

Effect of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours supplementation on the nutrient composition, microbiological, physical and sensory properties of wheat flour bread

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ABSTRACT: This study was carried out to evaluate the nutrient composition, microbiological, physical and sensory properties of bread produced from wheat, malted mung bean and watermelon rind composite flours. The wheat, mung bean and watermelon rind flours were blended in the ratios of 90:5:5, 80:10:10, 70:15:15, 60:20:20 and 50:25:25 respectively, and used for the production of bread, while the bread made from 100% wheat flour was used as control. The proximate, mineral, vitamin, microbiological, physical and sensory properties of the bread samples were determined using standard methods. The proximate composition of the bread loaves showed that the samples had a range of 8.11 to 8.61% moisture, 2.18 to 2.69% ash, 3.37 to 4.19% crude fibre, 3.60 to 4.43% fat, 9.18 to 18.42% protein, 61.67 to 73.57% carbohydrate and 350.21 to 363.98 kJ/100g energy. The moisture, ash, crude fibre, fat and protein contents of the samples increased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours, while their carbohydrate and energy contents decreased. The mineral composition of the bread loaves were 77.01 to 97.77 mg/100g calcium, 48.89 to 114.74 mg/100g magnesium, 41.11 to 97.76 mg/100g phosphorus, 62.67 to 94.21 mg/100g potassium, 2.18 to 2.78 mg/100g iron and 1.62 to 2.25mg/100g sodium. The result showed that the mineral contents of the bread loaves produced from composite flours increased with increase in the substitution of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours. The thiamine, niacin, riboflavin, vitamin A, ascorbic acid and folic acid contents of the bread samples ranged from 3.36 to 4.57 mg/100g, 2.45 to 3.36 mg/100g, 3.51 to 4.60 mg/100g, 2.23 to 4.27 mg/100g, 1.55 to 3.22 mg/100g and 1.02 to 1.81 mg/100g, respectively. These vitamins increased with increase in substitution of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours. The total viable count of the samples ranged between 0.62 to 1.80 cfu/j while their coliform and fungi counts were nil. The physical properties of the bread samples showed that the loaf volume, specific loaf volume, height, and oven spring decreased, while the weight increased ($p < 0.05$) significantly with increase in substitution of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours. The sensory properties also revealed that the bread loaves produced from 100% wheat flour, 0% malted mung bean and 0% watermelon rind flours were most acceptable to the panelists and also differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) in colour, taste, texture and aroma from the composite flour bread samples. However, the composite bread loaves were also acceptable to the judges because they were relatively rated high in all the sensory attributes evaluated. The study, therefore, showed that the nutrient contents and the weight of the bread samples could be enhanced by the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour at different stated levels in the production of bread samples.

Keywords: Bread, supplementation, mung bean flour, nutrient composition, sensory properties, watermelon rind flour, wheat flour.

INTRODUCTION

Breads are baked products made from the dough or meal that is moistened, kneaded, fermented and baked in an oven. Bread is a food foam because the carbon dioxide (CO₂) is released by yeast, and when compressed, the CO₂ aerates the dough that has been made in various forms using different ingredients. It was a homemade item for most people in the past years. It represents the largest category of snack item among baked food products throughout the world (Okoye *et al.*, 2019). Breads are mostly prepared from wheat flour, water, shortening agent, yeast or baking powder and sugar, and are consumed by all demographic groups. The water, flour and yeast are the main ingredients in bread recipe and they affect the texture and the crust of most bread loaves. Although ingredient like salt has become a common component in baked products, it performs a number of sensory and technological functions. The sensory function is related to flavour, while the technological functions are related to changes in dough properties during bread making and fermentation by the yeast. The addition of salt contributes to flavour, helps to control fermentation by yeast, toughens the gluten and gives less sticky dough. Bread flavour is affected not only by salt but also by the baking process through the formation of coloured crust that occur during Maillard reaction (Bugusu *et al.*, 2001).

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) is one of the major grains used for the production of baked products due to its gluten content. The gluten content in wheat grain has the ability to entrap CO₂ released by yeast during fermentation that leads to elasticity and increase in the size of the dough. Wheat grain is a staple food used to make flour that is primarily used for preparation of breads, biscuits, cookies, cakes, noodles and pasta etc. It can also be used for the brewing of beer and other alcoholic beverages. The grains can be milled to leave just the endosperm for white flour. The by-products obtained after wheat grains are milled into flour are the bran and germ. The whole grain is a concentrated source of vitamins, minerals and protein, while the refined grain is mostly starch. Nutritionally, wheat flour is rich in carbohydrate but it is relatively low in protein content (Umego *et al.*, 2010). Wheat flour is deficient in lysine, methionine and tryptophan. Therefore, the addition of legume flour such as mung bean flour would improve the levels of these essential amino acids.

Mung bean is one of the lesser known and underutilized legumes that is rich in protein. Mung bean is also rich in essential minerals but contain small quantity of fat. It is usually consumed either alone or in combination with starchy staples such as cereals, roots and tubers after prolonged cooking to destroy the anti-nutrients and toxic substances that are inherent in mung bean and other legumes and to soften its hard seed coat (Rehman and Shah, 2005). Mung bean is an outstanding source of nutrients for humans as well as livestock. It is also a better

source of good quality protein for infants and small children because it contributes to their growth, liver weight, liver nitrogen and plasma protein (Onwurafor *et al.*, 2019). Mung bean is rich in essential amino acids such as phenylalanine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, lysine and arginine. It also contains antioxidants such as phenolic acids, flavonoids, caffeic acid and cinnamic acid. These antioxidants help to neutralize potentially harmful molecules known as free radicals, which have the ability to cause degenerative diseases such as heart diseases, cancer, stroke and diabetes mellitus in human body. Mung bean has been recommended as a suitable ingredient that can be used to enhance the nutrient density of pasta products without affecting their sensory properties. The modification of mung bean flour by malting has been reported to reduce its anti-nutrient contents and improve both the nutrients and functionality of the flour.

