

1 **Nutritional quality of food supplements for children from 6 to 59 months proposed**
2 **to the dietary service of CHR of Daloa (Côte d'Ivoire)**

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4
5 **ABSTRACT**

6 Côte d'Ivoire's membership in Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) is a momentum in a collective effort
7 to improve the nutrition and nutritional status of the population. This study of the nutritional
8 situation, is part of this process and aims to evaluate the nutritional quality of the infant flours
9 offered to mothers received in the dietary service of the CHR of Daloa. For this purpose, analyses
10 of biochemical compositions, in particular the levels of protein, fat and minerals in the proposed
11 infant flours, were carried out. The different flour formulations were:

12 FC1 = 25% Mil + 25% Rice + 25% Maize + 25% Peanut;

13 FC2 = 25% Mil + 25% Rice + 25% Maize + 25% Soy;

14 - FC3 = 35% Maize + 35% Rice + 5% Sugar + 25% Soy.

15 The formulations of the flours proposed have high nutritional values. The protein content of
16 compound flours increases proportionally with the amount of soy incorporated. Indeed, for FC2
17 and FC3 formulations, these contents are 17.12 ± 0.19 g / 100 g (FC3) and 17.50 ± 0.56 g / 100 g
18 (FC2) with a rate of incorporation of 25% soy. In addition, the FC1 flour formulation enriched
19 with peanuts is low in protein with a value of 8.69 ± 0.11 g / 100 g. These flours also had mineral
20 contents in accordance with WHO standards of calcium (> 125 mg / kg), iron (> 4 mg / kg) and
21 zinc (> 0.8 mg / kg). In addition these formulations are highly digestible. However, to use the
22 proposed meal formulations as food for malnutrition, it would necessarily be necessary to
23 supplement them with available local fruits and vegetables, rich in vitamins and minerals.

24 **Key words:** Malnutrition, nutrition, nutritional quality, infant flours, formulation, soybeans.

25 INTRODUCTION

26
27 According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), malnutrition
28 affects more than one billion people worldwide, 90% of them in developing countries. It mainly
29 affects vulnerable groups such as children under 5, pregnant women and breastfeeding women
30 (FAO, 2009). For example, it contributes 33% of infant mortality, resulting in an estimated
31 128,354 deaths of children under five each year (Black *et al.*, 2013). In Côte d'Ivoire, acute
32 malnutrition affected 8% of children under the age of five with 2% suffering from severe forms,
33 15% underweight and 30% stunted, of which 12% severe form (INS and ICF, 2012). Ivorian
34 diets are generally poorly diversified, mainly based on tubers, roots and cereals that contribute
35 more than 65% to energy inputs (Camara *et al.*, 2009). Also, in 2012, only 7% of children and
36 infants received a minimum quality diet in terms of both diversity and frequency of meals (PND,
37 2012). In addition, the main causes of malnutrition are related to protein-energy deficiency and a
38 deficiency in certain key micronutrients, namely calcium, iron and zinc (Soro *et al.*, 2013).

39 Côte d'Ivoire is experiencing the problem of the double burden of malnutrition marked by under-
40 nutrition (stunting, acute malnutrition, underweight, and micronutrient deficiencies), the
41 emergence of overnutrition (overweight and obesity) and nutrition-related non-communicable
42 chronic diseases (RCI, 2015).

43 Faced with this situation, the promotion and production of infant flours from locally available
44 food products of high energy density (cereals and vegetables) have been adopted to expand the
45 range of staple foods, even food supplements.

46 Unfortunately, this situation also prevails in Daloa and little data is available. In the city of Daloa
47 (Upper Sassandra Region, Côte d'Ivoire), one of the densest in the country, the nutritional status
48 of children from 6 to 59 months remains to be determined. The same applies to the nutritional
49 quality of the complementary foods offered to mothers who come for consultation for their
50 children. The purpose of this study is therefore to assess the nutritional quality of food
51 supplements for children between 6 and 59 months of age offered at the CHR dietary service in
52 Daloa (Côte d'Ivoire).

