Optimizing Yoghurt-Ice Cream Mix Blend in Soy Based Frozen Yoghurt

E. Mahdian1*, M. Mazaheri Tehrani2, and M. Nobahari1

ABSTRACT

Yoghurt ice cream (YIC) or frozen yoghurt dessert can be regarded as a healthy alternative to plain ice cream. Also use of soy derived products in food formulations can lead to the development of products of improved nutritional and health promoting values. Yoghurt ice cream was prepared using full-fat soy flour to substitute 55% of non fat dry milk content. Product formulation comprised of 12% SNF, 10% fat, 18% sucrose, 0.4% stabilizer-emulsifier and 0.1% vanillin. The effect of incorporating yoghurt at the rate of 5.3%, 15.9%, 26.5%, 37.1% and 47.7% of the total ice cream mix on the flow behavior, physico-chemical and sensory properties of Yoghurt Ice Cream was evaluated as compared with control, devoid of any yoghurt. The mixes all showed pseudoplastic flow behavior, with the viscosity increasing from 0.7 to 1.57 pa s when the yoghurt content increased from 0 to 47.7%. Higher contents of yoghurt in the mixes significantly improved the melting rate of the yoghurt ice cream where the minimum melting rate (16%) was obtained for the sample of 47.7% yoghurt content. The highest overrun value of 58% was obtained for the sample containing 15.9% yoghurt. However the specific gravity of the product decreased with increasing yoghurt content with the highest specific gravity of 1.108 being recorded for control. In the light of these findings, it can be concluded that yoghurt ice cream, containing full fat soy flour, can be successfully made by incorporating 25.6% yoghurt in the mix with the end product maintaining its acceptable sensory characteristics.

Keywords: Frozen yoghurt, Full-fat soy flour, Overall acceptance, Physico-chemical characteristics, Yoghurt ice cream.

INTRODUCTION

Yoghurt Ice Cream (YIC) also referred to as frozen yoghurt is a functional frozen dairy dessert that can be produced either by fermentation of ice cream mix with lactic acid bacteria (often mixed cultures of Streptococcus thermophilus and Lactobacillus delbrueckii ssp. bulgaricus) or by blending yoghurt with ice cream mix (Davidson et al. 2000).

In recent years consumers are becoming more interested in YIC because it combines the physical characteristics of ice cream with the sensory and therapeutic properties of fermented milk products. Frozen yoghurt dessert can be regarded as a healthy alternative to ice cream for people suffering from obesity, cardiovascular disorders and lactose intolerance, due to the product’s low fat as well as reduced lactose contents (Inoue et al., 1998).

No specific standard for YIC has yet been established for acidity and quantum of yoghurt added to ice cream mix. Such incorporation rate could vary from 5 to 70%, depending on the acidity and consistency of the yoghurt.

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utilized (Soukoulis and Tzia 2008). The common practice in the industry is to consider titratable acidity of the finished yoghurt ice cream mix of 0.3% Lactic Acid (LA) for establishing the quantity of yoghurt to be added to the mix (Marshal and Arbuckle 1996). A pH range of 5.76 to 6.72 and a titratable acidity range of 0.2 to 0.43% (expressed as lactic acid) have been reported by Schmidt et al. (1997). Ordonez et al. (2000) reported that production of lactic acid exceeding 0.4% LA in frozen yoghurt may lead to excessive viscosity of the product. The preferred pH and acidity for frozen yoghurt stored at -35°C for 6 months were reported as 5.5 and 0.4% LA respectively (Inoue et al., 1998).

There is scanty literature on frozen yoghurt prepared from yoghurt itself. Martinou-Voulasiki and Zerfiridis (1990) converted 78% of the total milk to yoghurt possessing 1.0% LA. Other such ice cream ingredients as sucrose, butter and emulsifier were dissolved in the remaining milk (22%) and then blended this syrup with yoghurt. Nagar et al. (2002) prepared YIC by blending yoghurt (pH 4.4) with ice cream pre-mix (1:1).

Guner et al. (2007) incorporated yoghurt with varying acidities (0.7, 0.8, 0.9 and 1% LA) at the rate of 74.3% of ice cream mix. They recommended preparing yoghurt of acidity not exceeding 0.7% LA; acidity levels greater than which led to progressive loss of sensory qualities of the resultant end product.

The use of soy protein products in the manufacture of foodstuffs has been widely investigated since FDA approved health claims as related to soy and health in 1998. Some positive aspects related to soy products’ consumption include: lowering the risk of such cancers as breast and prostate cancer, lowering the risk of such diseases as arterial and cardiovascular. Lowering of cholesterol, protective effects against obesity, diabetes, irritation prevention of the digestive tract as well as a lowering of the bone and kidney diseases are among the advantages (Dervisoglu et al., 2005). Even though, products containing soya solids have been criticized for some of their beany or woody off flavours, yet some dairy dessert products may potentially serve as carriers of such value-added ingredients as soya solids.