Watermelon rind is the tough, outer layer of watermelon, which is typically green on the exterior, fading to a pale white inside, before changing to red to pink flesh of the fruit itself. The rind is edible and contains high percentage of nutrients, which are usually found in the juicy fruits. The tough rind contains low levels of calories, but is high in vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin B₆, potassium, zinc, lycopene, amino acids, flavonoids and phenolic compounds (Lakshmi *et al.*, 2011). The incorporation of watermelon rind flour will increase the micronutrients contents of baked and pasta products. The use of watermelon rind flour in combination with wheat and malted mung bean flours in the production of bread has not been practiced. However, the incorporation of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in bread making would enhance both the protein and micronutrients contents of the product and also modify the functionality of the flours and the final product (Imoisi *et al.*, 2020). The addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in production of bread would also lessen the overdependence on importation of wheat flour, address the problems of protein – energy malnutrition and micronutrients deficiencies and create varieties for health-conscious individuals in Nigeria and other developing countries of the world (Dabels *et al.*, 2016; Imoisi *et al.*, 2020).

It has been reported that the application of composite flour in various food products would be economically advantageous as well as minimizing the problems associated with wheat gluten and meeting the demand for pastry and baked products. Although nutritionists are more interested in nutritional value, consumers rely heavily on good sensory attributes of finished products as the most important guiding principle for making choice of food products. The fortification of baked products such as bread among others with legume flours for the purpose of improving their nutritional value without adversely altering

the sensory properties has been advocated due to their positive health benefits to humans (Giambi *et al.*, 2004; Okoye *et al.*, 2019). This can be achieved through supplementation of wheat flour with modified flours from indigenous food crops in the production of snack foods. This fortification could also lead to increase in the utilization of locally available raw materials and improvement in the nutrient density of the products (FAOSTAT, 2009). Therefore, this present study was designed to evaluate the effect of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours addition on the nutrient composition, microbiological, physical and sensory properties of wheat flour bread samples.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Procurement of raw materials

Mature mung bean seeds and watermelon fruits (*Citrullus Lanatus*) used for this study were bought from New Market, Enugu, Enugu State, Nigeria. The wheat flour and other ingredients such as bakery fat, sugar, yeast, salt and vanilla flavour used for the production of bread were purchased from the same market. The chemicals used for the analyses were of analytical grade.

Preparation of mung bean seed flour

The malted mung bean flour was prepared according to the method described by Onwurafor *et al.* (2019). One kilogramme (1 kg) of mung bean seeds was cleaned to remove dirt and other extraneous materials. The cleaned seeds were soaked in 4 litres of potable water in a plastic bowl at room temperature ($30 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$) for 20 hours with a change of water at every 5 hours to prevent fermentation. After soaking, the seeds were drained, rinsed and immersed in 2% Sodium hypochlorite solution for 10 minutes to disinfect the seeds. The seeds were rinsed for five consecutive times with excess water and cast on a moistened jute bag, covered with polyethylene bag and left for 48 hours to fasten sprouting. The seeds were then spread carefully on the jute bag and allowed to germinate in the germinating chamber at room temperature ($30 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$) and relative humidity of 95% for 72 hours. During this period, the seeds were sprinkled with water at intervals of 12 hours to facilitate germination. Non – germinated seeds were discarded and the germinated seeds were collected, spread on the trays and dried in a tray dryer (Model EU850D, UK) at 60°C for 18 hours with occasional stirring of the seeds at intervals of 30 minutes to ensure uniform drying. After drying, the radicles and plumules of the malted mung bean seeds were removed by rubbing them in-between palms along with the hulls. The dehulled malted mung bean seeds were milled into flour in the

attrition mill and sieved through a 500-micron mesh sieve. The flour produced was packaged in an air-tight plastic container, labelled and stored in a refrigerator until needed for further use.

Preparation of watermelon rind flour

The watermelon rind flour was prepared according to the method described by Oseni and Okoye (2013). The water melon rinds were manually separated from washed watermelon fresh fruits with a sterile kitchen knife. The cleaned watermelon rinds were sliced into smaller slices of 5 mm in diameter with a stainless steel knife. The slices were dried in a tray dryer (Model EU850D, UK) at 50°C for 18 hours to obtain the dried chips. The chips were milled in the attrition mill and sieved through a 500-micron mesh sieve to obtain the fine flour. The flour produced was packaged in an air-tight plastic container, labelled and stored in the refrigerator until needed for further use.

Formulation of flour blends

The wheat, mung bean and watermelon rind flours were blended in the ratios of 100:0:0, 90:5:5, 80:10:10, 70:15:15, 60:20:20 and 50:25:25 in a Ken wood mixer (Model Philips, type HR, 1500/ A, Holland) to obtain homogenous samples of composite flour. Thereafter, the flour blends were individually packaged in air-tight plastic containers, labelled and kept in a refrigerator until needed for the preparation of bread loaves. The flour blends used for the production of bread loaves are given in Table 1.

Preparation of bread samples

The bread loaves were prepared according to the method described by Ajoja and Coker (2010). The recipe used for the preparation of breads were 100% flour, 60% sugar, 20% fat, 2% yeast, 2.5 mL vanilla flavour, 5% milk and 0.25% salt. All the raw materials were thoroughly mixed manually together to obtain homogeneous mixture and kneaded properly on a dusty table to incorporate air into the dough. The mixed and kneaded dough was milled thoroughly using a manually operated milling machine until the gluten content of the dough was stretched to the extent that it can trap the carbon dioxide (CO_2) released by yeast during fermentation so as to enhance elasticity and increase in the dough volume. The milled dough was weighed to obtain accurate and uniform measurement before being divided and moulded in shape. Thereafter, the weighed dough was separately divided into smaller sizes, moulded into desired shape, placed in greased pans and then kept in a heating room to ferment and increase in size. During fermentation, CO_2 and ethanol are released by

Table 1. Flour blends used for bread production.

Samples	Wheat flour	Mung bean flour	Watermelon rind flour
A	100	0	0
B	90	5	5
C	80	10	10
D	70	15	15
E	60	20	20
F	50	25	25

yeast and the stretched gluten in the moulded and fermented doughs hold the air bubbles released so as to increase the size of the doughs. The fermented doughs were separately baked in a convention oven (Mac Adams Rotary Oven, South Africa) at 170°C for 20 minutes. After baking, the baked bread loaves were removed from the oven and allowed to cool at ambient temperature (30±2°C). The cooled breads were depanned, packaged, labelled and kept in a refrigerator until needed for analysis.