53

54 MATERIAL AND METHODS

55 Plant Material

56 The plant material consists of millet, rice, maize, soy or peanut-enriched infant flour.

57 These flours were purchased from the Daloa CHR dietary service and kept in jars.

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61 **Technical equipment**

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63 The laboratory equipment consisted of a centrifuge (SIGMA-2-16P), beakers, graduated burettes,
64 a precision scale (Denver, model ABT 320 - 4M), an oven (Mettler, model, loading model
65 30-1060), porcelain capsules, a heating plate, a muffle oven (VELP Scientifica, Spain),
66 graduated test tubes, matras, jars with lid, pipettes, a pH meter (pHs -36w Micro Processor
67 Ph/mv/ Temperature METER, Belgium), aluminium crucibles; a water bath (Fisher Scientific
68 model TW 8), a Soxhlet (Unid Tecator, System HT2 1045, Sweden), an atomic absorption
69 spectrophotometer (Zuzi: model 4211/50), and test tubes...

70 **Methods**

71 **Preparation of flours**

72 Three types of infant flours have been formulated. The different formulations are as follows:

73 FC1 = 25% Mil + 25% Rice + 25% Maize + 25% Peanut;
74 FC2 = 25% Mil+ 25% Rice + 25% Maize + 25% Soy;
75 FC3 = 35% Corn + 35% Rice + 5% Sugar + 25% Soy.

76 This information was given by the producers of these different flour formulations. The biochemical,
77 physico-chemical, functional and rheological analyses were carried out on these three formulations
78 with one sample per type of flour.

79



80

81 **Figure 2: Different flour formulations**

82 **Biochemical analyses of composite flours**

83 *Determination of dry matter content (A.O.A.C., 1990)*

84

85 A quantity of 0,5 g of sample was placed in a perfectly dry M0 aluminium crucible. This crucible
86 is then placed in an oven (MEMMERT 854 SCHWABACH, Germany) at 105°C for 24 hours.
87 After cooling, the sample is weighed. The dry matter content (MS) is given by the following
88 expression :

89

$$\% \text{ MS} = \frac{M_2 - M_0}{M_1 - M_0} \times 100$$

90 % MS: percentage dry matter
91 M0: Empty crucible mass
92 M1: Empty crucible mass + fresh sample
93 M2: Empty crucible mass + dried sample
94

95 ***Determination of protein content (Kjeldahl, 1883)***

96 Total nitrogen was determined using the Kjeldahl method after sulphuric mineralization in the
97 presence of selenium catalysts. The nitrogen content was multiplied by 6.25 (nitrogen-to-protein
98 conversion coefficient) and divided by the dry matter content.

99 ***Determination of ash content (AOAC, 1990)***

100 Ash is the total amount of mineral material obtained after samples are incinerated at 550°C for 8
101 hours. 1 g of sample is placed in a M0 porcelain crucible. The set is placed in the muffle oven at
102 550 °C for 8 hours. The sample is then removed from the oven and weighed after cooling.

103 ***Determination of lipid content (AACC, 1984)***

104 The extraction was made by hexane in a Soxhlet type extractor (Unid Tecator, System HT2 1045,
105 Sweden). After evaporation of the solvent and drying of the capsule in the oven at 105°C for 30
106 minutes; the difference in weight gave the lipid content of the sample.

107 ***Determination of fibre content (AOAC, 1990)***

108 The raw fibre content of the samples was determined using the AOAC method. This method
109 consists of treating the sample at boiling with concentrated sulphuric acid and then with soda.
110 The residue obtained is dried, burned and weighed.

111 ***Determination of carbohydrate content***

112 The carbohydrate content (expressed as % of the dry matter) was estimated using the formula
113 presented below (WHO/FAO/UNU, 1986).

114
$$\% G = 100 - (\% \text{ Protéines} + \% \text{ Lipides} + \% \text{ Cendres} + \% \text{ Fibres})$$

115

116 ***Determination of energy value***

117 The energy value was calculated using the specific coefficients of Atwater (1986) for
118 proteins, lipids and carbohydrates.