The substitution of Milk Solids Not Fat (MSNF) in ice cream formulations containing such soy products as: soymilk, soy protein concentrate, and soy protein isolate has been reported by a few authors (Rajor and Gupta 1982; Saleem et al., 1989; Dervisoglu et al., 2005; Herald et al., 2008). However, a study of incorporating soya solids in YIC has not yet been reported. Therefore, the objective of this study was to determine the optimal yoghurt:ice cream mix proportion, in a functional dairy dessert containing soy flour as part substitute of conventional MSNF (i.e. NFDM) (MSNF=Milk Solid Non Fat and NFDM= Non Fat Dry Milk).

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**Materials**

The full-fat soy flour containing 19.6% fat and 96.13% total solids (Toos Soyan Co. Iran), low fat milk powder of 1.32% fat and 96.15% total milk solids (Golshad Co, Iran), cream containing 30% fat (Pegah Milk Industry, Mashhad, Iran), commercial stabilizer-emulsifier blend (Panisol ex, Danisco, Denmark), sugar powder and vanilla were obtained from reputable scientific suppliers. Freeze-dried DVS (Direct Vat Starter) type yoghurt culture BY-1/63 (consisting of Streptococcus thermophilus and Lactobacillus delbrueckii ssp. bulgaricus) was obtained from Lactina (Denmark), and activated in 11% reconstituted low fat milk powder at a temperature between 43 and 45°C for 15-20 minutes.

**Yoghurt Ice Cream Formulation**

Product formulation comprised of 12% SNF, 10% fat, 18% sucrose, 0.4% stabilizer-emulsifier blend as well as 0.1% vanillin; total solids being 40.5%. The batch size totalled 500 grams. Substitution of MSNF by soy flour
was made at 55%, a level found optimal in an earlier study (Mahdian et al, 2011).

**Preparation of Soymilk Blend**

To produce soy milk with uniform consistency and reduced particle size, 33 grams of full-fat soy flour was blended with 2.75 grams of food grade sodium citrate. The blend was mixed with 27.1 grams of low fat milk powder in 203.5 ml of hot water at 95°C. The mixture was stirred for about 15 minutes at 90-95°C. The prepared mixture was homogenized in a two stage clean and sanitized homogenizer (Arnfield Ltd. FT9) at ambient temperature and at pressures of 68.9 and 10.3 MPa respectively. The soy based milk made following this treatment was free from gritty, sandy or powdery mouthfeel when incorporated in YIC (Gandhi et al, 2001).

**Preparation of YIC**

The mix obtained from the previous stage was pasteurized at 72°C for 10 minutes and divided into two parts according to the desired yoghurt:mix ratio. One portion was cooled to 42-43°C and inoculated with 2% of previously prepared yoghurt bulk starter culture followed by incubation at same temperature. At the time of curd formation (pH= 4.5-4.6) yoghurt was removed from incubator and cooled to 10-15°C. The other part of mix was blended with cream, sugar, stabilizer and pasteurized at 72°C for 10 minutes, then cooled to 10-15°C before being mixed with yoghurt and vanilla. Yoghurt was added at levels of 0, 5.3, 15.9, 26.5, 37.1 and 47.7% of final ice cream mix. The resultant mix was then aged at 4°C for 24 hours (Guner et al., 2007).

YIC mixes were frozen in a domestic batch type ice cream maker equipped with a compressor (1 liter, Feller IC 100, Germany). Freezing took 20 minutes (at -18°C) before 50 gram portions were put into plastic cups and hardened at -18°C for about 24 hours. YIC production was done in triplicates.

**Physico-chemical Analyses**

The total solids of soybean flour as well as of low fat dried milk were determined by having the samples dried at 105±1°C for 5.0 hours (using an air draft forced oven) till constant weight (PAAT-ARIYA Co. SH2006, Iran) as prescribed in AOAC, 1997. The fat contents of both powders were determined through Gerber method (ISIRI number 2450, 2005). Titratable acidities of yoghurt and of YIC were determined through the method of Marshal and Arbuckle, (1996) and expressed as % lactic acid. Flow behavior of YIC mixes was evaluated using rotational viscometer (Bohlin Model Visco88, Bohlin Instruments, UK) equipped with a circulator. Product temperature was controlled at 5±0.5°C by a refrigerated/heating circulator (Julabo, Model F12-MC; Julabo Labortecnih, Seelbach, Germany). Apparent viscosity was expressed in Pa s at a shear rate of 52.1 s⁻¹ (Morris 1983).