Proximate analysis

The moisture content was determined by hot air oven drying of the samples at a temperature of 105°C to constant weight according to the method described by Onimawo and Akubor (2012). The ash, protein (N x 6.25), crude fibre and fat (Solvent extraction) were determined by the methods of AOAC (2010). Carbohydrate was calculated by difference as 100% - (% Moisture + %Fat + %Protein + %Ash + %Crude fibre). The energy value of the samples was calculated by multiplying the percentage values of protein, fat and carbohydrate contents by Atwater factors of 4, 9 and 4, respectively (AOAC, 2010). All determinations were carried out in triplicate samples on dry weight basis.

Micronutrients analyses

The mineral elements were extracted by dry-ashing of the samples in a muffle furnace at 550°C to constant weight followed by the dissolution of the ash obtained from each sample in a volumetric flask by the addition of 50 mL of de-ionised water and a few drops of Hydrochloric acid. The calcium, magnesium, phosphorous and sodium contents of the samples were determined by the use of atomic absorption spectrophotometer on dry weight basis. The potassium and iron contents were also determined using the Techcomp AA600 atomic absorption spectrophotometer and further confirmed by the use of digital flame photometer according to the methods of AOAC (2010). The ascorbic acid, thiamine and niacin contents of the samples were determined on dry weight basis using the atomic absorption spectrophotometer (Perkin-Elmer,

Model 300, Norwalk, CT, USA) after extraction. The riboflavin and folic acid contents were determined by the use of a digital flourimeter. The vitamin A content was determined using the ultraviolet absorption spectrophotometer after extraction with chloroform. All determinations followed the AOAC (2010) procedures and were carried out in triplicate samples.

Microbiological evaluation

The total viable, coliform and fungal counts of the bread samples were determined in triplicates using the pour plate culture technique described by James (2003). Two grams (2 g) of each sample was weighed and mixed with 9 mL of sterile water and shaken very well for 2 minutes to form a suspension. The microbial counts of the samples were determined by performing a ten – fold serial dilution of each sample in a sterile test tube containing sterile distilled water up to 10⁻⁵ dilution factor. After that, one millilitre (1 mL) of each dilution was pipetted and transferred into the sterile petri dish and 15 mL of sterile nutrient agar was poured into the same petri dish. The mixture was thoroughly mixed by rocking until it was solidified. When it was solidified, it was turned upside down and cultured by incubating at the temperature of 37°C for 24 hours. At the end of incubation period, the colonies were counted using the digital electronic colony counter (Gallenkamp colony counter Model CNW330-010X, China) and the mean values of the colonies were recorded accordingly. The above procedure was repeated for coliform and fungal counts except that the MacConkey agar was used for coliform count and the sample was incubated at 37°C for 96 hours, whereas potato dextrose agar was used for fungal count and incubation was done at 37°C for 120 hours. After incubation, the colonies were counted separately using the same digital electronic colony counter (Gallenkamp colony counter, Model CNW330-010X, China). Thereafter, the mean values of the colonies formed were individually recorded after counting.

Evaluation of physical properties

The loaf volume and the specific loaf volume of the

samples were determined according to the methods described by Okoye *et al.* (2022). The loaf height was determined according to the method described by Oke *et al.* (2019). The loaf weight was determined by the use of digital electric weighing balance as described by Pico *et al.* (2017). The oven spring was determined according to the method described by Bridgewater and Beatrice (2016). All determinations were carried out in triplicate samples.

Sensory evaluation

Semi – trained consumer taste panelists consisting of twenty (20) staff and students of the Department of Food Science and Technology, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu were used to evaluate the sensory attributes of the bread. During the sensory test, the freshly baked breads were sliced, coded and served after few hours they were removed from the oven (in order to avoid staling) to the panelists in white plastic plates of uniform sizes at room temperature ($30 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$) with cold water for oral rinsing of their mouth after testing each sample to avoid residual effect. The attributes of colour, texture, taste, aroma and overall acceptability were assessed by the judges. The panelists were seated in such a way that they could not see the rating of each other. The panelists were asked to indicate their degree of preference and acceptance of each of the products using a nine-point Hedonic scale with 1 representing dislike extremely and 9 representing like extremely (Okaka, 2010). Expectoration cups with lids were also provided to the panelists who would not like to swallow the samples after testing each of them.

Statistical analysis

The data generated was subjected to one–way analysis of variance (ANOVA) using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 20 in a completely randomized design. Means were separated using Turkey's least significant difference (LSD) test at $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Proximate composition of bread samples

The proximate composition of the bread samples are presented in Table 2. The moisture content of the samples ranged from 8.11 to 8.61%. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (8.61%), while the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the least (8.11%) moisture content. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in moisture content among the samples. Moisture content is

an indicator of shelf stability hence, the increase in moisture content promotes microbial activities and chemical reactions that could lead to spoilage or reduction in food quality and stability (Olaoye and Ade-Omowaye, 2011). The moisture content of the bread samples increased with increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the samples. A similar increase in moisture content was reported by Dabels *et al.* (2016) for wheat, acha and mung bean composite breads. The moisture content of all the samples were below 10% moisture content level recommended as the normal moisture content for the shelf stability of breads with proper packaging and storage (Giami *et al.*, 2004; Okoye *et al.*, 2019).

The ash content of the samples ranged from 2.18 to 2.69%. The sample supplemented with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (2.69%), while the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the least ash content (2.18%). There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in ash content among the samples. The differences could be due to variation in the proportions of the raw materials used for the preparation of breads. The result showed that the sample supplemented with higher levels of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours had the higher ash contents compared to the control sample and this is an indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are rich in minerals (Imoisi *et al.*, 2020). The values (2.18 – 2.69%) obtained in this study were higher than the ash content (2.10 – 2.62%) reported by Dabels *et al.* (2016) for bread produced from wheat, acha and mung bean composite flours.

The crude fibre content of the bread samples ranged from 3.37 to 4.19%. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (4.19%), while the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (3.37%). There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in crude fibre content among the samples. The differences could be due to variation in the proportions of raw materials used for the preparation of bread samples. The result showed that the crude fibre content of the samples increased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the products. This is a clear indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are rich sources of crude fibre (Paris, 2015). A similar increase in crude fibre content of the bread samples was reported by Imoisi *et al.* (2020) for breads produced from wheat and watermelon rind composite flours. Dietary fibres help to maintain the moist and soft condition of faecal mass which facilitates easy passage of it through the large intestine.

