

USING OF PROPOLIS EXTRACT AS A TRIAL TO EXTEND THE SHELF-LIFE AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY CRITERIA OF FRESH EGYPTIAN SAUSAGE

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ABSTRACT

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This work was planned to evaluate the effect of propolis on the different quality criteria of fresh Egyptian sausage as well as its shelf life. Three groups of processed fresh beef Egyptian sausage were used the first two groups were treated with 400 and 600 mg ethanolic extract of propolis (EEP)/Kg, respectively the third group left as a control was kept at 5°C. All groups were examined every 3 days until the signs of spoilage were detected. All groups were investigated for sensory, chemical and microbiological deteriorative criteria. The results revealed that control samples were decomposed after 12 days, while the of treated samples showed longer shelf life, as it decomposed after 21 days. Thiobarbituric Acid (TBA-value) mg mal/ kg, and Total Volatil Bases Nitrogen (TVB-N) mg/ 100g were gradually increased in all examined samples, with lower level for treated samples than control one. Also gradual increase in microbiological load of control samples throughout the storage time was observed, whereas, proteolytic, lipolytic and total mould and yeast counts were 6.38 ± 0.40 , 5.99 ± 0.56 and $6.59 \pm 0.52 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$, respectively at the 12th day and rejected. Such counts were slightly decreased in treated samples up to 15th day of storage, for treated group one samples (400 mg ethanolic extract of propolis (EEP)/Kg) were 5.36 ± 0.18 , 4.98 ± 0.52 and $4.80 \pm 0.35 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$, respectively. Such counts were significantly decreased in treated group two samples (600 mg ethanolic extract of propolis (EEP)/Kg) were 3.46 ± 0.22 , 2.89 ± 0.20 and 3.59 ± 0.34 , respectively, followed by gradual increase till the end of storage time. The results have proved to be satisfactory, as the propolis had not adversely affected the quality characteristics and was efficient in controlling the lipid oxidation microbial effects in the final products. Finally propolis is recommended as a preservative in fresh sausage processing.

Key words: Propolis Extract, Sausage, Shelf-life

INTRODUCTION

Bee glue called propolis is a dark sticky resinous substance collected by bees from leaf buds, twigs, trunk wounds, and trees such as *Castanea sativa*, *Populus spp.*, and *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Bees attach the propolis to their hind legs, and carry it back to their colony, where it is combined with bees wax and used by worker "hive" bees to seal and sterilize the colony nest (Greenaway *et al.*, 1990; Sorkun *et al.*, 2001). Propolis contains a variety of chemical compounds such as polyphenols (flavonoid aglycones, phenolic acids, and their esters, phenolic aldehydes and alcohols), terpenoids, steroids, amino acids, and inorganic compounds (Kartal *et al.*, 2003; Naydenski *et al.*, 2010).

Propolis has been used in folk medicine to maintain health since ancient times (Isla *et al.*, 2001). Many biological properties including antibacterial,

antifungal, antiviral, local anesthetic, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, hepatoprotective, immunostimulate and cytostatic activities have been ascribed to propolis. Therefore, propolis is available commercially in different formulated forms such as tablets, capsules, toothpaste, mouthwash preparations, face creams, ointments, lotions, and solutions (Kartal *et al.*, 2003; DeCastro and Higashi, 1995). The medical applications of propolis have led to increased interest in its chemical composition as well as its origin (Bankova *et al.*, 1989; Popova *et al.*, 2001).

In fact, it is known that plants are rich in a wide variety of secondary metabolites such as tannins, terpenoids, alkaloids, and flavonoids, which are found in vitro to have antimicrobial properties (Pahsa *et al.*, 2009). The antimicrobial activity of propolis against a wide range of bacteria, fungi, and viruses has been investigated since the late 1940s and it showed variable activity against different microorganisms (Hegazi, 2000; Uzel *et al.*, 2005). Many researchers

have studied the antibacterial activity of propolis and its extract against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. They found that propolis had antibacterial activity against a wide range of gram-positive strains but had limited or no activity against gram-negative strains (Grange and Davey, 1990; Dobrowolski *et al.*, 1991; Marcucci, 1995; Sforcin *et al.*, 2000; Kartal *et al.*, 2003; Cihangiret *et al.*, 2005; Uzel *et al.*, 2005).

In the context of the lack acceptability of synthetic preservatives, there is a growing interest of introducing natural additives to food. Propolis is an interesting alternative to be considered in new applications of food technology as it is extensively used, as phytochemical ingredient, in functional foods at levels that may confer health benefits (International Food Information Service, 2005). Propolis chemical composition is complex and varies according to its botanical and phytogeographical origin, but in general, propolis in nature is composed of 30% wax, 50% resin and vegetable balsam, 10% essential and aromatic oils, 5% pollens and 5% various other substances, including organic debris (Greenaway *et al.*, 1991; Bonvehi *et al.*, 1994; Burdock, 1998; Bankova and Marcucci, 2000; Kalogeropoulos *et al.*, 2009; Petrova *et al.*, 2010).

The antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant properties of propolis are combined with the fact that several of its constituents present in food and/or food additives, and Generally Recognized As Safe (GRAS) (Burdock, 1998 and Costa Campos *et al.*, 2011), make it an attractive candidate as a natural preservative in new food applications. This meets the demand for natural antioxidants and antimicrobials, fueled by the increasing consumer awareness for natural, minimally processed foods with traditional preservatives absent or at very low concentrations (Han and Park, 1995; Tosi *et al.*, 2007). Kilic *et al.*, 2005; Raghukumar *et al.*, 2010) documented the antimicrobial activity of propolis extract against Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Moreover, Propolis displayed both bacteriostatic and bactericidal actions depending on the concentration, type of propolis, and type of bacteria tested (Assegid *et al.*, 2004; Temiz *et al.*, 2011; El-Bassiony *et al.*, 2012).

Fresh sausage is one of the most popular furthered processed meat products. It is formulated from a combination of raw ingredients which yield a final product of acceptable quality and competitive price. Moreover, the high microbiological quality is necessary to improve the processed meat products (Nouman *et al.*, 1982).

The oxidative rancidity of fats during storage of meat and meat products causes the development of objectionable odour and flavor and may also give rise

to deleterious nutritional effects, as destruction of essential fatty acids and vitamins. Moreover, free radicals produced during oxidation process are considered recently as carcinogenic substances (Trusheva *et al.*, 2006). The rate and extent of oxidative deterioration can be reduced by various means such as curing to preserve the meat tissues, vacuum packaging to remove the oxygen source, or adding antioxidants to scavenge the oxidants (Wong *et al.*, 1995). The author further added that application of antioxidants is one of the simplest ways of reducing lipid oxidation. As addition of antioxidant minimize lipid peroxidation, through act as oxygen scavengers, react with free radicals and chelate catalytic metals and thus retard oxidative deterioration (Shahidi and Wanasundara, 1992).

It's worth mentioning that propolis can be used as water or ethanolic extract, both extracts can reduce the total volatile basic nitrogen content in fresh sausage and so can serve as a good preservative and can contribute to promote human health because they are naturally produced (Han *et al.*, 2001). However, propolis water extracted had the weakest antibacterial, antioxidant and antifungal action than ethanolic extract (Assegid *et al.*, 2004). In recent years, propolis has been taken for health reasons with limited use in meat processing and food preservation. This work was under taken to evaluate the potentials of ethanolic extract of propolis as decontaminants and antioxidant for fresh Egyptian sausage during refrigerated storage and to estimate the possibility of the usage of propolis to increase shelf life of fresh Egyptian sausage.

MATERIALS and METHODS

Purification of propolis: Crude propolis (honey bee glue) samples were obtained from the Departement of Food Technology at the Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University. Propolis samples were manually purified from impurities (wood, straw, fragments and insects), then blended to fine particles in a waring blender and stored in a dark bottle at room temperature until use (Bonvehi *et al.*, 1994; Said *et al.*, 2006 and Haddadin *et al.*, 2008).

Extraction of propolis: Propolis samples were extracted according to the method described by Han and Park, (2002) and Biscaia and Ferreira, (2009). Five g of propolis were placed inside a paper thimble and submitted to Soxhlet extraction at a maximum temperature of 60°C for 6h, using 150 ml of solvent (ethanol). Waxes from extracted were removed by 3 consecutive steps of maintaining at -18°C overnight and filtration at 0°C. The resulting extracts were evaporated at reduced pressure at a low temperature (<40°C) in a rotary evaporator to afford a concentrated ethanolic extract of propolis (EEP). The

extract was transferred to small glass vials with a small amount of methanol which evaporated. Different concentrations were prepared (100, 200, 400, 600, 800, and 1000 mg/L) by dissolving the final Ethanol Extract Propolis (EEP) in distilled water to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC).

Estimation of MIC of EEP: Estimation of MIC was performed according to method (disk diffusion method) prescribed by (Silva *et al.*, 2008). MIC was determined using agar disk diffusion method (150 mg/L).

Sausage manufacture: Fresh Egyptian sausage was processed according to the quality criteria recommended by the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality Control (ESS, 1991), where the formula used is as follows: Fresh lean meat (7kg), beef fat (1.5kg), soy hydrate (0.3kg), skimmed milk (0.15kg), bread (0.2kg), water (1kg), sodium chloride (0.2kg) and black pepper (0.035kg).

Fresh beef and fat were minced, and other ingredients were added thereafter. The past obtained was divided into three portions, the first was stuffed in natural mutton casing as control samples, the second portion was treated with 400 mg EEP/kg and the third portion was treated with 600 mg EEP/kg, which stuffed in the same manner as the control samples. All control and treated samples were then packed in polyethylene bags and chilled in a refrigerator at 5°C. During refrigerated storage, the control and treated samples were examined every three days for sensory, chemical and microbiological deteriorative criteria until spoilage occurred as described below:

Sensory evaluation: Sensory attributes for raw and cooked sausage sample (form, binding, colour, odour and taste) were examined according to the scheme adopted by (Mohamed Manal, 2002) and are shown in Table I. Sensory examinations of samples were conducted by an untrained independent panel consisting of 10 members from the Food Hygiene Department until the end of the study.

