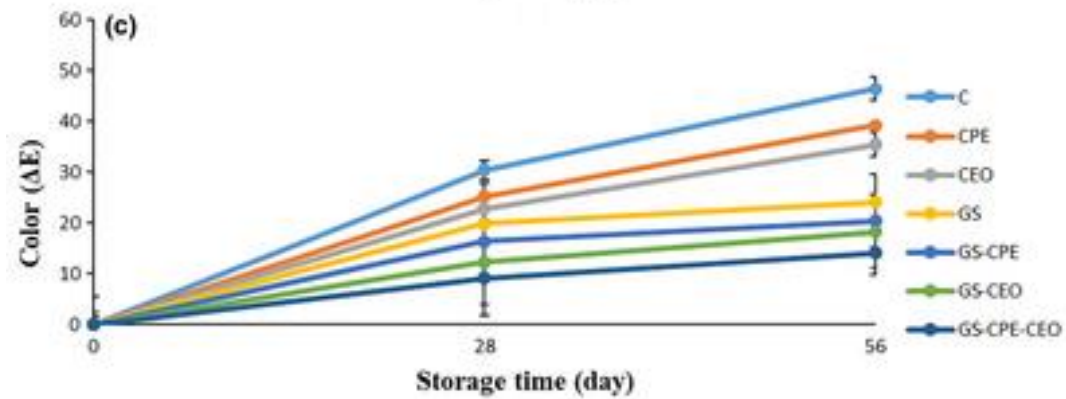
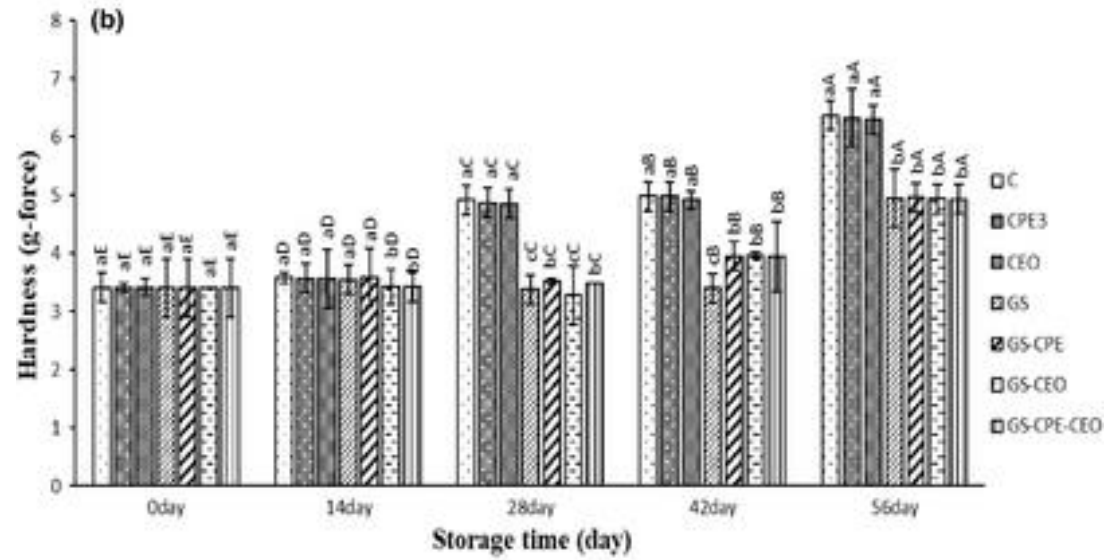
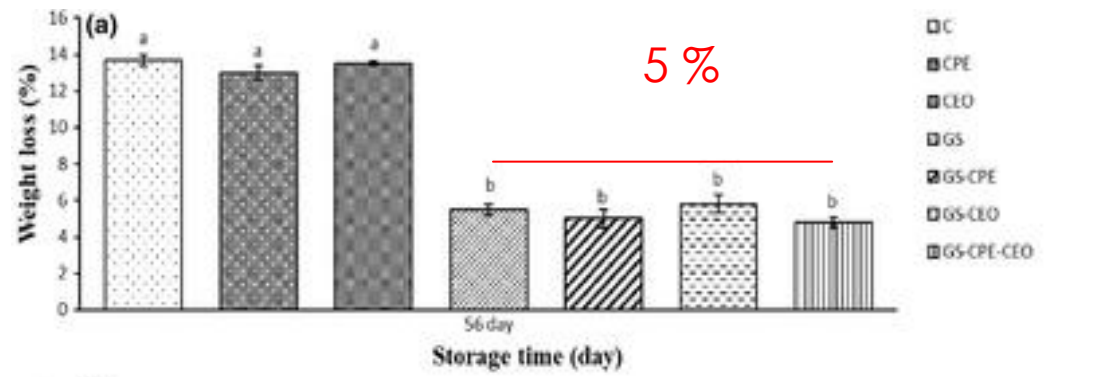
cucumber peel extract (CPE), cumin essential oil (CEO), gelatin-starch edible coating (GS), gelatin-starch edible coating-cucumber peel extract (GS-CPE), gelatin-starch edible coating-cumin essential oil (GS-CEO), and gelatin-starch edible coating-cucumber peel extract-cumin essential oil (GS-CPE-CEO). The images on the left and right show magnifications of 100× and 300×, respectively