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120 **Physico-chemical analyses of compound flours**

121 ***Determination of minerals (Fe, Ca, and Zn)***

122 The method used is that proposed by Pauwels *et al.* (1992). For extraction, 1 g of sample
123 is calcined until complete mineralization at 525°C. All ash is transferred by 10 ml of
124 HNO₃ (1 N) into a 100 ml beaker. The mixture is digested in a soft boil on a hot plate
125 for 30 min. The mixture is then filtered in a 50 ml flask and, after cooling, the distilled
126 water is filled up to the mark. This extract is used to measure the different minerals using
127 an atomic absorption spectrophotometer (UNICAM 929 A Spectrometer) according to
128 the following wavelengths: 248.3 nm (Fe); 422.7 nm (Ca), 213.9 nm (Zn).

129 ***Determination of acidity (Soro et al., 2013)***

130 The titrable acidity was determined by titrimetric assay. The assay consisted of determining the
131 total natural acid content of the product. At ten millilitres (10 mL) of the previously obtained
132 supernatant were added 2 drops of a coloured indicator (phenolphthalein). The mixture was dosed
133 with 0.1 N sodium hydroxide solution until the light pink turn. Acidity expressed in
134 milliequivalents per 100 g of sample (mesh/100g) was calculated: Acidity (mesh/100g) = $(N_1 \times$
135 $105) / m$; With $N_1 = (N_2 \times V_2) / V_1$; V_1 = Volume of the solution taken;
136 V_2 = volume of soda (NaOH) poured; N_1 = normality of the solution taken;
137 N_2 = soda normality (0.1 N); m = sample mass (in grams).

138 ***Determination of pH***

139 The pH was measured using the AOAC method (1990). 10 g of the sample was weighed in a
140 beaker and 20 ml of distilled water was added. The assembly was homogenized and 10 ml of the
141 supernatant was removed and the pH was measured by dipping the electrode into the 10 ml
142 sample and the pH value was read on the pH meter screen.

143 ***Rheological properties and in vitro digestibility of compound flours Swelling and Solubility***

144 Swelling and solubility tests were performed using Leach *et al.* (1959) method. A solution of 10
145 ml to 1% (w/v) of dry flour is prepared and put in a double boiler at various temperatures (50°C
146 to 95°C) at intervals of 5°C under maximum agitation for 30 min. After cooling at room

147 temperature, the gel is centrifuged at 4000 revolutions/min for 19 min. The two separate phases
148 of the gel (pellet and supernatant) were immediately poured into known crucibles and placed in
149 the oven (MEMMERT 854 SCHWABACH) at 120 °C for 4 hours. After cooling in a desiccator,
150 the mass of the dried material is determined.

151 **In vitro digestibility**

152 The reaction medium consists of 100 µl of acetate buffer (100 mM, pH 5), 20 µl of amylase and
153 80 µl of flour gel (1%). The medium is incubated in a 37° C bain marie over a period of 160
154 min. The sugars released are quantified by the Bernfeld method (1955) using DNS.

155 **Functional properties of compound flours**

156 ***Water Absorption Capacity (Sosulski 1962)***

157 3 g of sample is dispersed in 25 ml of distilled water and placed in pre-weighed centrifuge
158 tubes. Dispersions were occasionally agitated by hand for 30 min, then centrifuged at 3000 rpm
159 for 25 min. Excess moisture is removed by flow at 50°C for 25 min, and the sample is repelled.

160 ***Oil Absorption Capacity (Lin et al., 1974)***

161 0,5 g of each sample was mixed with 6 ml of soybean oil in pre-weighed centrifuge tubes. After a
162 hand shaking time of 30 min, the mixtures are centrifuged to 3000 rpm for 25 min. The decanted
163 oil was then removed with a pipette and the tubes were spilled for 25 min to drain the remaining
164 oil, then repelled.

165

166 **RESULTS**

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168 **Analysis of the compound flours**