Scheme used for sensory evaluation of fresh sausage:

Sensory attributes	Desirable	Undesirable
Form	Normal	Deformed and burst casing
Binding	Firm	Poor
Colour	Bright red, dark red	Brown, grey
Odour	Fresh, spicy	Rancid, putrid
Taste	Fleshy	Bitter and decomposed

Chemical examination:

A- Determination of Total Volatile Bases Nitrogen (TVB-N):

Using the distillation method was performed as recommended by (Harold *et al.*, 1981) as follow: Hundred gram of prepared sample was weighed into a homogenizer with 30ml of 5% trichloroacetic acid to obtain uniform slurry, then filtered and centrifuged to obtained a clear extract. Five ml of the extract was transferred to a semi-micro distillation apparatus. Five ml 2 M sodium hydroxide solution was added then distilled (steam distillation). The distillate was collected in 15 ml 0.01 M standard hydrochloric acid. Rosolic acid solution was used as indicator (1% rosolic acid in 10% ethanol v/v), and then titrated with 0.01N sodium hydroxide to a pale pink colordend point with 0.01 sodium hydroxide.

Calculation:

$$\text{Total Volatile Bases Nitrogen} = 14(300 + w) \times v / 500 \text{ mg/100g}$$

Where: V = volume of Standard Acid Consumed in the Titration

W = Water Content of the Sample as mg/100g.

B- Determination of the Thiobarbituric acid (TBA) value:

Using the distillation method was applied according to a technique described by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 1986). The TBA values were expressed as mg-malondialdehyde/kg.

Microbiological examination:

Sample homogenate was prepared by homogenization of 10g of examined sample with 90 ml sterile peptone water 0.1%. From sausage homogenate, sterial decimal dilutions up to 10⁸ were performed. The microbiological procedures recommended by the American Public Health Association (APHA, 1992) were applied as follows:

- The proteolytic count was performed using Skimmed milk agar 10% (Oxoid, CML 31).
- Lipolytic count on Tributyrine agar (Oxoid, PM4).
- Total mould and yeast count on Sabouraud dextrose agar (Oxoid, CM41).

Statistical analysis: The obtained data was analyzed statistically according to (Perrie and Weston, 1999). The results are presented as the mean of three replicates. The analytical test used included unpaired Student t-test to compare means for two groups at $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

Table 1: Sensory evaluation of control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

Parameters	Treatment with EEP	Desirable	Undesirable
Control	untreated	Days 0-11	Days 12
Group 1	Treated with 400mg/kg	Days 0-17	Days 18
Group 2	Treated with 600 mg/kg	Days 0-20	Days 21

Table 2: TVB-N mg/100g and Thiobarbituric acid value TBA mg-malondialdehyde/kg in control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

Time / day	TBA – value			TVB – N		
	Control	Group1	Group2	Control	Group1	Group2
Zero time		0.22 ± 0.018			9.7 ± 0.50	
3 rd day	0.28 ± 0.011	0.27 ± 0.020	0.27 ± 0.010	10.3 ± 0.70	10.2 ± 0.40	10.1 ± 0.63
6 th day	0.37 ± 0.021	0.32 ± 0.040	0.30 ± 0.010	12.8 ± 0.90	11.8 ± 0.70	11.1 ± 0.86
9 th day	0.55 ± 0.030	0.46 ± 0.010	0.41 ± 0.020	*16.1 ± 1.10	14.2 ± 0.60	12.1 ± 0.84
12 th day	*0.73 ± 0.042	0.61 ± 0.050	0.57 ± 0.031	*19.7 ± 1.51	15.3 ± 0.50	12.3 ± 0.75
15 th day		0.74 ± 0.030	0.68 ± 0.020		17.2 ± 0.90	14.5 ± 1.05
18 th day		0.86 ± 0.013	0.79 ± 0.040		19.1 ± 0.75	16.7 ± 1.30
21 th day			0.88 ± 0.050			19.2 ± 0.85

*Means significant differences between the control and treated samples at $P < 0.05$

Table 3: Mean values of Proteolytic, Lipolytic and total Mould and Yeast count \log_{10} cfu/g of control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