# Microbiological analysis

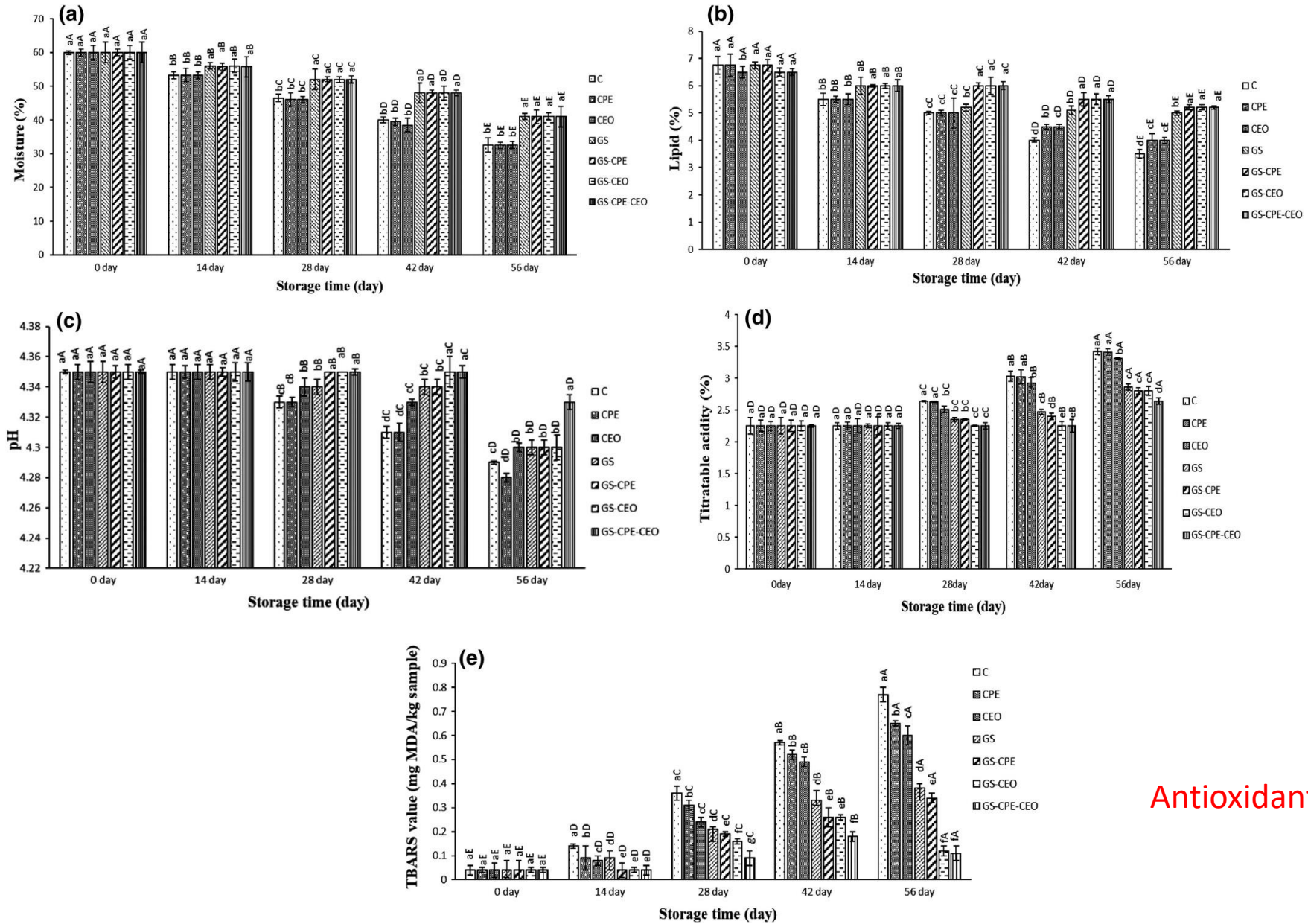
56 days of storage, 4°C



# Physical properties



# Chemical properties



Antioxidant activity



Storage period (days)	Treatments	Sensory attributes			Overall acceptability
		Taste	Odor	Texture	
28	C	4.5 ± 0.45 <sup>c</sup>	4.1 ± 0.71 <sup>c</sup>	4.2 ± 0.84 <sup>d</sup>	4.4 ± 0.84 <sup>bc</sup>
	CPE	4.3 ± 0.45 <sup>d</sup>	4.2 ± 0.55 <sup>bc</sup>	4.3 ± 0.45 <sup>c</sup>	4.4 ± 0.45 <sup>bc</sup>
	CEO	4.3 ± 0.45 <sup>d</sup>	4.2 ± 0.55 <sup>bc</sup>	4.3 ± 0.45 <sup>c</sup>	4.4 ± 0.45 <sup>bc</sup>
	GS	4.5 ± 0.45 <sup>c</sup>	4.5 ± 0.45 <sup>b</sup>	4.6 ± 0.45 <sup>b</sup>	4.7 ± 0.45 <sup>b</sup>
	GS-CPE	4.5 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	4.7 ± 0.82 <sup>a</sup>	4.7 ± 0.55 <sup>ab</sup>	4.8 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>
	GS-CEO	4.6 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	4.7 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>
	GS-CPE-CEO	4.7 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.45 <sup>a</sup>
42	C	4.3 ± 0.71 <sup>d</sup>	4.1 ± 0.71 <sup>c</sup>	3.1 ± 0.71 <sup>bc</sup>	3.6 ± 0.71 <sup>c</sup>
	CPE	4.2 ± 0.45 <sup>e</sup>	4.1 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	3.2 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	3.7 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>
	CEO	4.2 ± 0.45 <sup>e</sup>	4.1 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	3.2 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	3.7 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>
	GS	4.5 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	4.4 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	4.1 ± 0.45 <sup>ab</sup>	4.2 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>
	GS-CPE	4.5 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	4.7 ± 0.82 <sup>ab</sup>	4.1 ± 0.82 <sup>ab</sup>	4.4 ± 0.82 <sup>b</sup>
	GS-CEO	4.6 ± 0.84 <sup>b</sup>	4.8 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>	4.1 ± 0.71 <sup>ab</sup>	4.5 ± 0.82 <sup>a</sup>
	GS-CPE-CEO	4.8 ± 0.84 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.2 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.5 ± 0.82 <sup>a</sup>
56	C	—	3.1 ± 0.45 <sup>d</sup>	2.5 ± 0.45 <sup>b</sup>	2.9 ± 0.45 <sup>e</sup>
	CPE	—	3.4 ± 0.55 <sup>cd</sup>	2.5 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	3.0 ± 0.45 <sup>d</sup>
	CEO	—	3.5 ± 0.55 <sup>c</sup>	2.5 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>	3.0 ± 0.55 <sup>d</sup>
	GS	3.5 ± 0.55 <sup>d</sup>	4.5 ± 0.82 <sup>b</sup>	3.5 ± 0.82 <sup>a</sup>	4.0 ± 0.82 <sup>c</sup>
	GS-CPE	4.1 ± 0.45 <sup>c</sup>	4.6 ± 0.82 <sup>ab</sup>	3.5 ± 0.82 <sup>a</sup>	4.2 ± 0.82 <sup>b</sup>
	GS-CEO	4.5 ± 0.82 <sup>b</sup>	4.7 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	3.5 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.2 ± 0.55 <sup>b</sup>
	GS-CPE-CEO	4.7 ± 0.71 <sup>a</sup>	4.7 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	3.5 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	4.3 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>

Note: The significance of the acronyms is the same as in Figure 3. Different letters within the same interval (day) (a, b, c, etc.) indicate a statistically significant difference ( $p \leq .05$ ).