The fat content of the samples ranged from 3.60 to 4.43%. The sample substituted with 25% malted and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (4.43%), while the sample made with 100% wheat flour (control sample) had the least value (3.60%). There were

Table 2. Proximate composition (%) of bread samples.

Samples	WF:MMBF:WRF	Moisture	Ash	Crude fibre	Fat	Protein	Carbohydrate	Energy (KJ/100g)
A	100:0:0	8.11 ^f ±0.01	2.18 ^f ±0.01	3.37 ^e ±0.01	3.60 ^e ±0.01	9.18 ^f ±0.01	73.57 ^a ±0.03	363.98 ^a ±0.47
B	90:5:5	8.17 ^e ±0.01	2.25 ^e ±0.01	3.53 ^d ±0.01	3.74 ^d ±0.01	10.28 ^e ±0.01	72.06 ^b ±0.04	362.94 ^b ±0.05
C	80:10:10	8.25 ^d ±0.01	2.37 ^d ±0.01	3.65 ^c ±0.01	3.85 ^c ±0.01	12.48 ^d ±0.01	69.42 ^c ±0.00	360.19 ^c ±0.04
D	70:15:15	8.36 ^c ±0.01	2.29 ^c ±0.01	3.88 ^b ±0.01	4.03 ^c ±0.01	14.35 ^c ±0.01	66.92 ^d ±0.01	356.27 ^d ±0.07
E	60:20:20	8.48 ^b ±0.01	2.56 ^b ±0.01	4.02 ^b ±0.01	4.19 ^b ±0.01	16.15 ^b ±0.01	64.64 ^e ±0.00	352.75 ^e ±0.01
F	50:25:25	8.61 ^a ±0.01	2.69 ^a ±0.01	4.19 ^a ±0.01	4.43 ^a ±0.01	18.42 ^a ±0.01	61.67 ^f ±0.00	350.21 ^f ±0.09

Data are mean ± standard deviation of triplicate determinations. Means in the same column bearing different superscripts differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from each other. A: Bread made from 100% wheat flour, B: Bread made from 90% wheat flour, 5% malted mung bean flour and 5% watermelon rind flour, C: Bread made from 80% wheat flour, 10% malted mung bean flour and 10% watermelon rind flour, D: Bread made from 70% wheat flour, 15% malted mung bean flour and 15% watermelon rind flour, E: Bread made from 60% wheat flour, 20% malted mung bean flour and 20% watermelon rind flour, F: Bread made from 50% wheat flour: 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flour. WF:MMBF:WRF = % Substitution; Where: WF — Wheat flour, MPPF — Malted mung bean flour, WRF — Watermelon rind flour.

significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in fat content among the samples. The differences could be attributed to variation in the proportions of raw materials used for the preparation of the products. The values (3.60 – 4.43%) obtained in this study were lower than the fat content (4.24 – 5.32%) reported by Dabels *et al.* (2016) for bread produced from wheat, acha and mung bean composite flours. Fat improves flavour and increases the mouth feel of foods because it improves their textural characteristics. It is also a significant factor in the formulation of food products especially the baked food products because it enhances the texture and flavour of such products (Dabels *et al.*, 2016).

The protein content of the bread samples ranged from 9.18 to 18.42%. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (18.42%), while the 100% wheat flour bread sample had the least value (9.18%). There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in protein content among the samples. The variations could be due to high protein content of mung bean flour used in composite with wheat and watermelon rind flours used for the bread production. It has also been reported by Olaoye and Ade-Onwaye (2011) that the increase in the addition of mung bean to the wheat flour greatly increased the protein content of the composite flour breads. A similar increase in protein content of the bread samples was reported by Akter and Abdulalim (2018) for bread prepared from wheat, potato and peanut composite flours. Dietary proteins are useful in the synthesis of new cells, enzymes and hormones required for the development of the body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The carbohydrate content of the bread samples ranged from 61.67 to 73.57%. The sample produced from 100% wheat flour had the highest value (73.57%), while the sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (61.67%). The decrease could be due to the low proportion of wheat flour

used in the preparation of the composite flour bread samples compared to the control (100% wheat flour bread). A similar decrease in carbohydrate content was reported by Giami *et al.* (2004) for bread samples made from wheat and roasted and boiled African breadfruit composite flours.

The energy content of bread samples ranged from 350.21 to 365.98 KJ/100g. The control sample (100 % wheat flour sample) had the highest value (365.98 KJ/100g), while the sample substituted with 25 % malted mung bean and 25 % watermelon rind flours had the least value (350.21 KJ/100g). There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in energy value among the samples. The differences could be attributed to variations in the proportions of raw materials used for bread production. The energy content (350.21-365.98 KJ/100g) obtained in this study was lower than the values (362.12-379.87KJ/100g) reported by Dabels *et al.* (2016) for bread loaves produced from wheat, acha and mung bean composite flours.

Generally, the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in the preparation of bread loaves drastically enhanced the moisture, ash, fat, crude fibre and protein contents of the products.

Mineral composition of bread samples

The mineral composition of bread samples are presented in Table 3. The calcium content of the samples ranged from 77.01 to 97.77 mg/100g. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (97.77 mg/100g), while the control (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (77.01 mg/100g). The observed increase in calcium contents of all the composite bread samples could be attributed to increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the samples which is an

Table 3. Mineral composition (mg/ 100g) of bread samples.