The specific gravity of yoghurt ice cream mix was determined at 25°C by use of a pichnometer as per method of Muhsenin (1978).

The overrun of YIC was estimated using the formula of Marshal and Arbuckle (1996).

YIC melting rate was determined according to Sakurai et al. (1996) with some modifications. The YIC (30 g in weight, instead of 100 g, because of more melting resistance of soy based YIC samples) at -18°C was placed on a Buchner funnel at ambient temperature (25°C). The weight of the melted material was recorded after 15 minutes past and expressed as percentage weight melted.

**Sensory Evaluation**

The sensory evaluation of YIC was carried out by 18 trained panelists of postgraduate students at the Ferdowsi University of Mashhad. YIC samples were removed from frozen storage (-18°C) after 24 hours of
hardening and immediately offered to panelists. Ice cream samples were coded with three digit random numbers with all orders of serving completely randomized and while served in odorless plastic cups. A 9-point hedonic scale was employed to determine the degree of liking of the products (9= Extreme like, 5= Neither like nor dislike, 1= Extreme dislike). The samples were rated for color and appearance, flavour/taste, body/texture, as well as overall acceptability as prescribed by Herald et al. (2008).

Statistical Analysis

The data coming from three replications were obtained by applying a one factor completely randomized block design with the outcome of the data being analyzed through MSTAT-C software and by use of Analysis of Variance technique. Significant differences (P ≤ 0.05) were determined through the Duncan’s Multiple Range Test (Steel et al., 1997). Excel software was employed for plotting the curves.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Flow Behaviour of YIC Mixes

YIC mix rheograms at 5ºC are presented in Figures 1 (a-b). According to primary tests, the results obtained from all samples were non-newtonian, time independent fluids, as in conformity with some previous reports (Cottrel et al., 1980; Goff and Davidson, 1994; Kaya and Tekin, 2001).

Profiles of shear stress and of viscosity versus shear rate revealed shear thinning behavior of all mixes where viscosity values decreased with increasing shear rate. The reason for such behavior is that in low shear rates, molecules are of irregular arrangements that lead to high viscosity values. With increasing shear rate, these molecules get in more similar directions and consequently intermolecular friction increases while viscosity values decrease (Rha, 1975; Glichsman, 1982).

In the current study, shear stress and shear rate values were fitted using power law model:

\[ \sigma = k \gamma^n \]

Where, \( \sigma \) is shear stress (Pa), \( \gamma \) stands for shear rate (s\(^{-1}\)), \( k \) is consistency coefficient (Pa s\(^n\)) and \( n \) denoting flow behavior index.

Flow behavior indices, consistency coefficients and correlation coefficients (\( r^2 \)) of the model for each sample are presented in Table 1. Values of \( n \) for all samples obtained amounted to less than 1 indicating the shear thinning behavior of all the mixes.

As seen from the results indicated in Table 1, there were no significant (P< 0.05) differences observed between values of \( n \) for all the samples. This implies that the level of yoghurt added to YIC mixes did not significantly affect the pseudoplastic behavior (P< 0.05). A flow behavior index of 0.7 was reported for ice cream mixes (Goff and Davidson, 1994). Values of \( k \) for
Table 1. Flow behavior indices (n), consistency coefficients (k) and correlation coefficients (r²) of power law model for YIC mixes containing varying yogurt levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yogurt levels (%)</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>k</th>
<th>r²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.80±0.14a*</td>
<td>1.85±1.69b</td>
<td>0.97b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>0.67±0.02a</td>
<td>2.84±0.35ab</td>
<td>0.99a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>0.73±0.09a</td>
<td>2.27±1.00b</td>
<td>0.99a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>0.65±0.07a</td>
<td>3.60±1.32ab</td>
<td>0.98ab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>0.72±0.06a</td>
<td>3.47±1.25ab</td>
<td>0.99a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>0.70±0.06a</td>
<td>5.08±1.49a</td>
<td>0.99a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are average±standard error (n= 3).
*Values in a column which do not share a common letter are statistically different (P= 95%).

the mixes containing 0, 5.3 and 15.9% yogurt were significantly lower than those for mixes with a higher level of yoghurt (P< 0.05). Consistency coefficient being an important parameter for estimating viscous nature of food products (Sopade and Kassum, 1992) was reported to be in the ranges of 0.0733 to 1.260 Pa s⁰ and 0.145 to 0.0211 Pa s⁰ by Muse and Hartel (2004) and by Minhas et al. (2002) respectively. The higher consistency coefficients obtained for YIC mixes in this study, in comparison with the previously reported values, may be attributed to the incorporation of soy flour and the effect of soy proteins plus carbohydrates on water absorption and viscosity of the samples.