“Simultaneous use of the CPE and GS created an attractive greenish color on the sample surfaces.”



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FUNCTIONAL CHEESES



# The Concept of Cheese Fortification



The WHO and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) define fortification as “the practice of deliberately increasing the content of an essential micronutrient in food, to improve the nutritional quality of food supply and provide a benefit to public health with the least health risk”.



In the functional food market, fortified dairy products account for 42.9%



It is expected that the fortified dairy product market will reach almost EUR 15,675.03 million by 2027, with a compound annual growth rate of 6.9% during the forecast period



# Fruit and Vegetable By-Products to Fortify Spreadable Cheese

Lucera et al., 2020

## Bioactive compounds from vegetable by-products



Spreadable cheese

Cheese samples	TPC (mg GAEs/g <sub>dw</sub> )	TFC (mg QEs/g <sub>dw</sub> )	ABTS (mg TEs/g <sub>dw</sub> )	FRAP ( $\mu$ Mol FeSO <sub>4</sub> •7H <sub>2</sub> O/g <sub>dw</sub> )
Control	0.66±0.06 <sup>a</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	0.96±0.08 <sup>a</sup>	1.52±0.05 <sup>a</sup>
broccoli	1.78±0.02 <sup>d</sup>	0.79±0.07 <sup>c</sup>	2.09±0.06 <sup>d</sup>	6.65±0.20 <sup>d</sup>
corn bran	0.90±0.04 <sup>b</sup>	0.49±0.03 <sup>a</sup>	1.71±0.09 <sup>c</sup>	4.53±0.47 <sup>c</sup>
artichoke	1.20±0.22 <sup>c</sup>	0.06±0.03 <sup>b</sup>	1.71±0.20 <sup>c</sup>	4.74±0.13 <sup>c</sup>
tomato peel	0.72±0.02 <sup>a</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	1.51±0.07 <sup>b</sup>	2.58±0.12 <sup>b</sup>
red grape pomace	2.34±0.15 <sup>e</sup>	0.86±0.08 <sup>d</sup>	3.95±0.19 <sup>e</sup>	26.17±0.72 <sup>e</sup>
white grape pomace	2.74±0.04 <sup>f</sup>	0.89±0.03 <sup>d</sup>	4.00±0.06 <sup>e</sup>	26.45±0.25 <sup>e</sup>

- ✓ red and white grape pomace
- ✓ tomato peel
- ✓ broccoli
- ✓ corn bran
- ✓ artichokes



Fine powders added at 5% in the spreadable cheese

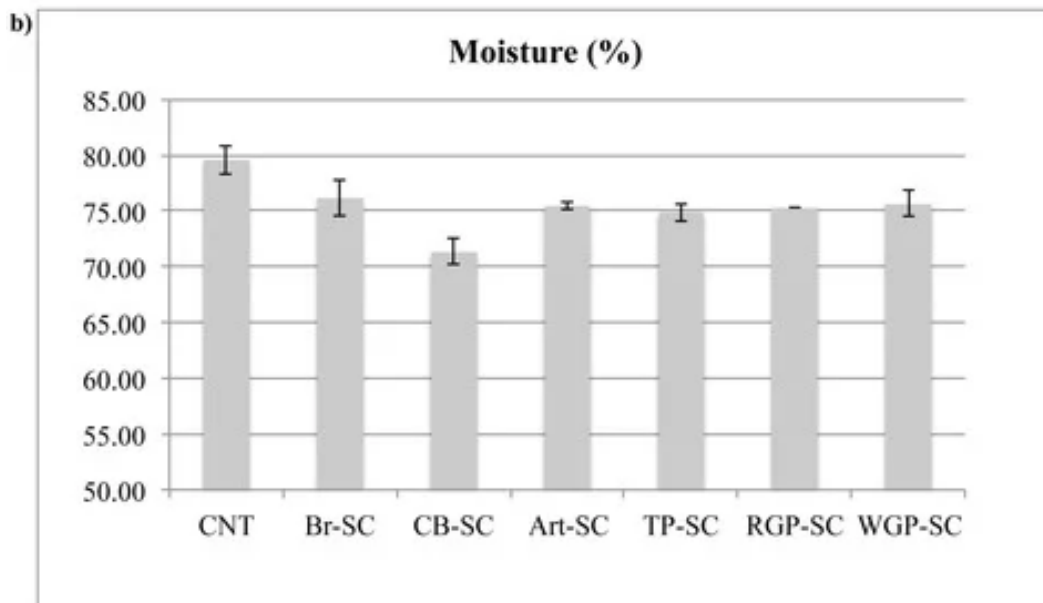
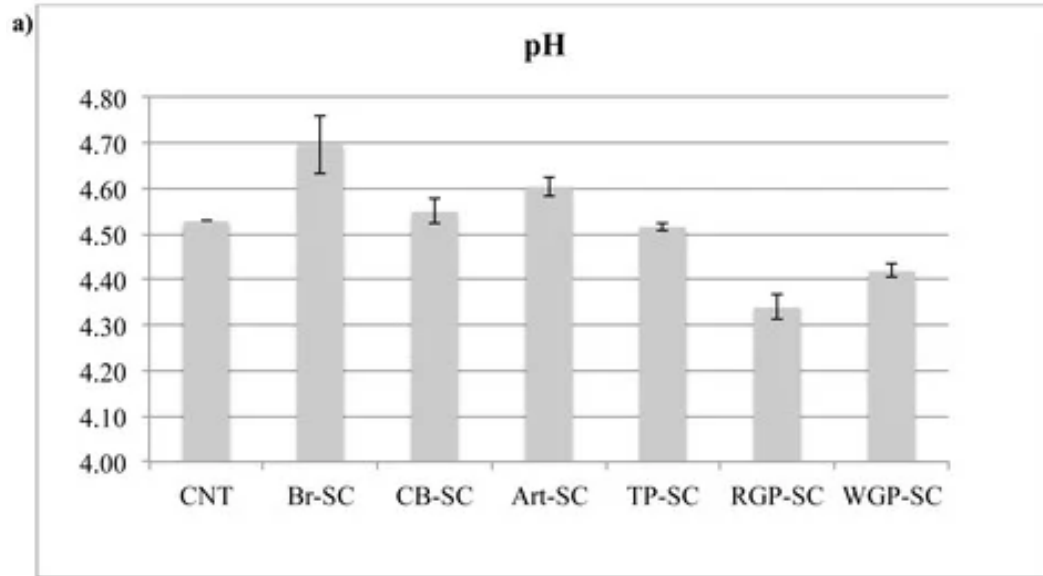
# Fruit and Vegetable By-Products to Fortify Spreadable Cheese