Samples	WF: MMBF:WRF	Calcium	Magnesium	Phosphorus	Potassium	Iron	Sodium
A	100:0:0	77.01 ^f ±0.75	48.89 ^f ±0.47	41.11 ^f ±0.69	62.67 ^f ±0.01	2.18 ^f ±0.01	1.62 ^f ±0.01
B	90:5:5	82.04 ^e ±0.70	53.92 ^e ±0.69	58.69 ^e ±0.71	68.05 ^e ±0.70	2.29 ^e ±0.01	1.66 ^e ±0.01
C	80:10:10	86.91 ^d ±0.71	67.95 ^d ±0.72	66.34 ^d ±0.69	73.45 ^d ±0.01	2.35 ^d ±0.01	1.75 ^d ±0.01
D	70:15:15	87.22 ^c ±0.62	81.33 ^c ±0.69	73.33 ^c ±0.71	79.33 ^c ±0.55	2.48 ^c ±0.01	1.83 ^c ±0.01
E	60:20:20	91.77 ^b ±0.73	95.37 ^b ±1.44	89.37 ^b ±0.57	86.74 ^b ±0.69	2.65 ^b ±0.01	1.97 ^b ±0.01
F	50:25:25	97.77 ^a ±0.72	114.74 ^a ±0.73	97.76 ^a ±1.27	94.21 ^a ±1.32	2.78 ^a ±0.01	2.25 ^a ±0.01

Data are mean ± standard deviation of triplicate determinations. Means in the same column bearing different superscripts differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from each other. A: Bread made from 100% wheat flour, B: Bread made from 90% wheat flour, 5% malted mung bean flour and 5% watermelon rind flour, C: Bread made from 80% wheat flour, 10% malted mung bean flour and 10% watermelon rind flour, D: Bread made from 70% wheat flour, 15% malted mung bean flour and 15% watermelon rind flour, E: Bread made from 60% wheat flour, 20% malted mung bean flour and 20% watermelon rind flour, F: Bread made from 50% wheat flour, 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flour. WF:MMBF:WRF = % Substitution; Where: WF — Wheat flour, MPPF — Malted mung bean flour, WRF — Watermelon rind flour.

indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are good sources of calcium (Onwurafor *et al.*, 2019, Imoisi *et al.*, 2020). Calcium plays a vital role in the development of strong teeth and bone especially in foetus, infants, children and elderly people. It also helps in the regulation of muscular contraction and relaxation as well as in the absorption of cyanocobalamin (vitamin B₁₂) in the body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The magnesium content of the bread samples ranged from 48.89 to 114.74 mg/100g. The sample fortified with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (114.74 mg/100g), while the control (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (48.89 mg/100g). The increase could be attributed to substitution effect which is an indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are good sources of magnesium (Umego *et al.*, 2010; Egbuonu, 2015). There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in magnesium content among the samples. The differences could be due to variation in the proportions of raw materials used for the production of bread loaves. Magnesium is important for bone formation, control of constipation and management of diabetes mellitus. Magnesium is also needed for the synthesis of proteins, muscle contraction, nerve transmission and maintenance of electrical potential in the nerves (Jacob *et al.*, 2015).

The phosphorus content of the samples ranged from 41.11 to 97.76 mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in phosphorus content among the samples. The variation could be attributed to differences in the proportions of raw materials used for the production of bread samples. The increase in the incorporation of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours in the preparation of bread samples resulted in increase in their phosphorus contents. Phosphorus helps in healthy bone formation, improvement of digestion, regulation of excretion and protein formation in human body. It also enhances the quick release of energy in the body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The potassium content of the samples ranged from

62.67 to 94.21mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in potassium content among the samples. The sample substituted with 25% mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had higher value (94.21 mg/100g) compared to the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) which had the least potassium content (62.67 mg/100g). The values (62.67 - 94.21 mg/100g) obtained in this study were similar to the potassium content (62.69 - 94.23 mg/100g) reported by Onwurafor *et al.* (2019) for cookies made from wheat, malted mung bean and unripe plantain composite flours. Potassium helps in the maintenance of fluid balance and regulation of nerve and impulse conduction. It is also essential in blood clotting and muscle contraction. Potassium is equally important in the maintenance of cell integrity and regulation of heart beat in the body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The iron content of the bread samples ranged from 2.18 to 2.78 mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in iron content among the samples. The samples substituted with malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours at different graded levels showed remarkable increases in iron contents with increase in substitution of the flours. The result showed that the sample substituted with 25% mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest iron content (2.78 mg/100g), while the control sample had the least value (2.18 mg/100g) which is an indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are relatively rich in iron (Potter and Hotchikiss, 2006).

The sodium content of the bread samples ranged from 1.62 to 1.97mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in sodium content among the samples. The differences could be due to variation in the proportions of raw materials used for the production of the bread samples. The samples with higher proportions of mung bean and watermelon rind flours had relatively higher sodium contents compared to the control sample. The increase could be due to substitution effect which clearly showed that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are

good sources of sodium (Onwurafor *et al.*, 2013; Oseni and Okoye, 2013). Sodium is an essential element for human growth and prevention of high blood pressure. It also regulates the plasma and acid – base balance in the body. It is equally involved in the maintenance of cell permeability and osmotic pressure of the body fluids (Soetan *et al.*, 2010).

Generally, the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in the production of breads greatly enhanced the mineral contents of the products.

Vitamin composition of bread samples

The vitamin composition of the bread samples are presented in Table 4. The thiamine content of the samples ranged from 3.36 to 4.57 mg/100g. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (4.57 mg/100g), while the control (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (3.361 mg/100g). The observed increase in thiamine contents of all the composite bread samples could be attributed to increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the samples. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in the thiamine content among the samples. The values (3.36 – 4.57 mg/100g) obtained in this study were lower than the thiamine content (4.86 – 6.67 mg/100g) reported by Ndirika *et al.* (2015) for bread produced from composite flours of wheat and beans. Thiamine plays a vital role in muscle contraction and conduction of nerve signal. It also functions as a coenzyme in energy metabolism. Thiamine equally helps in the proper functioning of peripheral nerves and in the treatment of beriberi (Potter and Hotchkiss, 2006).

The niacin content of the bread samples ranged from 2.45 to 3.36 mg/100g. The sample fortified with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (3.36 mg/100g), while the control (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (2.45 mg/100g). The increase in the niacin content of the sample could be attributed to substitution effect which is an indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are good sources of niacin (Oseni and Okoye, 2013; Dabels *et al.*, 2016). The niacin content (2.45 – 3.36 mg/100g) obtained in this study was higher than the values (2.14 – 3.10 mg/100g) reported by Onoja *et al.* (2011) for bread supplemented with legume, root, tuber and plantain flours. Niacin plays an important role in reducing the level of blood cholesterol in the body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The riboflavin content of the samples ranged from 3.51 to 4.60 mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in riboflavin content among the samples. The variation could be due to differences in the proportions of the raw materials used for bread production. The increase in the incorporation of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours in the bread samples resulted to a remarkable

increase in riboflavin contents of the samples. Riboflavin (vitamin B₂) helps the body to convert carbohydrate in food into fuel (glucose), which is used to produce energy. It also helps the body to metabolize fats and proteins. Riboflavin equally plays a critical role in the improvement of growth, reproduction and development in human body (Okaka *et al.*, 2006).