Time /day	Proteolytic			Lipolytic			Mould & Yeast		
	Control	Group1	Group2	Control	Group1	Group2	Control	Group1	Group2
Zero time		3.76 ± 0.12			2.99 ± 0.23			3.98 ± 0.30	
3 rd day	3.76 ± 0.25	3.46 ± 0.30	3.29 ± 0.27	3.29 ± 0.31	2.98 ± 0.18	2.94 ± 0.18	3.94 ± 0.36	3.48 ± 0.26	3.46 ± 0.23
6 th day	3.99 ± 0.35	3.55 ± 0.26	3.29 ± 0.26	3.94 ± 0.32	3.12 ± 0.14	2.89 ± 0.13	4.29 ± 0.40	3.56 ± 0.32	3.46 ± 0.27
9 th day	4.46 ± 0.35	3.99 ± 0.41	3.68 ± 0.30	3.99 ± 0.26	3.68 ± 0.30	2.99 ± 0.24	4.68 ± 0.41	3.98 ± 0.25	3.89 ± 0.31
12 th day	*6.38 ± 0.40	4.76 ± 0.35	3.46 ± 0.20	*5.99 ± 0.56	3.76 ± 0.27	2.76 ± 0.18	*6.59 ± 0.52	4.28 ± 0.46	3.46 ± 0.32
15 th day		5.36 ± 0.18	3.46 ± 0.22		4.98 ± 0.52	2.89 ± 0.20		4.80 ± 0.35	3.59 ± 0.34
18 th day		6.12 ± 0.46	3.99 ± 0.32		5.41 ± 0.55	3.59 ± 0.28		5.75 ± 0.52	3.99 ± 0.36
21 th day			6.46 ± 0.41			3.99 ± 0.26			5.99 ± 0.55

*Means significant differences between the control and treated samples at $P < 0.05$

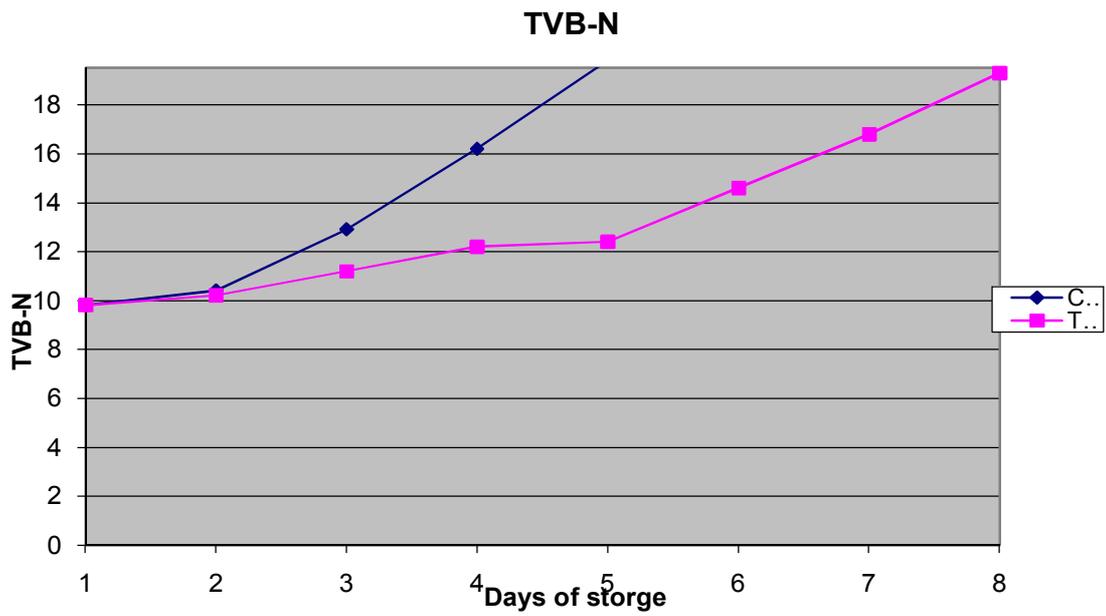


Fig. (1): TVB-N mg/100g in control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

