

**FORMULATION OF A PRECOOKED BABY CEREAL MIXTURE  
OF BALANCED NUTRITIVE QUALITY FROM SOYA AND RICE**

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Protein-energy malnutrition in infants and young children is a serious problem in all developing countries including Sri Lanka. This is mainly attributed to the poor economic conditions prevailing in the country. Hence the need for precooked inexpensive baby cereal mixtures of balanced nutritive quality is strongly felt.

A baby cereal mixture has been formulated using soyabean and rice as the basic raw materials.

Different trials were done with varying proportions of soya and rice in order to get at the mixture which gives the best nutritive value. Different processing methods were tried such as air drying, drum drying and spray drying. The method of drum drying was preferred to the other methods as the product obtained has a good appearance, reconstitution, long shelf life and satisfactory microbiological values. The chemical composition and nutritive values of the product are presented.