The vitamin A content of the samples ranged from 2.23 to 4.27mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in the vitamin A content among the samples. The differences could be due to the variation in the proportions of the raw materials used for the bread production. The sample substituted with 25% mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest vitamin A content (4.27 mg/100g) compared to control sample (100% wheat flour bread) which had the least value (2.23 mg/100g). The values (2.23 to 4.27mg/100g) obtained in this study were higher than the vitamin content (2.16 to 4.10 mg/100g) reported by Onwurafor *et al.* (2019) for cookies made from wheat, malted mung bean and unripe plantain composite flours. Vitamin A helps in the maintenance of good eye sight. It is also an anti-oxidant which plays a vital role in fighting against diseases like glycoma and diabetes mellitus in the human body (Potter and Hotchkiss, 2006).

The ascorbic content of the bread samples ranged from 1.55 to 3.22 mg/100g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in the vitamin C content among the samples. The sample substituted with 25% mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (3.22 mg/100g), while the control sample had the least value (1.55 mg/100g). The result showed that the ascorbic acid content of the samples was found to increase with increase in the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the products. The observation is an indication that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are good sources of ascorbic acid (Jacob *et al.*, 2015, Onwurafor *et al.*, 2019). The values (1.55 – 3.22 mg/100g) obtained in this study were lower than the ascorbic acid content (12.15 – 12.74 mg/100g) reported by Okoye *et al.* (2022) for bread produced from wheat, ground bean and sweet potato flour blends. Ascorbic acid plays an important role in the prevention of scurvy. It is also an important vitamin which helps to scavenge free radicals in the cells (Jacob *et al.*, 2015).

The folic acid content of the bread samples ranged from 1.02 to 1.81mg/100g. The result showed that there were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in the folic acid content among the samples. The samples substituted with higher proportions of mung bean and watermelon rind flours had higher folic acid contents than the control sample. This could be as a result of substitution effect which showed that mung bean seeds and watermelon rind are relatively high in folic acid contents (Jacob *et al.*, 2015; Onwurafor *et al.*, 2019). The folic acid content (1.02 – 1.81mg/100g) obtained in this study was lower than the values (2.22 –

Table 4. Vitamin composition (mg/ 100g) of bread samples.

Samples	WF:MMBF:WRF	Thiamin	Niacin	Riboflavin	Vitamin A	Ascorbic acid	Folic Acid
A	100:0:0	3.36 ^c ±0.03	2.45 ^d ±0.01	3.51 ^f ±0.16	2.23 ^f ±0.01	1.55 ^f ±0.01	1.02 ^f ±0.01
B	90:5:5	3.54 ^d ±0.01	2.60 ^c ±0.01	3.59 ^e ±0.01	2.54 ^e ±0.01	1.88 ^e ±0.08	1.13 ^e ±0.01
C	80:10:10	3.79 ^c ±0.01	2.65 ^c ±0.01	3.65 ^d ±0.01	2.85 ^d ±0.01	2.15 ^d ±0.06	1.24 ^d ±0.01
D	70:15:15	3.97 ^b ±0.01	2.67 ^c ±0.01	3.82 ^c ±0.01	3.43 ^c ±0.01	2.79 ^c ±0.01	1.36 ^c ±0.01
E	60:20:20	3.97 ^b ±0.01	3.17 ^b ±0.01	3.96 ^b ±0.01	3.87 ^b ±0.01	3.01 ^b ±0.01	1.67 ^b ±0.01
F	50:25:25	4.27 ^a ±0.02	3.36 ^a ±0.01	4.60 ^a ±0.01	4.27 ^a ±0.01	3.22 ^a ±0.01	1.81 ^a ±0.01

Data are mean ± standard deviation of triplicate determinations. Means in the same column bearing different superscripts differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from each other. A: Bread made from 100% wheat flour, B: Bread made from 90% wheat flour, 5% malted mung bean flour and 5% watermelon rind flour, C: Bread made from 80% wheat flour, 10% malted mung Bean flour and 10% watermelon rind flour, D: Bread made from 70% wheat flour, 15% malted mung bean flour and 15% watermelon rind flour, E: Bread made from 60% wheat flour, 20% malted mung bean flour and 20% watermelon rind flour, F: Bread made from 50% wheat flour, 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flour. WF:MMBF:WRF = % Substitution; Where: WF — Wheat flour, MPPF — Malted mung bean flour, WRF — Watermelon rind flour.

Table 5. Microbial qualities (cfu/g) of the bread samples.

Samples	WF:MMBF:WRF	Total viable count	Coliform	Fungal count
A	100:0:0	0.62 x12.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil
B	90:5:5	0.67 x11.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil
C	80:10:10	1.10 x13.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil
D	70:15:15	1.40 x15.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil
E	60:20:20	1.60 x17.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil
F	50:25:25	1.80 x20.10 ⁴ ±0.01	Nil	Nil

4.22 mg/100g) reported by Ndife *et al.* (2011) for bread produced from whole wheat and soy bean flour blends. Folic acid is essential in the maintenance of mental and emotional health in human body (Dietary Guideline, 2003).

The addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in the production of breads generally enhanced their vitamin contents.

Microbial qualities of the bread samples

The microbial qualities of the bread samples are presented in Table 5. The total viable count of the samples ranged from 0.62x12. 10⁴ to 1.80 x 20. 10⁴ cfu/g. The sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the highest value (1.80 x 20. 10⁴ cfu/g), while the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the least value (0.62x 12. 10⁴ cfu/g). The result showed that the control sample had the lowest total viable count than the substituted samples. The differences could be due to the variation in the processing treatments given to the raw materials used for the bread production. The increase in the total viable count of all the composite bread samples could be attributed to increase in the addition of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the samples which were suspected to contain some thermophilic microorganisms that were able to survive the relatively high temperature used for the baking of the bread loaves.