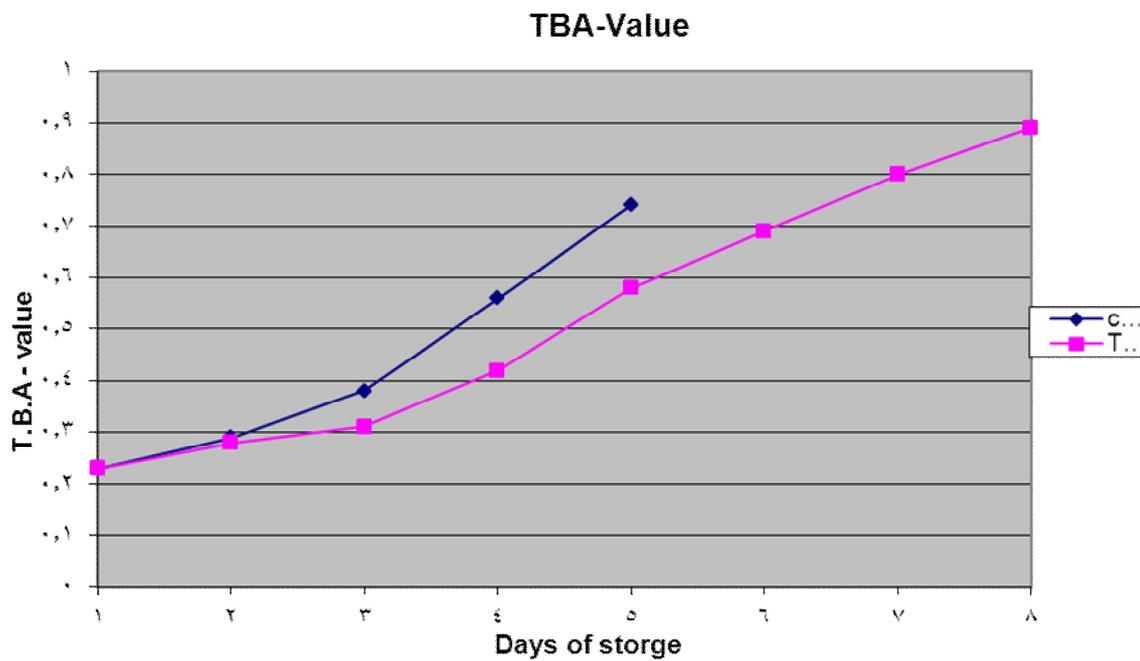


Fig. (2): Thiobarbituric acid value TBA mg-malondialdehyde/kg in control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

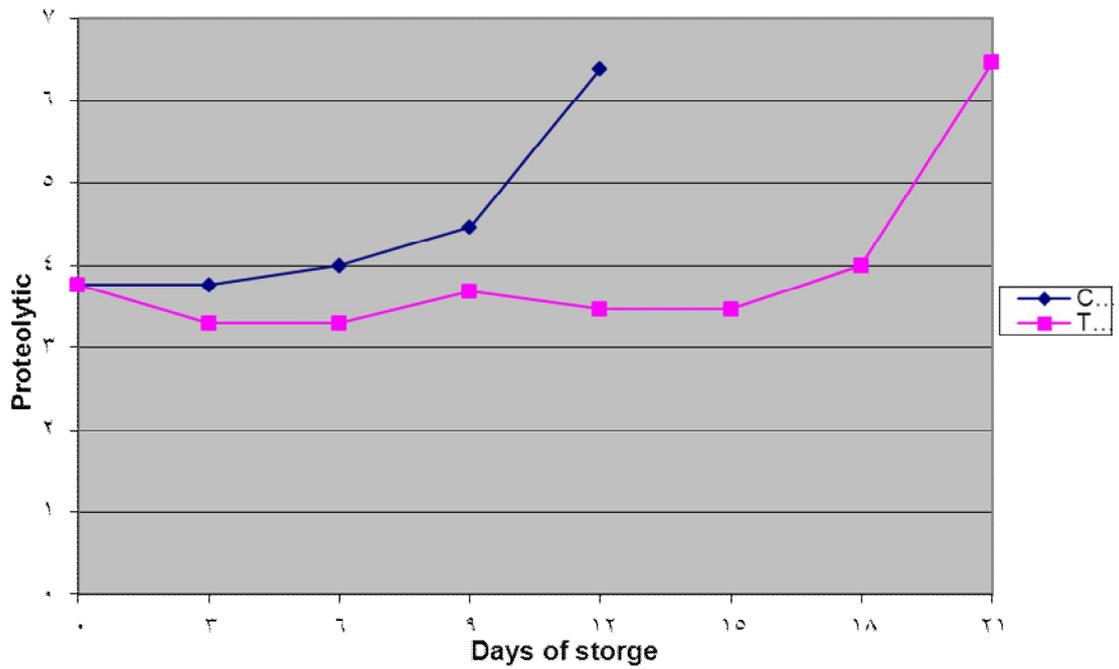


Fig. (3): Mean values of Proteolytic count log₁₀cfu/g of control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