169 ***Biochemical characteristics***

170 The biochemical analyses showed that the formulated flours (FC1, FC2 and FC3) have
171 dry matter of 92.00 0.01 %, 93.00 0.10% and 93.00 0.04%. The ash proportions of these
172 flour formulations were 1.16 0.15%, 1.51 0.51% and 1.71 0.57% respectively for FC1,
173 FC2 and FC3. However, the one-factor variance analysis did not reveal a significant
174 difference between the average dry matter values and the ash content of the three flour
175 formulations at the 5% threshold. Protein levels in flour increased with the percentage of
176 soybeans in the flour. Thus, 8.69 0.11% for FC1, 17.50 0.56% for FC2 and 17.12 0.19%
177 for FC3. The FC1 formulation had a significantly low protein content compared to the
178 FC2 and FC3 formulations. The lipid content gradually varied according to the rate of
179 intake of soybeans and peanuts. Values were 10.47 2.49% for FC1, 8.73 4.23% for FC2,
180 and 8.03 1.02% for FC3, respectively. However, the one-factor variance analysis did not
181 reveal a significant difference ($P < 0.05$) between the different flour formulations. The
182 carbohydrate content varied according to the rate of intake of soybeans and peanuts.
183 Formulation FC1 had the highest content (75.32 3.16%) of flour. The proportions of
184 carbohydrates FC2 (66.48 3.41%), FC3 (67.74 1.37%) are not significantly different
185 ($P > 0.05$). The fibre content of the FC1, FC2 and FC3 flour formulations was 2.83 0.14%,
186 4.04 0.05% and 5.40 0.30%, respectively. The one-factor variance analysis revealed a
187 significant difference ($P < 0.05$) between different flour formulations. The calorific energy
188 was very high in the different flours. There were 445.50 16.78 kcal/100 g for FC1,
189 430.15 11.14 kcal/100 g for FC2 and 411.69 4.71 kcal/100 g for FC3. The one-factor
190 variance analysis showed a significant difference at the 5% threshold between the
191 different flour formulations.

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Parameters	FC1	FC2	FC3
Dry matter (%)	92,00± 0,01 ^a	93,00 ± 0,10 ^a	93,00 ± 0,04 ^a
protein (%)	8,69 ± 0,11 ^a	17,50 ± 0,56 ^b	17,12 ± 0,19 ^b
Lipid (%)	8,73 ± 0,423 ^a	10,47± 2,49 ^a	8,03 ± 1,02 ^a
Ash (%)	1,16 ± 0,15 ^a	1,51± 0,51 ^a	1,71 ± 0,57 ^a
Fiber (%)	2,83 ± 0,14 ^a	4,05 ± 0,05 ^b	5,40 ± 0,30 ^c
Carbohydrate (%)	75,32± 3,16 ^b	66,48 ± 3,41 ^a	67,74 ± 1,37 ^a
Energy value (kcal/100g)	445,50 ± 16,78 ^b	430,15± 11,14 ^{ab}	411,69 ± 4,71 ^a

198 *The values are the average standard deviation of three measurements (n = 3). The same index letter in the same line*
 199 *indicates that there is no significant difference between the samples for the parameter concerned (P0,05). FC1 =*
 200 *Compound Flour 1, FC2 = Compound Flour 2 and FC3 = Compound Flour 3.*

201 **Caractéristiques physico-chimiques**

202 The different flours had a high starch content. The values were 73.77 0.45%, 51.92 1.56% and
 203 69.40 0.85% respectively for flour FC1, FC2 and FC3. These values differ significantly (P<0.05)
 204 from one flour to another. Thus, FC1 contained much more starch than the other two flours. The
 205 total sugar content was significantly lower in the composite flours. It was 2.39 0.05% for FC1,
 206 3.55 0.23% for FC2 and 3.18 0.26% for FC3. The one-factor variance analysis revealed a
 207 significant difference (P0.05) between the three flour formulations. Also, the different flours had
 208 significantly different reducing sugar content (P<0.05). In addition, the flour formulations had
 209 low reducing sugars of 0.87 0.04 g/L for FC1, 1.98 0.13 g/L for FC2, and flour FC3 with 2,20
 210 0.12 g/L. The titrable acidity of flour varied with the rate of intake of soybeans and peanuts. It
 211 ranged from 2.50 0.50 meq/100g of flour, for the FC1 formulation, 5.50 0.50 mg/100 g of flour,
 212 for the FC2 formulation, to 3.50 0.50 mg/100g of flour, for the FC3 formulation. There is a
 213 significant difference between the titrable acidities of these flours. For the three meal
 214 formulations, it appears that the FC2 formulation had the highest mean value, followed by FC3
 215 and FC1 formulations. The respective values were 6.43 0.01, 6.33 0.01 and 6.21 0.01.
 216 Alternatively, the different formulations were rich in calcium and zinc with levels of 645.09 0.19
 217 mg/kg (FC1), 679.73 0.54 mg/kg (FC2) and 626.05 0.96 mg/kg (FC3) for calcium, 5.34 0.01
 218 mg/kg (FC1), 5.74 0.01 mg/kg (FC2) and 6.28 0.00 mg/kg (F3) for zinc. For iron, the levels