The total viable count (0.6 x 12.10⁴ – 1.80 x 20.10⁴ cfu/g) obtained in this study was lower than the values (0.65 x 12.10⁴ – 1.90 x 20.10⁴ cfu/g) reported by Ndife *et al.* (2011) for bread produced from whole wheat and soybean flour blends.

In addition, the absence of coliform bacteria and fungi from the samples coupled with their relatively low total viable count showed that the products would be safe and wholesome for human consumption and would have longer keeping quality with proper packaging and storage. This observation is in agreement with the findings of Okoye *et al.* (2022) for bread produced from wheat, ground bean and sweet potato flour blends.

Microbial quality is critical for predicting the shelf life, safety and wholesomeness of food products. However, the low total viable count in addition to the absence of coliform bacteria and fungi observed in this study is desirable and appreciable for the retardation of the spoilage of the bread loaves during storage by the activities of microorganisms or enzymes secreted by microorganisms due to their high nutrient density.

Physical properties of the bread samples

The physical properties of the bread samples are presented in Table 6. The loaf volume of the bread samples ranged from 3.10 to 15.5 cm³. The control sample

Table 6. Physical properties of bread samples.

Samples	WF:MMBF:WRF	Loaf volume (cm ³)	Specific loaf volume (cm ³)	Weight (g)	Height (m ²)	Oven spring (m ²)
A	100:0:0	15.5 ^a ±0.71	5.40 ^a ±0.00	295.00 ^f ±0.00	10.20 ^a ±0.01	2.70 ^a ±0.01
B	90:5:5	14.05 ^b ±0.07	4.70 ^b ±0.01	296.50 ^e ±0.71	8.19 ^b ±0.01	2.40 ^b ±0.00
C	80:10:10	12.0 ^c ±0.04	3.31 ^c ±0.01	298.01 ^d ±0.01	6.95 ^c ±0.01	2.00 ^c ±0.00
D	70:15:15	10.00 ^d ±0.00	3.31 ^c ±0.01	300.00 ^e ±0.00	5.50 ^d ±0.00	1.50 ^d ±0.00
E	60:20:20	6.10 ^e ±0.01	2.30 ^d ±0.01	302.50 ^b ±0.71	4.00 ^e ±0.00	1.30 ^e ±0.01
F	50:25:25	3.10 ^f ±0.01	1.30 ^e ±0.01	306.00 ^a ±0.71	2.98 ^f ±0.04	1.10 ^f ±0.00

Data are mean ± standard deviation of triplicate determinations. Means in the same column bearing different superscripts differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from each other. A: Bread made from 100% wheat flour, B: Bread made from 90% wheat flour, 5% malted mung bean flour and 5% watermelon rind flour, C: Bread made from 80% wheat flour, 10% malted mung bean flour and 10% watermelon rind flour, D: Bread made from 70% wheat flour, 15% malted mung bean flour and 15% watermelon rind flour, E: Bread made from 60% wheat flour, 20% malted mung bean flour and 20% watermelon rind flour, F: Bread made from 50% wheat flour, 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flour. WF:MMBF:WRF = % Substitution; Where: WF — Wheat flour, MPPF — Malted mung bean flour, WRF — Watermelon rind flour.

(100% wheat flour bread) had the highest value (15.5 cm³), while the sample substituted with 25% mung bean:25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (3.10 cm³). The decrease could be due to the addition of high amounts of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the sample. The result is in agreement with the findings of Dabels *et al.* (2016) who reported a reduction in loaf volume of bread as the level of addition of non-wheat flour increased. The values (3.10 – 15.5 cm³) obtained in this study were higher than the loaf volume (3.08 – 12.20 cm³) reported by Akubor and Badifu (2004) for bread produced from African bread fruit kernel and wheat flour blends.

The specific loaf volume of the bread samples ranged from 1.30 to 5.40 cm³. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in specific loaf volume among the samples. The specific loaf volume of the bread samples decreased with increase in the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the products. The decrease could be attributed to the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours which weakened the gluten content of the wheat flour with resultant collapse of the dough after rising during baking. (Zhang and Datta, 2006). The specific loaf volume (1.30 – 5.40 cm³) obtained in this study was higher than the values (1.56 – 3.24 cm³) reported by Adubofuor *et al.* (2016) for bread made from ripe banana and wheat composite flours.

The weight of the bread samples ranged from 294.00 to 306.00 g. There were significant ($p < 0.05$) difference in weight among the samples. The weight of the bread samples increased as the levels of substitution of mung bean and watermelon rind flours increased. The increase could be due to the fact that mung bean and watermelon rind flours contain high amounts of fibre which has the ability to absorb and retain high amount of water which in turn contributes to the weight of the composite flour breads. The weight and volume of bread and other baked products have been reported to be dependent on bulk densities of the flours used in their production (Onwurafor

et al., 2019). The values (295.00 – 306.00 g) obtained in this study were higher than the weight (225 – 275 g) reported by Pico *et al.* (2017) for gluten – free bread samples.

The height of the bread samples ranged from 2.98 to 10.20 m². There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in height among the samples. The height of the bread samples decreased as the levels of substitution of mung bean and watermelon rind flours increased in the products. The result showed that the samples substituted with higher proportions of mung bean and watermelon rind flours had the lowest values for height compared to the control sample. Zhang and Datta (2006) reported that the height of the bread loaf is primarily affected by the volumetric expansion of the dough due to gas evolution during proofing coupled with the onset of gelatinization which causes the plasticization of the starch – protein network formed on the gas cell wall to take place as fast as possible. The height (2.98 – 10.20 m²) obtained in this study was lower than the values (3.34 – 12.12 m²) reported by Oke *et al.* (2019) for bread produced from wheat and tiger nut composite flours.

The oven spring of bread samples ranged from 1.10 to 2.70 m². There were significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in oven spring among the samples. The sample substituted with 25% mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (1.10 m²), while the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the highest value (2.70 m²). The reduction might be as a result of substitution effect. The decrease is quite undesirable at the retail end as consumers prefer bread with good height and volume. The values (1.10 – 2.70 m²) obtained in this study were lower than the oven spring (2.26 – 3.58 m²) reported by Bridgewater and Beatrice (2016) for bread produced from cassava and wheat composite flours. Oven spring is the difference between the height of the dough after proofing and the height of loaf after baking.