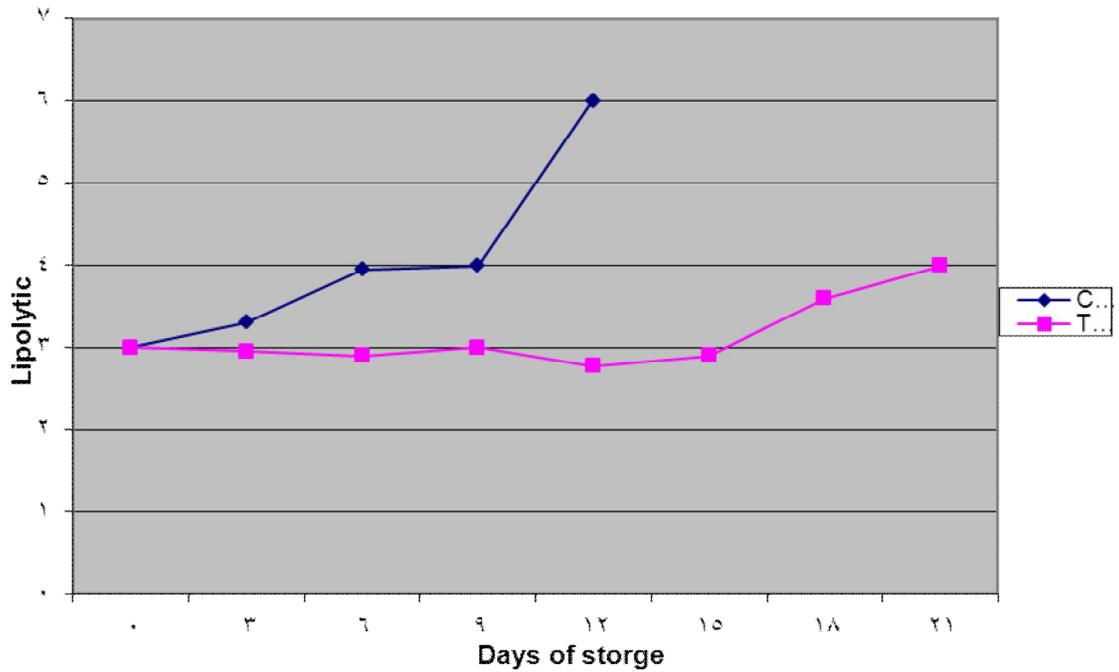


Fig. (4): Mean values of Lipolytic count log₁₀cfu/g of control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

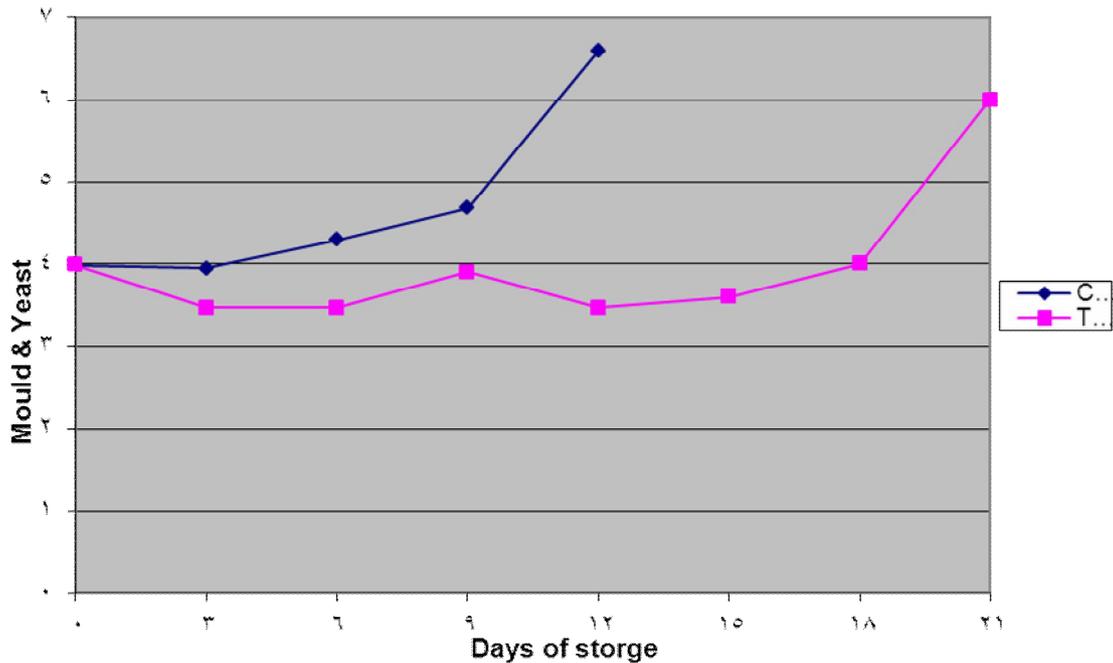


Fig. (5): Mean values of total Mould and Yeast count \log_{10} cfu/g control and treated sausage samples during refrigerated storage.

DISCUSSION

Bees use propolis as a protective barrier against intruders by sealing holes in their honeycombs (Burdock, 1998; Salatino *et al.*, 2005; Sforcin, 2007). Moreover, propolis is responsible for the low incidence of bacteria and moulds within the hive as it has antibacterial and antifungal properties (Bankova *et al.*, 2000). The antimicrobial effect of propolis is due to its components that are mostly of phenolic nature, mainly flavonoids, as the simple phenols, phenolic acids and polyphenols are active antimicrobial agents (Cowan, 1999; Temiz *et al.*, 2011). Propolis has been used a popular remedy in folk medicine, in apitherapy, as a constituent of biocosmetics, health foods and in numerous other purposes (Bankova *et al.*, 2000; Banskota *et al.*, 2001; El-Bassiony *et al.*, 2012).

From data in Table 1 presents sensory acceptance of control samples as highly desirable for the first six days and for the following five days, samples became just desirable, while on day 12 of storage, spoilage signs (offensive odour, unpleasant taste and formation of a greenish colour) were clear and the samples were discarded. Treated samples were accepted by the team of panelists for six and nine days more than control samples and were reject after 18 & 21 days of storage, respectively. These results concurred with those obtained by Hemeida and Kobeassy (2002) and Hašcik *et al.* (2011).