Similarly, Soukoulis et al. (2009) showed that the use of dietary fibres in ice cream mix formulation significantly increased viscosity and shear thinning behavior.

Physico-chemical Properties

The physico-chemical properties of YIC mixes and of the finished YIC are presented in Table 2. Specific Gravity (SG) decreased while viscosity increased with the increasing level of yoghurt in the YIC mixes, the decrease in specific gravity being significant (P< 0.05). The specific gravity of ice cream mix as reported by the authors ranged from 1.05 to 1.12 (Marshal and Arbuckle, 1996). Hossein and Aumara (2006) reported that specific gravity of frozen yoghurt mix varied from 1.05 to 1.16 depending on ingredients and type of starter culture utilized in the product formulation.

There is no significant (P< 0.05) increase observed in viscosity when the level of yoghurt in the mix is up to 26.5 % (Table 2). Guner et al. (2007) reported the viscosity of YIC mix in the range of 9.8-11.6 MPa s. The authors further observed that use of yoghurt in place of milk, along with the same level of total solids, resulted in a greater decrease in the viscosity of frozen yoghurt mix as compared with control. Use of protein concentrates WPC (Whey Protein Concentrate) as a substitute for 25, 50, 75 and 100% of SNF (Solid Non Fat), MPC (Milk Protein Concentrate) for replacing 20 and 50% of ice cream protein content and SPC (Soy Protein Concentrate) at levels of 1.5, 3 and 4.5% of total ice cream mix) increased the mix viscosity significantly (Thompson et al., 1983; Lee and White, 1991; Alvarez et al., 2005; Dervisouglu et al., 2005; Herald et al., 2008).

It is reported that the viscosity of frozen yoghurt mix increased when utilizing yoghurt of low pH in the resultant mix. This could be attributed to the networking of protein matrix as a result of attaining low pH which culminates in increased mix viscosity (Hossein and Aumara, 2006). Ordonez et al. (2000) observed increase in the viscosity of YIC mixes from 0.63 to 4.4 Pa s as the acidity increased from 0.25 to 0.5% LA.

The pH and acidity values of YIC samples are directly affected by the quantity of yoghurt incorporated in the formulation (Table 2); pH decreased while acidity
Table 2. Physicochemical properties of YIC mixes and YIC containing varying yoghurt levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yoghurt levels (%)</th>
<th>YIC Specific gravity at 25°C</th>
<th>Viscosity (Pa s) at 5°C</th>
<th>Overrun (%)</th>
<th>Melting rate (% melted after 15 minutes at 25°C)</th>
<th>pH</th>
<th>Acidity (% LA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.108±0.003a</td>
<td>0.70±0.009c</td>
<td>51.8±0.35ab</td>
<td>77.8±8.42a</td>
<td>6.82±0.10a</td>
<td>0.22±0.015e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>1.096±0.012b</td>
<td>0.93±0.111bc</td>
<td>44.6±12.01abc</td>
<td>83.7±12.00a</td>
<td>6.44±0.04b</td>
<td>0.28±0.006d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>1.071±0.029c</td>
<td>0.76±0.093c</td>
<td>58.0±3.40a</td>
<td>79.2±8.10a</td>
<td>5.92±0.44c</td>
<td>0.37±0.006c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>1.023±0.037f</td>
<td>0.87±0.001c</td>
<td>32.3±7.40cd</td>
<td>61.1±15.50ab</td>
<td>5.51±0.08d</td>
<td>0.44±0.011b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>1.052±0.030d</td>
<td>1.30±0.073ab</td>
<td>42.0±5.59bc</td>
<td>49.9±21.06b</td>
<td>5.28±0.15de</td>
<td>0.49±0.036b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>1.027±0.026e</td>
<td>1.57±0.071ab</td>
<td>23±6.75d</td>
<td>16±7.80c</td>
<td>5.13±0.06e</td>
<td>0.6±0.00a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are average ± standard error (n= 3).

*Values in a column that do not share a common letter are statistically different (P= 95%).
Sensory Properties

The flavor of YIC samples was acceptable when yoghurt was utilized in the blend up to 26.5% of the mix; beyond which (37.1 and 47.7% levels) there was a significant decrease observed in the flavor score (Table 3).

The same trend was observed with regard to texture and overall acceptability of YIC samples. The sample containing 47.7% yoghurt was of a significantly lower texture, bearing an overall acceptance score as compared to control.