**Table 2.** Total phenolic content (TPC), total flavonoids content (TFC), and antioxidant activity measured by ABTS and FRAP assays of spreadable cheese enriched with 5% by-products.

	TPC (mg GAEs/g dw)	TFC (mg QEs/g dw)	ABTS (mg TEs/g dw)	FRAP ( $\mu$ Mol FeSO <sub>4</sub> ·7H <sub>2</sub> O/g dw)
CNT	0.66 ± 0.06 <sup>a</sup>	0.47 ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	0.96 ± 0.08 <sup>a</sup>	1.52 ± 0.05 <sup>a</sup>
Br-SC	1.78 ± 0.02 <sup>d</sup>	0.79 ± 0.07 <sup>c</sup>	2.09 ± 0.06 <sup>d</sup>	6.65 ± 0.20 <sup>d</sup>
CB-SC	0.90 ± 0.04 <sup>b</sup>	0.49 ± 0.03 <sup>a</sup>	1.71 ± 0.09 <sup>c</sup>	4.53 ± 0.47 <sup>c</sup>
Art-SC	1.20 ± 0.22 <sup>c</sup>	0.06 ± 0.03 <sup>b</sup>	1.71 ± 0.20 <sup>c</sup>	4.74 ± 0.13 <sup>c</sup>
TP-SC	0.72 ± 0.02 <sup>a</sup>	0.47 ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	1.51 ± 0.07 <sup>b</sup>	2.58 ± 0.12 <sup>b</sup>
RGP-SC	2.34 ± 0.15 <sup>e</sup>	0.86 ± 0.08 <sup>d</sup>	3.95 ± 0.19 <sup>e</sup>	26.17 ± 0.72 <sup>e</sup>
WGP-SC	2.74 ± 0.04 <sup>f</sup>	0.89 ± 0.03 <sup>d</sup>	4.00 ± 0.06 <sup>e</sup>	26.45 ± 0.25 <sup>e</sup>

CNT: control spreadable cheese; Br-SC: broccoli spreadable cheese; CB-SC: corn bran spreadable cheese; Art-SC: artichoke spreadable cheese; TP-SC: tomato peel spreadable cheese; RGP-SC: red grape pomace spreadable cheese; WGP-SC: white grape pomace spreadable cheese. <sup>a-f</sup>: Data in columns with different superscripts are significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ). Results are expressed as means ± Standard Deviation for  $n = 3$ .

# Fruit and Vegetable By-Products to Fortify Spreadable Cheese



**Table 3.** Ratings for flavour attributes of seven spreadable cheeses investigated.

Samples	Flavour Attributes (0–7)							
	Overall Intensity	Sweetness	Salty	Acid	Bitter	Astringent	Aftertaste Intensity	Aftertaste Persistence
CNT	6.0 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>	1.2 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	1.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a,b</sup>	4.6 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	n.d.	n.d.	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>b</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>
Br-SC	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	n.d.	1.4 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	n.d.	1.2 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	7.0 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	6.7 ± 0.4 <sup>d</sup>
CB-SC	5.6 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.0 ± 0.0 <sup>b</sup>	0.7 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	4.0 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>	n.d.	2.0 ± 0.0 <sup>b</sup>	5.6 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>	5.4 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>
Art-SC	6.9 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	n.d.	1.6 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	4.9 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0	0.8 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	6.6 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>	6.2 ± 0.3 <sup>c</sup>
TP-SC	5.5 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	n.d.	0.5 ± 0.5 <sup>a</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	n.d.	0.9 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	5.0 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	4.1 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>
RGP-SC	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	n.d.	n.d.	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	n.d.	3.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>
WGP-SC	6.9 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	n.d.	n.d.	6.9 ± 0.2 <sup>d</sup>	n.d.	3.0 ± 0.3 <sup>c</sup>	7.0 ± 0.2 <sup>d</sup>	6.2 ± 0.3 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a-d</sup>: Data in each column with different superscripts are significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ). Results are expressed as means ± Standard Deviation. n.d.: not detected; CNT: control spreadable cheese; Br-SC: broccoli spreadable cheese; CB-SC: corn bran spreadable cheese; Art-SC: artichoke spreadable cheese; TP-SC: tomato peel spreadable cheese; RGP-SC: red grape pomace spreadable cheese; WGP-SC: white grape pomace spreadable cheese.