In regard to the deteriorative criteria of chemicals, the TBA value was determined as an index of lipid oxidation taking place in sausage samples during refrigerated storage. The results in Table 2 and Figs 1&2 reveals that the TBA value mg-malondialdehyde/kg was subjected to a gradual increase during the experimental period. In addition, TBA values in control samples were the highest in comparison to treated samples (400 & 600mg EEP/kg). On day12 of storage, the TBA value in the control samples was 0.73 ± 0.042 . This value was slightly below the rejection limit (0.9 mg-malondialdehyde/kg) stipulated by the EES (1991) and correlated well with sensory attributes (poor colour and taste), the control samples were therefore rejected. A significantly ($p < 0.05$) lower value (0.57 ± 0.031) was recorded in treated samples (group 2). On day18 of storage, the TBA value in the treated group1 samples was 0.86 ± 0.013 while, on day 21 of storage the TBA value in the treated group 2 samples was 0.88 ± 0.050 . This values was slightly below the rejection limit. The data we obtained were very similar to those obtained by Han and Park (2002); Hemeida and Kobeassy (2002).

The addition of ethanolic extract of propolis (400 & 600mg EEP/kg) to sausage samples significantly ($p < 0.05$) retarded the oxidative changes of lipid oxidation may be related to its content of flavonoids and phenolic compounds (Dessouki *et al.*, 1980;

Marcucci, 1995; Hayashi *et al.*, 1999; Hegazi and Abd El-Hady, 2002; Be-Jen *et al.*, 2003; Nagai *et al.*, 2003; Marquede *et al.*, 2006; Contreras-Castillo *et al.*, 2009). In addition, its antibacterial effect against lipolytic bacteria may enhance antioxidant properties.

TVB-N mg/100g content Table 2 for the control samples (19.7 ± 1.51) on day 12 of refrigerated storage is the highest value obtained, while treated (400 & 600mg EEP/kg) samples showed a significantly ($p < 0.05$) lower level than those of the corresponding control samples on days 9 and 12 of storage and did not exceed the permissible limit of 20 mg/100g stipulated by the EES (1991). On day 18 of storage, the TVB-N mg/100g content in the treated group 1 samples was 19.1 ± 0.75 while, on day 21 of storage the TVB-N mg/100g content in the treated group 2 samples was 19.2 ± 0.85 . These values did not exceed the permissible limit. This could be attributed to the preservative action of propolis on proteolytic bacteria. These results agree with those obtained by (Han *et al.*, 2001; Hemeida and Kobeassy, 2002).

TVB-N is considered to be an important factor when measuring the extent of protein degradation to amino acids and purification of meat and meat products (Han *et al.*, 2001), it is also considered to be an index of deterioration in regard to the sourness of sausages (Olivant, 1957). In this respect, Abd El-Salam (1978) started that TVB-N content was found to increase in frozen meat during storage, which lowered the shelf-life of sausages prepared from frozen meat.

Recently, consumers think that the natural food preservatives are better and safer than synthetic ones as they are considered the reason of many carcinogenic and teratogenic attributes as well as residual toxicity. The investigation of natural sources, which offer an unique pool of chemically diverse substances, is a valid approach to the search for new antimicrobials with chemical scaffolds that differ from known antibiotics would have less tendency to generate microbial resistance and health problems. In the last decades, propolis has gained wide acceptance by people from many western and eastern countries (Temiz *et al.*, 2011; El-Bassiony *et al.*, 2012).

Results in Table 3 and Figs 3,4&5 reveals that no change in the mean proteolytic, lipolytic and total mould and yeast counts in control samples for the first 3 days of refrigerated storage. However, a gradual increase in the organisms examined had been observed through out the storage period and signs of spoilage began to appear on day 9. Finally, on day 12, significantly higher counts of proteolytic, lipolytic and total mould and yeast (6.38 ± 0.40 , 5.99 ± 0.56 and $6.59 \pm 0.52 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$, respectively) were noted and signs of spoilage were more pronounced, the samples were rejected. On the contrary, Table 3

shows a decrease in microbial load of treated samples during refrigerated storage till days 15 as proteolytic, lipolytic and total mould and yeast counts were 5.38 ± 0.18 , 4.98 ± 0.52 and 4.80 ± 0.35 for group 1 and 3.46 ± 0.22 , 2.8 ± 0.20 and $3.5 \pm 0.34 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$ for group 2, respectively, followed by a gradual increase on days 18 of group 1 storage to be 6.12 ± 0.46 , 5.41 ± 0.55 and $5.75 \pm 0.52 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$ and on days 21 of group 2 storage to be 6.46 ± 0.41 , 3.99 ± 0.26 and $5.99 \pm 0.55 \log_{10} \text{cfu/g}$ for proteolytic, lipolytic and total mould and yeast counts, respectively, and the samples were rejected on day 18 & 21 of storage. The results obtained agreed with those recorded by (Hemeida and Kobeassy, 2002).

(Cihangir *et al.*, 2005) determined the minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) of ethanol extract of the propolis samples collected from different regions of Turkey against 3 gram- positive (*S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, and a β - hemolytic *Streptococcus* sp.) and 3 gram-negative (*E. coli*, *Salmonella typhi*, and a *proteus* sp.) bacterial strains. The MIC values of EEP samples for gram-negative bacteria were higher than those of gram-positive bacteria 10 to 100 times depending on the regions of EEP samples.