219 varied according to the formulations and are 7.50 0.01 mg/kg (FC1), 5.99 0.02 mg/kg (FC2) and
 220 6.43 0.03 mg/kg (FC3). Duncan's POSTHOC test revealed a significant difference in the iron
 221 content of these formulations.

222 **Table II: Physico-chemical characteristics of flour**

Parameters	FC1	FC2	FC3
Starch (%)	73,77 ± 0,45 ^a	51,92 ± 1,56 ^b	69,40 ± 0,85 ^c
Total sugar (%)	2,39 ± 0,05 ^a	3,55 ± 0,23 ^b	3,18 ± 0,26 ^b
Reducing sugar (g/l)	0,87 ± 0,04 ^a	1,98 ± 0,13 ^b	2,20 ± 0,12 ^c
Acidity méqg/100gMS	2,50 ± 0,50 ^a	5,50 ± 0,50 ^c	3,50 ± 0,50 ^b
Ph	6,21 ± 0,01 ^a	6,43 ± 0,01 ^c	6,33 ± 0,01 ^b
Calcium (mg/kg) > 125mg/kg	645,09 ± 0,19 ^b	679,73 ± 0,54 ^c	626,05 ± 0,96 ^a
Iron (mg/kg) > 4mg/kg	7,50 ± 0,01 ^c	5,99 ± 0,02 ^a	6,43 ± 0,03 ^b
Zinc (mg/kg) > 0,8mg/kg	5,34 ± 0,01 ^a	5,76 ± 0,01 ^b	6,28 ± 0,00 ^c

223 *The values are the average standard deviation of three measurements (n = 3). The same index*
 224 *letter in the same line indicates that there is no significant difference between the samples for the*
 225 *parameter concerned (P0,05). FC1 = Compound Flour 1, FC2 = Compound Flour 2 and FC3 =*
 226 *Compound Flour 3*

227 **Functional properties**

228 Flour FC1 has a water absorption capacity (EAC) of 119.33 5.69% and an oil absorption capacity
 229 (ACH) of 89.33 10.07%. Flour FC2 has a EAC of 132.00 3.60% and an ACH of 84.67 3.05%.
 230 Flour FC3 has a CAE of 118.67 4.04% and a CAH of 86.00 8.00%. There is no significant
 231 difference in oil absorption capacity as opposed to water absorption capacity (P5%). In terms of
 232 foaming capacity, flour FC3 with 2.09 0.01% had the lowest value than flour FC2 (8.49 0.01%)
 233 and FC1 (6.06 0.06%). These different foams are not stable. The different flours had emulsifying
 234 activities of 33.93 0.10% for FC1, 36.36 0.09% for FC2, and FC3 flour with 35.09 0.20%. These
 235 values are significantly different at the 5% threshold by Duncan's POSTHOC test.

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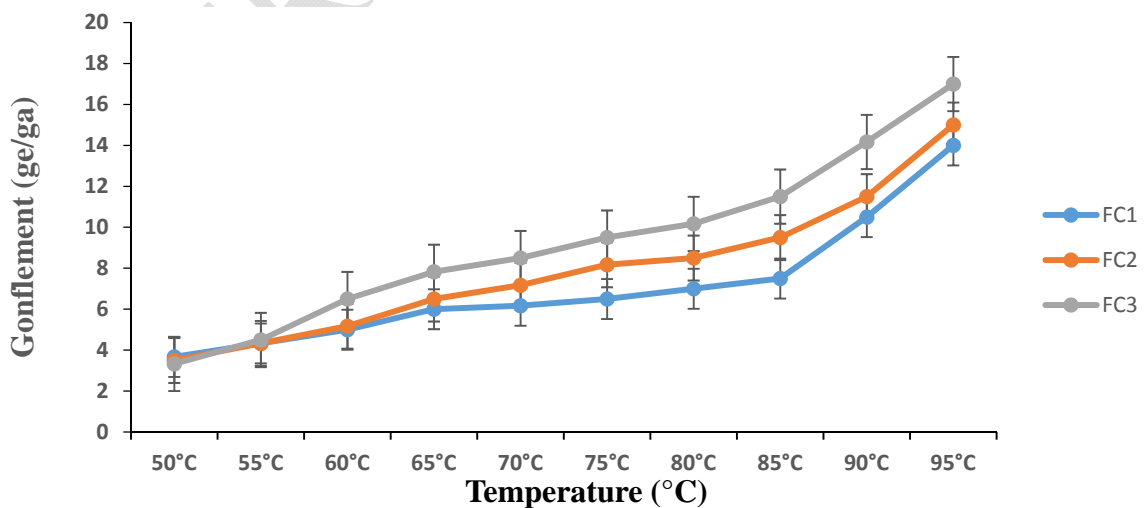
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241 **Table III: Functional properties of flour**