# Fruit and Vegetable By-Products to Fortify Spreadable Cheese

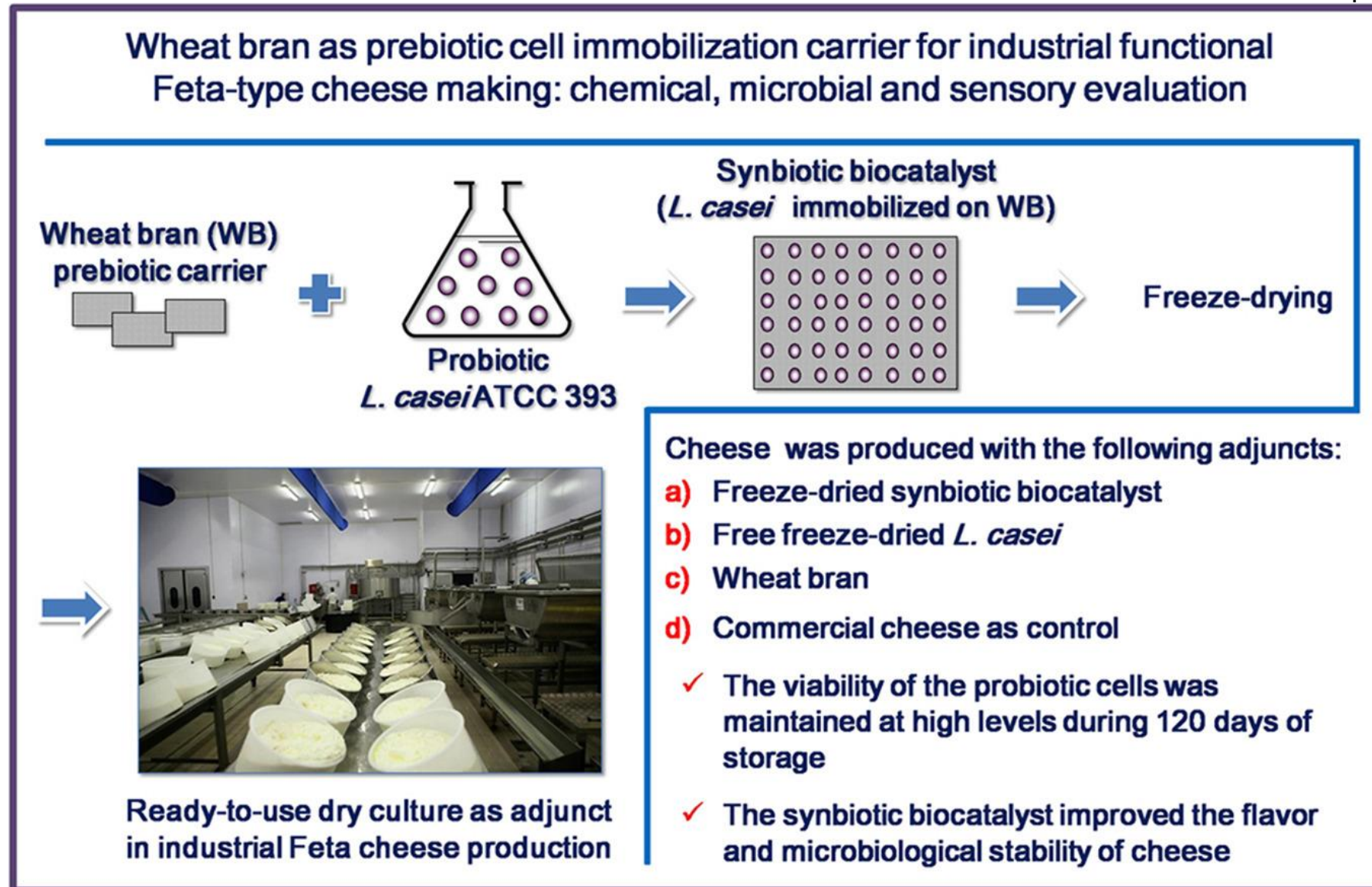
**Table 4.** Rating for textural attributes of spreadable cheeses investigated.

Samples	Textural Attributes (0–7)					
	Spreadability	Fibrous	Adhesiveness	Graininess	Solubility	Juiciness
CNT	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	n.d.	4.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>	n.d.	6.0 ± 0.3 <sup>d</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>
Br-SC	4.5 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>b</sup>	5.5 ± 0.3 <sup>d</sup>	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	3.0 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	3.9 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>
CB-SC	6.3 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	4.5 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	4.5 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	3.9 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>	5.0 ± 0.3 <sup>c</sup>	4.5 ± 0.4 <sup>b</sup>
Art-SC	5.5 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>	6.3 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	5.5 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	5.5 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	3.9 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	4.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>
TP-SC	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	6.5 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	4.0 ± 0.0 <sup>b</sup>	4.0 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>
RGP-SC	5.3 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	7.0 ± 0.2 <sup>d</sup>	5.0 ± 0.0 <sup>c</sup>	6.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	4.5 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>	4.0 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>
WGP-SC	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>	7.0 ± 0.0 <sup>d</sup>	5.1 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	6.0 ± 0.3 <sup>d</sup>	4.6 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>	4.0 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>

a–d: Data in each column with different superscripts are significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ). Results are expressed as means ± Standard Deviation. n.d.: not detected; CNT: control spreadable cheese; Br-SC: broccoli spreadable cheese; CB-SC: corn bran spreadable cheese; Art-SC: artichoke spreadable cheese; TP-SC: tomato peel spreadable cheese; RGP-SC: red grape pomace spreadable cheese; WGP-SC: white grape pomace spreadable cheese.

# Wheat bran as prebiotic cell immobilisation carrier for industrial functional Feta-type cheese making: Chemical, microbial and sensory evaluation

Terpou et al., 2019



# Wheat bran as prebiotic cell immobilisation carrier for industrial functional Feta-type cheese making: Chemical, microbial and sensory evaluation

Pasteurized and standardized sheep's milk (70%) and goat's milk (30%)

+  
rennin and the Chelmos Feta starter



- a) freeze-dried synbiotic immobilised biocatalyst as adjunct (FIL)
- b) cheese made with free freeze-dried *L. casei* cells (in equal cell counts as in FIL), as adjunct (FFL)
- c) cheese made with 10 g of wheat bran as prebiotic adjunct (WB)
- d) commercial Feta cheese (Chelmos starter only) (CS)