Generally, the addition of malted mung bean and

Table 7. Sensory properties of bread samples.

Samples	WF: MMBF:WRF	Colour	Taste	Texture	Aroma	Overall acceptability
A	100:0:0	8.25 ^a ±1.07	7.95 ^a ±1.23	8.80 ^a ±1.01	7.65 ^a ±1.04	8.25 ^a ±11.07
B	90:5:5	7.60 ^b ±0.94	7.60 ^b ±0.94	7.25 ^b ±0.10	6.75 ^b ±2.15	7.75 ^b ±0.85
C	80:10:10	7.15 ^c ±0.88	7.20 ^c ±0.89	6.65 ^c ±0.88	5.80 ^c ±1.61	7.10 ^c ±0.64
D	70:15:15	6.25 ^d ±1.71	6.10 ^d ±1.74	5.15 ^d ±1.46	5.35 ^d ±0.93	5.85 ^d ±1.84
E	60:20:20	5.50 ^e ±0.95	5.85 ^e ±1.05	5.45 ^e ±1.15	5.25 ^e ±1.55	5.35 ^e ±0.92
F	50:25:25	5.25 ^f ±1.33	5.50 ^f ±1.14	5.05 ^f ±0.76	5.20 ^e ±1.52	5.25 ^f ±0.49

Data are mean ± standard deviation of twenty (20) semi-trained judges. Means in the same column bearing different superscripts differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from each other. A: Bread made from 100% wheat flour, B: Bread made from 90% wheat flour, 5% malted mung bean flour and 5% watermelon rind flour, C: Bread made from 80% wheat flour, 10% malted mung bean flour and 10% watermelon rind flour, D: Bread made from 70% wheat flour, 15% malted mung bean flour and 15% watermelon rind flour, E: Bread made from 60% wheat flour, 20% malted mung bean flour and 20% watermelon rind flour, F: Bread made from 50% wheat flour, 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flour. WF:MMBF:WRF = % Substitution; Where: WF — Wheat flour, MPPF — Malted mung bean flour, WRF — Watermelon rind flour.

watermelon rind flours to wheat flour in the production of bread loaves greatly decreased the loaf volume, specific loaf volume, height and oven spring with a remarkable increase in the weight of the products.

Sensory properties of the bread samples

The sensory properties of the bread samples are presented in Table 7. The colour of the bread samples ranged from 5.25 to 8.25. The control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the highest value (8.25), while the sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (5.25). The colour of the bread sample produced from 100% wheat flour (control) was most acceptable and also differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) from the composite bread samples. The change in the colour of breads during baking could be attributed to caramelization and Maillard reactions which tend to enhance the colour and aroma of the baked bread loaves (Olaoye and Ade-Omowaye, 2011).

The taste of the bread samples ranged from 5.50 to 7.95. The result showed that the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the highest value (7.95), while the sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean and 25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (5.50). The taste of the bread samples decreased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increase in substitution of malted mung bean and watermelon rind flours. The taste of the bread sample produced from 100% wheat flour (control) was rated higher by the judges compared to the other test samples. The difference could be due to the unique quality of wheat flour in the preparation of bread and other baked products (Adubofuor *et al.*, 2016; Akter and Abdul Alim, 2018).

The texture of the bread samples ranged from 5.05 to 8.80. The bread sample produced from 100% wheat flour was rated higher by the panelists in terms of texture compared to the composite flour breads. The texture of the bread samples decreased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increase in the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind

flours. This observation is in close agreement with the report of Shittu *et al.* (2007) for bread produced from cassava and wheat composite flours.

The aroma of the bread sample ranged from 5.20 to 7.65. The bread sample produced from 100% wheat flour (control) was rated higher in terms of aroma compared to the other test samples. The improvement in the aroma of the samples could be attributed to caramelization and Maillard reactions which enhance the taste and aroma of the bread loaves and other baked products (Olaoye and Ade-Omowaye, 2011). The observation is in agreement with the findings of Awolu *et al.* (2016) who reported a significant difference in aroma of wheat flour bread compared to the samples substituted with young corn powder.

The overall acceptability of the bread samples ranged from 5.25 to 8.25. The control sample (100% wheat flour bread) had the highest value (8.25), while the sample substituted with 25% malted mung bean flour and 25% watermelon rind flours had the least value (5.25). The bread sample produced from 100% wheat flour (control) was most acceptable to the panelists compared to the composite bread samples. Therefore, the control sample was rated higher in colour, taste, texture and aroma compared to the composite flour bread samples. The observation is in consonance with the findings of Awolu *et al.* (2016) who reported a significant difference in acceptability of bread produced from 100% wheat flour and the samples substituted with young corn powder.

Generally, the result showed that the bread produced from 100% wheat flour was most acceptable organoleptically than the composite bread samples substituted with mung bean and watermelon rind flours at different proportions during production.

Conclusion

The study showed that the substitution of wheat flour with mung bean and watermelon rind flours in the production of

bread improved the nutrient contents of the products. It was observed from the study that the protein, fat, crude fibre, and ash contents of the composite flour breads increased sequentially with increase in substitution of mung bean and watermelon rind flours compared to the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) with a remarkable decrease in carbohydrate and energy contents. The mineral and vitamin contents of the samples also showed that the calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, iron, sodium, niacin, thiamine, folic acid, riboflavin, vitamin A and Ascorbic acid contents of the bread samples increased gradually with increase in the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the products. The microbial counts of the samples showed that the total viable count was relatively low with the absence of coliform bacteria and fungi which is an indication that the bread loaves would be safe and wholesome and could have good keeping qualities with proper packaging and storage.

The physical properties of the bread samples showed that the loaf volume, specific loaf volume, height and oven spring of the samples decreased drastically with increase in the addition of mung bean and watermelon rind flours to the products with a remarkable increase in the weight of the products.

The sensory properties of the bread samples also revealed that the control sample (100% wheat flour bread) was most acceptable to the panelists and also differed significantly ($p < 0.05$) in colour, taste, texture and aroma from the composite flour bread samples. However, the composite bread loaves were equally acceptable to the judges because they were also rated relatively high in all the sensory parameters evaluated in this study.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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