

SUMMARY

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The quality of frozen and dried food is the reflection of microbiological , enzymatic and chemical activities before , during ; and after processing of vegetables .

On the other hand , freezing and drying are the most satisfactory ways of preserving food stuffs since higher residual ratio of the original flavour , colour , texture and nutritive values are usually retained .

The present work , was carried out , using some vegetables as peas , green beans and okra) .

Objectives of the present work were as follows :

Examination of the effect of the different processing treatments (blanching , sulfuring , freezing preservation and dehydration processes) on the chemical composition , enzymes activities and microbiological activities of the previous vegetables . This effect was studied also during storage .

Effect of freezing and drying on chemical , microbiological and anoleptic properties and enzymes activities of the examined vegetables (peas , green beans and okra) before and during storage .

obtained results could be summarized as follows :

Freezing :

Blanching of vegetables before freezing lead to :

-) No considerable reducing in protein , ash , crude fiber and sugars . Considerable reducing in total chlorophyll , chlorophyll (a) and (b) , ascorbic acid and carotene by prolonging temperatures and time blanching . Moisture by prolonging temperatures and time blanching .
-) The enzymes activity were higher at 70°C than that noticed at 80° and 90°C . On the other hand , on using 80° and 90°C for blanching the samples , higher inhibition of enzymes were realized by heating for 5 minutes .
-) Total microbial counts , Psychrophilic , Staphylococci bacteria and Coliform group proved to realized a reduction level as result of extending blanching periods .

Frozen storage of peas , green beans and okra at -18°C for 12

months indicated that :

-) Moisture , ash , protein , crude fiber and sugars had no considerable reduced after 6 months of storage .

-) Total chlorophyll , chlorophyll (a) and (b) , ascorbic acid and carotene contents were slightly decreased after storage .
-) The higher temperature of blanching before freezing led to the greater inhibition effect of the enzymes . This could be clearly noticed by comparing the effect of using 90°C for 5 min instead of 70°C .
-) The frozen green peas , green beans and okra previously blanching in total microbial count , Staphylococci , Psychrophilic bacteria and Coliform group during freezing .
-) Sensory evaluations of green vegetables showed that blanching treatment can protect the colour , flavour and texture of the treated samples proved that samples blanched at 90°C were much better in cooking quality than the suggested other temperatures.

• Drying :

led (by oven-dehydration and sun-drying) and storage of okra

for 12 months indicated that :

- Blanching (in boiling water or boiling water containing 0.2% sodium metabisulfite) of okra before drying lead to considerable

changes in protein , ash , crude fiber , sugars , total chlorophyll , chlorophyll (a) and (b) , ascorbic acid and carotene except for those treatments treated with 0.2°/° Na₂S₂O₅.

Total counts of bacteria , molds and yeast were decreased in all blanching medium .

- Effect of storage :

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- a) The dried okra previously blanched showed gradually decreasing in protein , ash , sugars and crude fiber during storage . Total chlorophyll , chlorophyll (a) and (b) , ascorbic acid and carotene retentions were greatly affected by the sulfuring . A slightly increase in moisture occurred in all tested samples during storage .
 - b) Total counts of bacteria , mold and yeast were slightly increase during storage .
 - c) Reconstitution of dehydration of dehydrated okra treated with sulfuring was higher than those blanching in boiling water and un-blanched . So , reconstitution of dehydrated okra by oven was higher than those dried by sun-drying .

d) Sensory evaluations of dried okra showed that blanching treatment can protect the colour of the tested samples .

Also , sulfuring treatment improved the whole acceptability of dried okra during storage . Oven-d~~ee~~hydration at 60°C for 12 hr led to higher score in sensory evaluation .