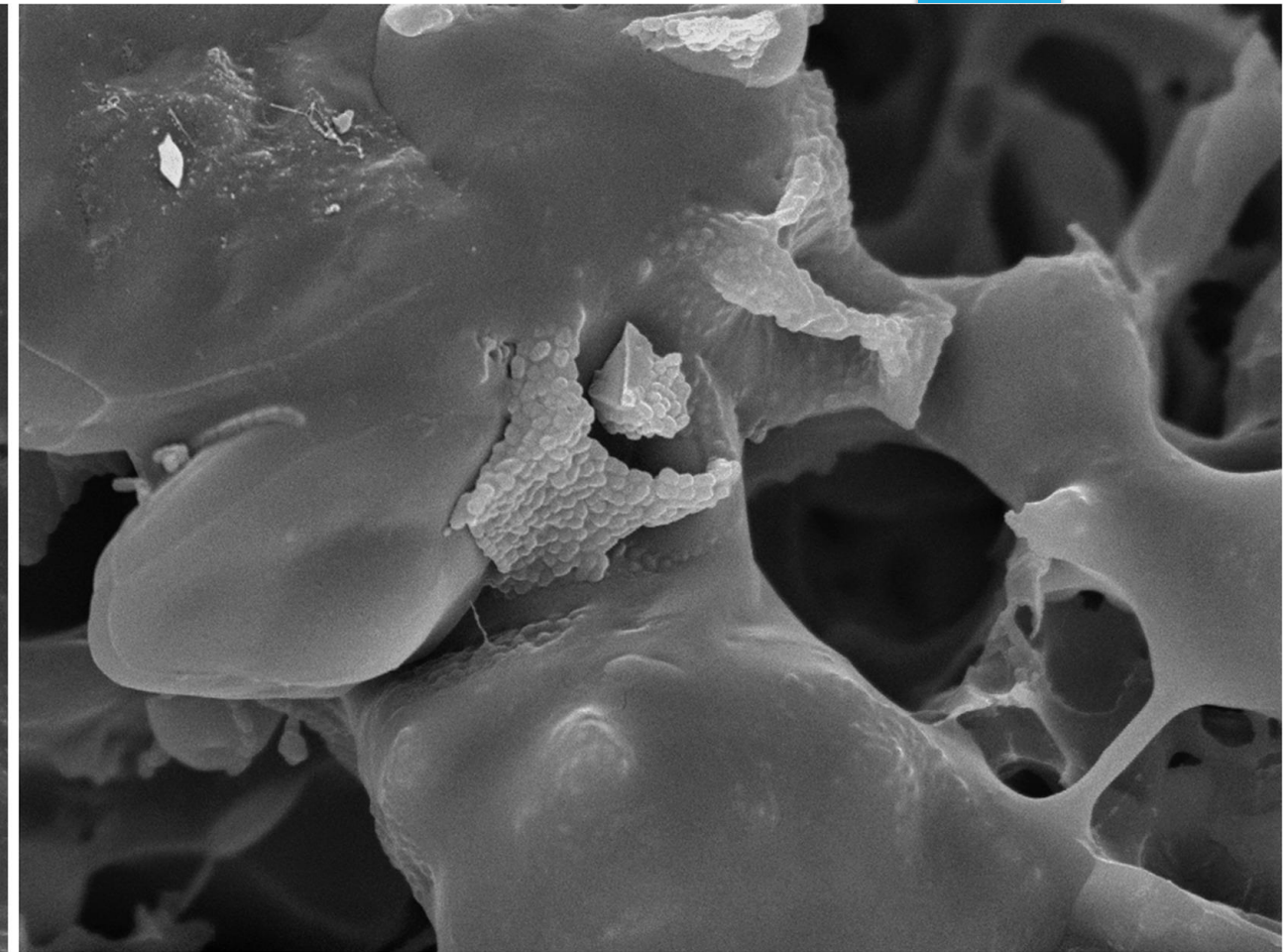
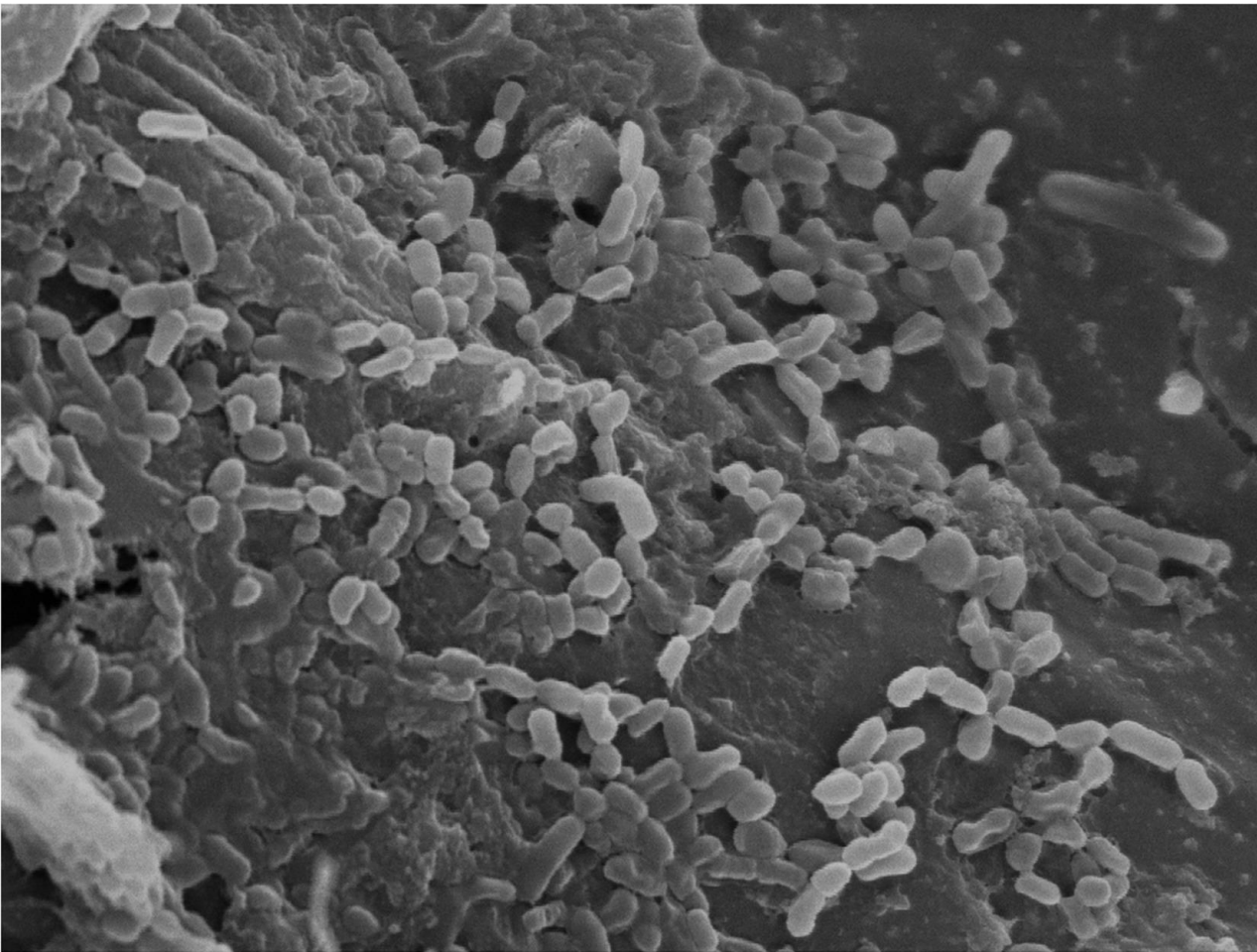
The Chelmos Feta starter culture was added in the milk, mixed well and left undisturbed for 2 h for curd formation.