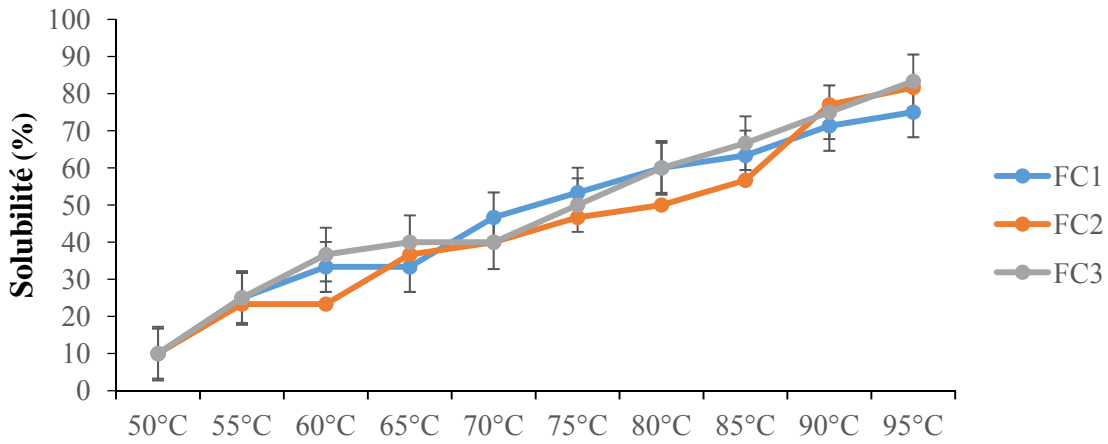
Parameters	FC1	FC2	FC3
Water Absorption Capacity (%)	119,33 ± 5,69 ^a	132.00±3,60 ^b	118,67 ± 4,04 ^a
Oil absorption capacity (%)	89,33 ± 10,07 ^a	84,67 ± 3,05 ^a	86,00 ± 8,00 ^a
Foaming capacity (%)	6,06 ± 0,06 ^b	8,49 ± 0,01 ^c	2,09± 0,01 ^a
Stability of foam (%)	0	0	0
Emulsifying activity (%)	33,93 ± 0,10 ^a	36,36 ± 0,09 ^c	35,09 ± 0,20 ^b

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 243 **Rheological properties and in vitro digestibility of flour**
 244 Inflation values ranged from 3.67 to 14.00 g/g for FC1, 3.50 to 15.00 g/g for FC2, and 3.33 to
 245 17.00 g/g for FC3. Flour swelling progresses from 50°C to 85°C. From 85°C, the swelling of the
 246 flour became greater up to 95°C. The percentages of solubility of the different flours also
 247 increased with temperature. Values ranged from 10% to 75% FC1, from 10% to 81.67% for FC2
 248 and from 10% to 83.33% for FC3 flour. The percentage solubility varied progressively between
 249 55°C and 65°C. Starting at 70°C, the solubility of flour becomes more important. In addition,
 250 digestibility increased over time and then stabilized after 105 min. It is higher for flour FC1 (0 -
 251 130%) and lower for flour FC3 (0 - 80%).