The color scores of all the YIC samples compared well with each other. The maximum and minimum color scores were given by panelists to samples containing 47.7 and 5.3% yoghurt respectively.

Quantity of sugar and acid value are the two main factors determining the acceptability of the frozen yoghurt. The increase in yoghurt content was accompanied by increased bulky and wheying off defects and a decrease of foamy and thinness attributes. The curdy appearance of ice cream melts is particularly associated with protein destabilization and salt imbalance due to increase in acidity, parameters which also explain the syneresis defect (Soukoulis et al., 2010).

The sensory panelists found better acceptability of frozen yoghurt having lower acidity (0.23-0.29% LA) than those of higher acidities; such effect being independent of the sugar concentration (Guinard et al., 1994). A pH of 5.5 and an acidity of 0.4% LA for frozen yoghurt was reported to be the most acceptable one (Inoue et al., 1998). Guner et al. (2007) suggested keeping maximum acidity in frozen yoghurt to 0.47%; beyond which there was loss observed in sensory qualities.

In order to control the viscosity developed as a result of fermentation during yoghurt making, a maximum acidity of 0.3% LA in the resultant yoghurt-ice cream mix blend has been suggested (Ordonez et al., 2000).

In the current experiment, acidity of up to 0.44% LA of frozen yoghurt is organoleptically desirable which could be attained by resorting to application of yoghurt at a level of maximum 26.5% of the final product.

### CONCLUSIONS

Incorporation of yoghurt at levels of 5.3 - 47.7% of the total mix for soy based Yoghurt ice cream, resulted in increased viscosity and decreased specific gravity of the resultant mix. All YIC mixes were pseudoplastic (non-newtonian, time independent fluids with shear thinning behavior) and the samples did not significantly differ from each other in this respect. The melting resistance of YIC increased with application of yoghurt up to 47.7%, whereas improvement in overrun was observed with an incorporation of 15.9% of yoghurt in the formulation. Frozen yoghurt containing yoghurt quantity beyond 26.5% led to more acidic taste decreasing its acidity.

### Table 3. Sensory properties* of YIC containing varying yoghurt levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yoghurt levels (%)</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Flavour</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Overall acceptance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.5±1.30ab**</td>
<td>7±1.76a</td>
<td>6.5±1.64ab</td>
<td>6.6±1.83a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>5.3±1.48b</td>
<td>6.8±1.34a</td>
<td>6.8±1.30ab</td>
<td>6.5±1.42a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>5.9±1.70ab</td>
<td>6.1±1.82ab</td>
<td>6.9±1.27ab</td>
<td>6.4±1.34a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>5.5±1.50ab</td>
<td>6.2±1.64ab</td>
<td>6.9±1.41ab</td>
<td>6.2±1.42a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>5.9±1.79ab</td>
<td>5±1.92bc</td>
<td>6.3±1.49ab</td>
<td>5.8±1.67ab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>6±1.68a</td>
<td>5±1.79c</td>
<td>5.9±2.13b</td>
<td>5.2±1.61b</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are average ± standard error (n = 3).
*Based on 9-point hedonic scoring: 9: Excellent, 1: Very poor.
**Values in a column which do not share a common letter are statistically different (P= 95%).
sensory quality. Good quality Frozen Yoghurt can be successfully obtained using yoghurt incorporated at 26.5% of the total mix; the frozen yoghurt ended up with an acidity of 0.44% LA.

REFERENCES

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مخلوط بر رفتار جریان و خصوصیات فیزیکوشیمیایی و حسی بسته ماست بررسی و با نمونه شاهد فاقد ماست مورد مقایسه قرار گرفت. مخلوط هم نمونه ها رفتار ریق شونده با برش داشته و با افزایش مقدار با افزایش مقدار 1/5pa 67 درصد، مقدار ویسکوزیتی از 0/7 تا 0/5 افزایش یافت. استفاده از مقادیر بالاتر ماست منجر به بهبود سرعت ذوب نمونه ها به طور معناداری گردیده به طوری که کمترین سرعت ذوب (16/%) برای نمونه حاصل 47/7 درصد ماست به دست آمد. همچنین بیشترین ضرب افزایش حجم برای 58 درصد برای نمونه حاصل 15/9 درصد ماست به دست آمد. مقادیر وزن مخصوص با افزایش درصد ماست کاهش یافته و بیشترین مقدار وزن مخصوص برای 10/8 در مورد نمونه شاهد فاقد ماست به دست آمد. ابزار اساس نتایج به دست آمده، می‌توان بسته ماست با وزن‌های حسی مطلوب را با استفاده آرد کامل سویا و کاربرد 4/5 درصد ماست تولید کرد.