The adjuncts in each case were then added and mixed well for 5 min. All cheese samples were placed into cubic cheese molds and were left at room temperature (17–23 °C) overnight for whey to drain.

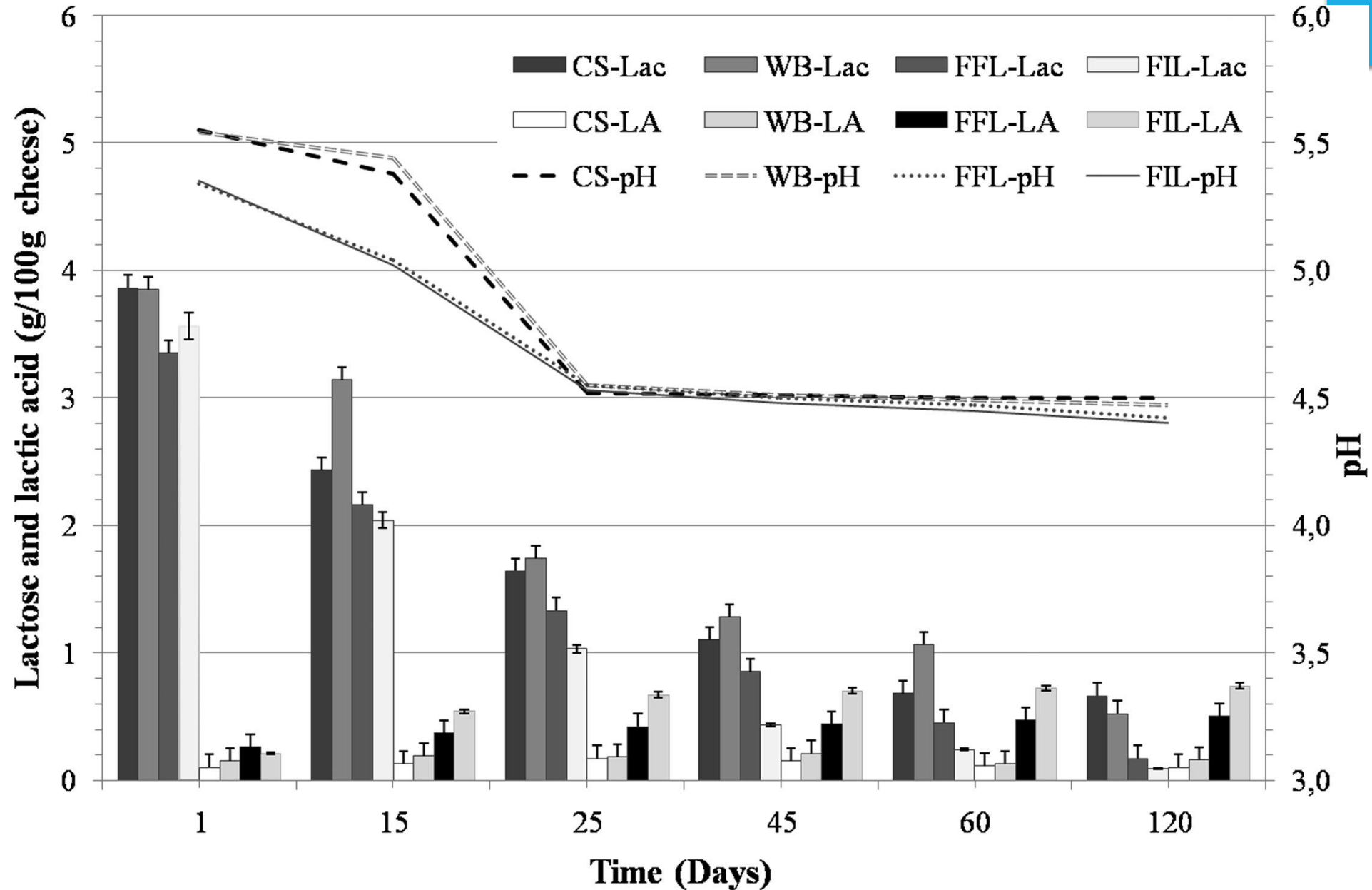
The cheeses were then placed in brine (12% salt) and were kept at 15–18 °C for approximately 15–20 days (until pH dropped to 4.6), and then at 4 °C for 40–45 days in 6% brine to mature.

After a total of 60 days of maturation, the cheese samples were stored at 4 °C in the 6% brine for other 60 days.

SEM photographs of freeze-dried synbiotic biocatalyst (*L. casei* ATCC 393 immobilised on wheat bran) at different magnifications and optical views.