253 **Figure 1: Evolution of flour swelling as a function of temperature**

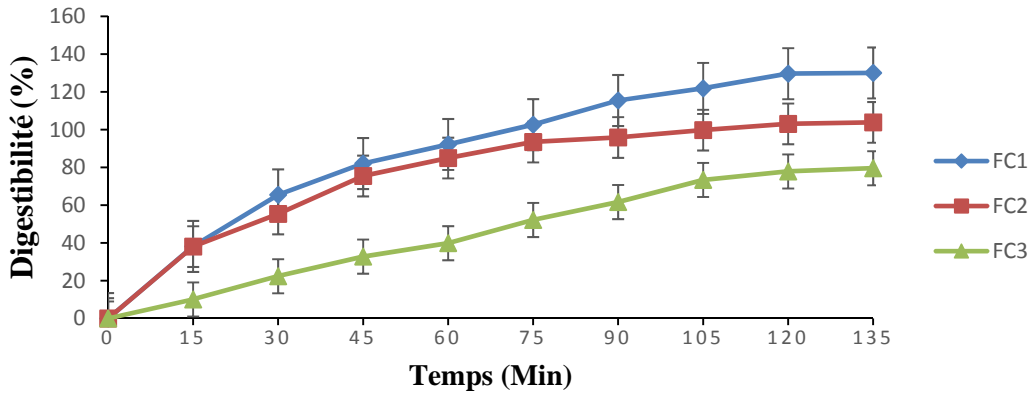
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Figure 2: Temperature-dependent solubility of flour



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Figure 3: Evolution of in vitro digestibility of flour over time

270 **DISCUSSION**

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272 **Analysis of composite flours**

273 ***Biochemical characteristics***

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275 To remedy this nutritional situation, several formulations of infant flour are offered to mothers in
276 health centres. Three samples of these flours were collected to assess their nutritional
277 values. Biochemical analyses showed that all flour produced from the different formulations had
278 high dry matter contents (92.00 0.01% FC1, 93.00 0.10% FC2 and 93.00 0.04% FC3) and low
279 humidity. According to Soro *et al.* (2013), a low moisture content (7-8%) of less than 12% would
280 allow better preservation of flour. Protein content is important in flour formulations FC2 and FC3
281 in relation to flour formulation FC1. This could be explained by the presence of soybeans in these
282 two formulations. The protein levels of the FC2 and FC3 formulations are higher than those of
283 Viviane *et al.* (2011) for their formulations of Attiéké + soybeans and cassava + soybeans. In
284 addition, these values are substantially identical to those of 16.99 0.41 and 21.88 1.09% recorded
285 in formulations of soy-fortified yam flour (Soro *et al.*, 2013). The lipid levels determined in the
286 different flours (10.47 2.49% FC1, 8.73 4.23% FC2, and 8.03 1.02% FC3) were lower than those
287 found by some authors in the formulation of their respective flours. For example, Viviane *et al.*
288 (2011) reported 10% lipid. The variation in carbohydrate content in flour is due to the amount of
289 peanut in flour. For example, flour FC1 has the highest carbohydrate content (75.32 3.16%).
290 These values are higher than those obtained by François *et al.* (2007) who reported 61 2%
291 carbohydrate in MISOLA flour. A 63 3% carbohydrate content was reported in BAMISA flour,
292 composed of small millet + soy + peanut (). In addition, the various flours contained very low
293 ash values (1.16 0.15% FC1, 1.51 0.51% FC2 and 1.71 0.57% FC3). These levels are lower than
294 the 2% obtained by Viviane *et al.* (2011). However, they are close to the 1.88 0.06% reported by
295 Soro *et al.* (2013). The average fibre content values of the FC1, FC2 and FC3 flour formulations
296 are relatively low (2.83 0.14% FC1, 4.04 0.05% FC2 and 5.40 0.30% FC3). Dietary fibre is a
297 residue of non-digible carbohydrates that is essential for proper intestinal transit (De Vries *et al.*,
298 1999; Gaëtan *et al.*, 2000). The flour obtained all have high energy values (448.50 16.78 kcal/100
299 g FC1, 430.15 11.14 kcal/100g FC2 and 411.69 4.71 kcal/100g FC3), higher than WHO
300 recommendations (400 Kcal/100g) according to Mouquet-Rivier (2006).

