

Production of dehydrated scraped coconut and spray dried milk powder

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The proximate composition of dehydrated scraped coconut, partially defatted scraped coconut and coconut milk powder was determined and compared with fresh scraped coconut. The sensory properties of dehydrated and partially defatted scraped coconut were evaluated (5 points Hedonic scale) using coconut *sambol* and coconut milk curry (*kiri hodi*) and compared the products prepared with fresh scraped coconut and dehydrated scraped coconut at 110 °C. Free Fatty Acid (FFA) value, color, moisture content and microbial count of the dehydrated scraped coconut and coconut milk powder, packaged in polythene and triple laminated pouches were studied during the storage for 8 weeks.

The results revealed that the composition of dehydrated scraped coconut was similar to the fresh scraped coconut. Spray dried milk powder produced from partially defatted scraped coconut reported low fat content (36%) and high protein content (20%) compared to the commercial product (fat 64.8% and protein 6.8%). Sensory properties (color, odor, texture, taste, appearance, and overall acceptability) were not significantly different between low temperature dehydrated (60 °C) scraped coconut and fresh scraped coconut ($p \leq 0.05$). There was a significant difference between the products produced from low temperature dehydrated (60 °C) and high temperature dehydrated (110 °C) scraped coconut. Color, FFA value (0.135) and moisture content (4.15%) of dehydrated coconut were not significantly different during the storage. FFA value of white coconut oil was 0.16 - 0.17% and peroxide value was 3.6 meq/kg. Scraped coconut dehydrated at 60 °C and packed in triple laminated pouches was acceptable for consumption for 8 weeks and the sensory properties were similar to the product prepared from fresh scraped coconut.