# Physico-chemical characteristics of cheese



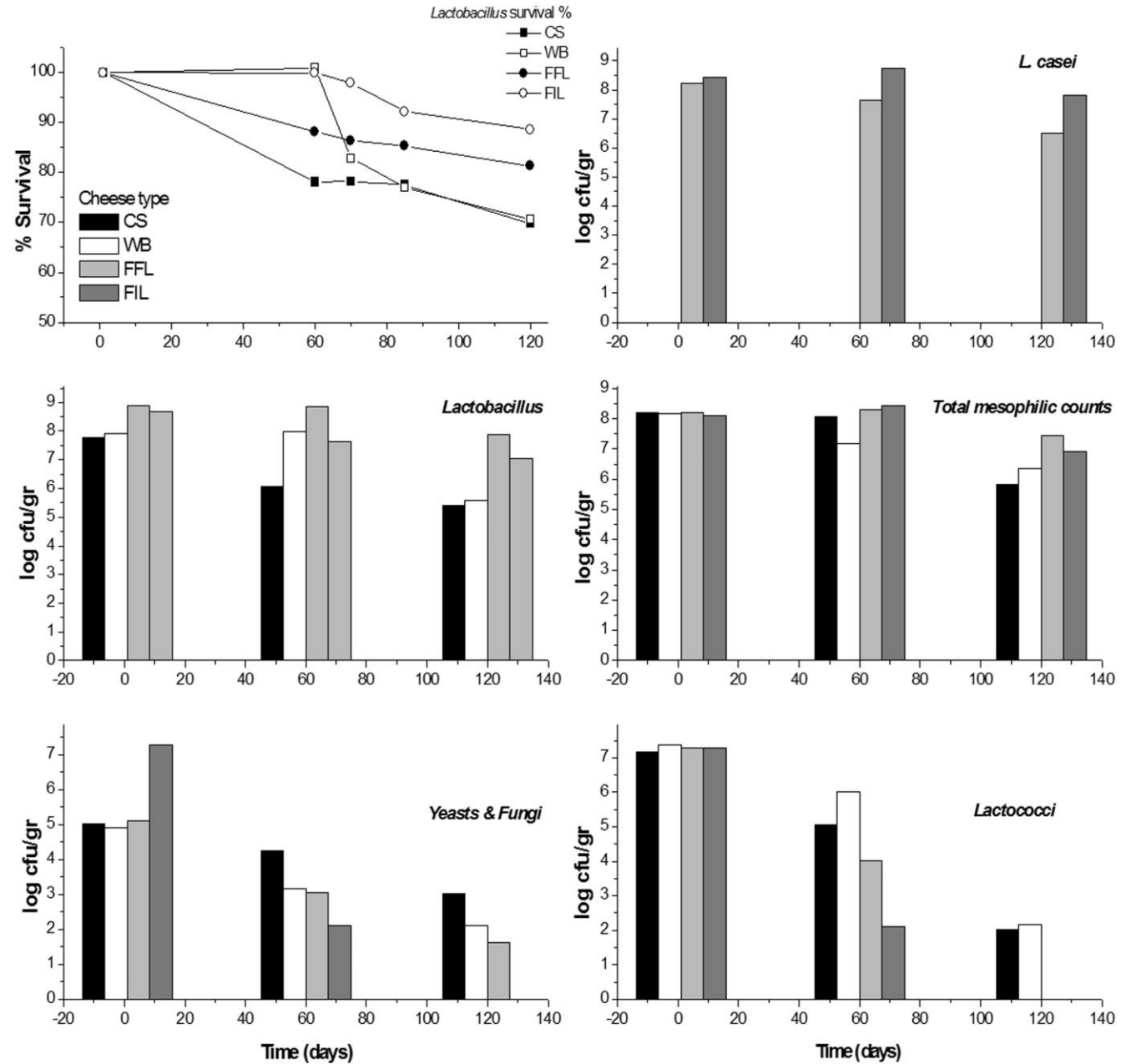


# Cell survival in simulated gastric juice

Table 2. Effect of the exposure to simulated gastric juice (pH 3) on the survival (log cfu/g) of *L. casei* ATCC393 in the freeze-dried (free and immobilised), cultures and in the produced cheeses.

Time (min)	Free freeze-dried <i>L. casei</i> (FFL)	Freeze-dried immobilised <i>L. casei</i> (FIL)	Cheese with FFL (day 1)	Cheese with FIL (day 1)
0	9.00 ± 0.12	8.13 ± 0.10	8.24 ± 0.10	8.43 ± 0.10
10	8.52 ± 0.10	8.00 ± 0.13	8.02 ± 0.10	8.39 ± 0.11
30	8.45 ± 0.14	7.96 ± 0.13	7.94 ± 0.11	8.32 ± 0.12
60	8.41 ± 0.16	7.84 ± 0.11	7.89 ± 0.08	8.26 ± 0.13
90	8.51 ± 0.11	7.81 ± 0.09	7.82 ± 0.10	8.19 ± 0.10

# Microbiological analysis of cheese during maturation and storage



# Sensory evaluation



Table 5. Preliminary sensory assessment of Feta-type cheeses with added wheat bran (WB), free freeze-dried *L. casei* cells (FFL) and the freeze-dried synbiotic biocatalyst (FIL) after 60 and 120 days of storage (at 4 °C) compared with commercial Feta cheese (CS).

Day of maturation/storage	Quality Characteristic	CS*	WB*	FFL*	FIL*
<b>60</b>	Appearance	4.95	4.60	4.75	4.75
	Taste	4.95	4.60	4.95	4.75
	Aroma	4.80	4.35	4.65	4.55
	Consistency	4.80	4.35	4.85	4.75
<b>120</b>	Appearance	4.75	4.15	4.80	4.45
	Taste	4.80	4.20	4.80	4.80
	Aroma	3.90	3.40	4.65	4.60
	Consistency	4.00	3.20	4.50	4.50
	Overall acceptance	4.61	4.10	4.74	4.64

\*Sensory attributes were scored based on a preference 0–5 scale. Data are the means of scores of three evaluations (standard deviation  $\leq 0.2$ ).

# TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- ▶ The potential of numerous agri-food by-products for application in the production of functional cheeses, from both a health and a functional point of view has been found.
- ▶ Contrasting results have been obtained regarding physicochemical and sensory properties of enriched cheeses depending on the selected by-products and on the technology adopted for the extract preparation.
- ▶ Numerous variables modify the power of the extracts added to cheese formulations, based on the method of application.
- ▶ The reuse of agri-food by-products in cheesemaking, although challenging, deserves to be explored.



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- ▶ ...and all my research group

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DISSPA – DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE DEL SUOLO, DELLA  
PIANTA E DEGLI ALIMENTI