The data obtained during this study indicated that the treated samples (400 & 600 mg EEP/kg) had a longer shelf-life than the control sample, this confirmed the reports of (Ashour, 1989; El- Deib *et al.*, 1997; Hegazi and Abd El-Hady, 2001, 2002; Hemeida and Kobeassy, 2002; Lu *et al.*, 2005; Said *et al.*, 2006; Trusheva *et al.*, 2006; Ali *et al.*, 2010 and Rodriguez Vaquero *et al.*, 2011), namely, that propolis has antibacterial and antifungal properties and that propolis obtained from different sources has different antibacterial and antifungal effects.

CONCLUSION

Antibacterial activity of propolis depends on the chemical composition and especially the concentration of the components and compounds of the samples. These findings confirm that the antibacterial activity of propolis may be attributed to the synergism between flavonoids and other components and compounds of EEP samples. This study offers useful information for the usage of propolis as a natural antimicrobial agent to control microbial growth in food products and might provide an alternative to chemical preservatives.

Propolis is considered to be a good decontaminant and antioxidant as it reduces the microbial load, lowered TVB-N content and TBA value and improved the sensory quality of fresh sausage. Finally, it also extended the shelf-life of the experimentally formulated Egyptian sausage. Consequently, propolis is recommended as a natural

decontaminant and antioxidant in Egyptian sausage processing to substitute chemical preservatives.

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استخدام مستخلص صمغ العسل كمحاولة لزيادة فترة الصلاحية وتحسين معايير جودة السجق المصرى الطازج

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تم عمل هذا البحث لتقييم تأثير مستخلص صمغ العسل على معايير الجودة المختلفة للسجق المصرى البقرى الطازج وعلاقتة بطول فترة صلاحيته. حيث تم تصنيع السجق معمليا كما ورد بالبحث طبقا للمواصفات المصرية القياسية ، وتقسيم العينات الى ثلاث مجموعات ، الاولى تمت معالجتها بإضافة ٤٠٠ مللى جرام من مستخلص صمغ العسل لكل كيلوجرام والثانية تمت معالجتها بإضافة ٦٠٠ مللى جرام من مستخلص صمغ العسل لكل كيلوجرام بينما بقيت المجموعة الثالثة دون معالجة. وقد تم حفظ العينات بالثلاجة عند ٥ °م حيث يتم فحصها فيزيائيا وكيميائيا وميكروبيولوجيا كل ثلاثة أيام حتى ظهور علامات الفساد. وقد دلت النتائج النهائية ان العينات الغير معالجة قد فسدت عند اليوم الثانى عشر من الحفظ بينما التى تم معالجتها بإضافة مستخلص صمغ العسل إمدت فترة صلاحيتها حتى اليوم الواحد والعشرون. وجد من الفحص الكيميائى أن قيمة كلا من المركبات النيتروجينية الطيارة وحمض الثيوباربتوريك (TVB-N, TBA-value) تزداد تدريجيا فى كل العينات التى تم فحصها وبدرجة ملحوظة أقل فى العينات التى تم معالجتها بإضافة مستخلص صمغ العسل ، وأيضا بالفحص الميكروبيولوجى وجد أن العد الميكروبي للعينات الغير معالجة لكل من: الجراثيم الحالة للبروتينات (Proteolytic) والجراثيم الحالة للدهون (Lipolytic) والخمائر والعفن (Mould&Yeast) وكان ٦.٥٩ و ٥.٩٩ و ٦.٣٨ و ٦.٥٩ $\log_{10}cfu/g$ بالترتيب فى اليوم الثانى عشر مع ظهور علامات الفساد وإستيعادها. بينما فى العينات التى تم معالجتها بإضافة مستخلص صمغ العسل كانت تقل فى العد الميكروبي قليلا حتى اليوم الخامس عشر فى عينات المجموعة الأولى للمعالجة (٤٠٠ مللى جرام من مستخلص صمغ العسل لكل كيلوجرام) كانت ٥.٣٦ و ٤.٩٨ و ٤.٨٠ $\log_{10}cfu/g$ بالترتيب ، بينما فى عينات المجموعة الثانية للمعالجة (٦٠٠ مللى جرام من مستخلص صمغ العسل لكل كيلوجرام) كان الانخفاض فى العد الميكروبي ملحوظا ٣.٤٦ و ٢.٨٩ و ٣.٥٩ $\log_{10}cfu/g$ بالترتيب ، ثم بدأت بالزيادة التدريجية حتى نهاية فترة التخزين مع ظهور علامات الفساد. لذلك ينصح بإدراج مستخلص صمغ العسل ضمن المواد الحافظة الطبيعية حيث أنه ليس له تأثير ظاهر يغير من خصائص جودة المنتج من حيث الشكل والطعم بالنسبة للمستهلك بينما له تأثير واضح فى إطالة مدة الصلاحية.