301 ***Physical-chemical characteristics***

302 All the flours produced from the different formulations have high starch contents. Starch is the
303 major part of cereals and accounts for 70-85% of the weight of the dry matter (Redhead, 1990).
304 The quantities of starch are significantly lower in the FC2 and FC3 formulations than in the FC1
305 formulation. This could be due to the presence of peanuts in the FC1 formulation. In addition, the
306 total sugar content is low and close to the values (2.97 and 5.55%) obtained by Mezajoug *et al.*
307 (2010) in cake.

308 Flours have small amounts of reducing sugars. In addition, the results show high levels of
309 minerals in flour formulations. These levels are higher than Soro *et al.* (2013), obtained in its
310 different yam and soy formulations. In addition, the levels of calcium, iron and zinc in these
311 flours comply with WHO recommended standards for calcium (>125 mg/kg), iron (>4 mg/kg)
312 and zinc (>0.8 mg/kg) (Soro *et al.*, 2013).

313 ***Functional properties***

314 Regarding the functional properties of flour, the FC2 is richer in protein with the highest water
315 absorption capacity. Sefa-Dedeh and Afoakwa (2001) indicated that the water absorption
316 capacity of the product increases with the protein content of the flour. According to Kinsella
317 (1976), residues of polar amino acids from proteins have an affinity for water molecules (Okezie
318 *et al.*, 1988). For the foaming capacity and stability of the foam, the results showed that the flours
319 formed less foams and the foams from the flours were not stable. This could be explained by the
320 denaturation of proteins during technological operations. In fact, native proteins give a high
321 stability of the foam than denatured proteins (Lin *et al.*, 1974). But also, the low foaming
322 capacity of some flours and its absence for others could influence this stability. As for the
323 emulsifying capacity, the values are high. These values are lower than the values (63-87%) found
324 in the protein aces of Mezajoug *et al.* (2010).

325 ***Propriétés rhéologiques et digestibilité in vitro des farines.***

326 The swelling of the different flour formulations changes with temperature. The behaviour of
327 starch in water depends on temperature and concentration (Leach *et al.*, 1959). In general, it
328 absorbs very little water at room temperature, hence its low inflating power. This absorption
329 increases with temperature. This would explain the increase in the inflating power of the different
330 flours with temperature. The solubility of flour also increases with temperature. Starch, with a
331 crystalline structure is insoluble in cold water. During gelatinization, between 60-65°C, there is a
332 destruction of the crystalline structure and a beginning of swelling. The swelling continues with
333 the increase in temperature until the granules burst, releasing their contents, a part of which is
334 solubilized (doublier, 2009). A high temperature thus distorts the starch granules of the flour by
335 improving solubility. In addition, solubility could involve the amount of amyloidosis (soluble
336 starch fraction) released from starch pellets during bulging. Therefore, the increase in solubility
337 could be explained by an increase in released amyloidosis (Hathaichanock & Masubon, 2007).

338 The different flours formulated are suitable to be used as a supplement to breast milk because
339 they contain nutrients that can cover the needs of children from 6 to 59 months. These flours can
340 be used as infant flours since they are digestible with a high and very soluble starch swelling
341 power.
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344 CONCLUSION

345 The biochemical, physico-chemical, functional and rheological analyses of compound meal
346 formulations have yielded important results to combat the scourge of child malnutrition. The
347 proposed flour formulations have high nutritional values. The protein content of the compound
348 flours increases in proportion to the amount of soybeans incorporated. For formulations FC2 and
349 FC3, these levels are 17.12 0.19 g / 100 g (FC3) and 17.50 0.56 g / 100 g (FC2) with a 25%
350 intake rate of soybeans. In addition, the formula of FC1 flour enriched with peanuts is low in
351 protein with a value of 8.69 0.11 g / 100 g. These flours also had mineral contents in accordance
352 with WHO calcium standards (>125 mg/kg).iron (> 4 mg/kg) and zinc (> 0.8 mg/kg). In addition
353 these formulations are highly digestible. However, these flours must be supplemented with local,
354 vitamin-rich fruits and vegetables.This study should start with a survey to assess the prevalence
355 of micronutrient deficiencies in the Daloa region to better understand the problem of
356 malnutrition.

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