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Effect of Hydrogen Peroxide on Volatile Sulfur Compounds in UHT Milk

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Outline

- * **Introduction**
- * **Objectives**
- * **Analysis**
- * **Results & Discussion**
- * **Conclusion**

Introduction

- * **Cooked flavour in UHT milk is linked to the volatile sulfur compounds (VSCs), denatured β -lactoglobulin (β -Lg)**
- * **VSCs (DMS, DMDS, CS_2 , MeSH, COS, H_2S , DMTS, DMSO, Me_2SO_2)**
- * **This off-flavour limits the acceptance of UHT milk**
- * **Several additives tested (e.g copper, calcium chloride, disodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium iodate/bromate)**
- * **Not approved by food regulatory agencies in many countries**
- * **May impart undesirable flavours to milk**

Introduction

- * **Why Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) ?**
- * **H₂O₂ is an effective milk preservative on its own & in combination with heat (McDoneell *et al.* 2006)**
- * **H₂O₂ is a component of LP-system**
- * **Addition of H₂O₂ to raw milk, approved by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 1991 (FAO/WHO 1991)**

Introduction

- * **In the USA, H₂O₂, (GRAS).**
- * **It can be added to;**
 - **milk (at 0.05%) to make certain types of cheese,**
 - **whey (at 0.04%) & starch (at 0.15%),**
 - **wine and instant tea (Sofos and Busta 1999)**
- * **FAO permits the addition of H₂O₂ to milk at 0.05%-0.25% (500-2500mg/L)**
 - **all the H₂O₂ remaining in the milk after processing must be converted by catalase into oxygen and water (Tarhan 1995).**

Introduction

- * **In Australia;**
 - H₂O₂ is an approved processing aid in food with a maximum permitted residue level of 0.005% (**50 mg/L**) in the final food (FSANZ 2006).
- * H₂O₂, sterilizing food packaging materials including UHT milk packages.
- * FDA, limits H₂O₂ residues to 0.00005% (**0.5 mg/L**) in the finished food package (CFR 2003).

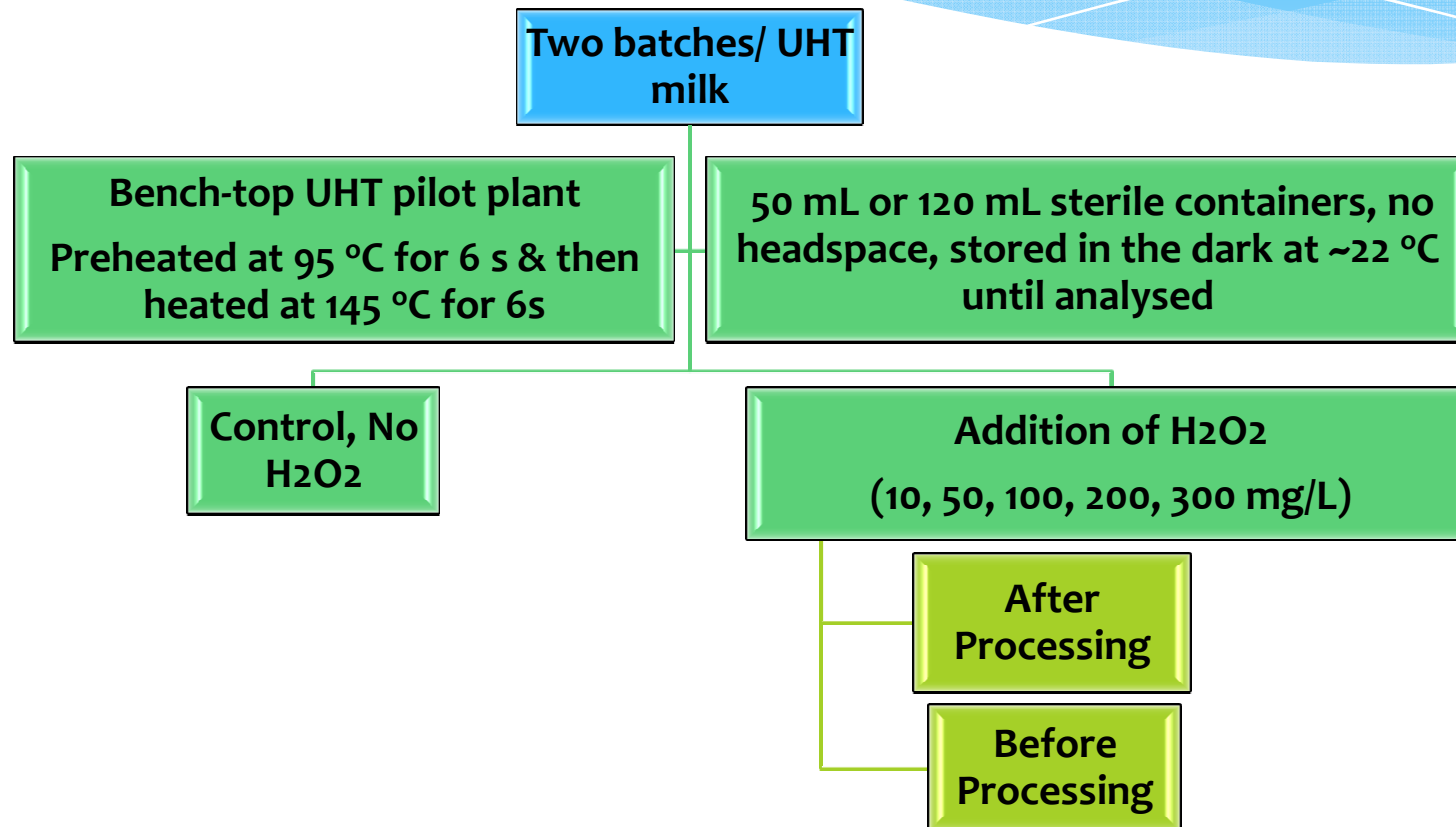
Objectives

- * **Aims/study;**
 - the effectiveness of using H₂O₂ (10, 50, 100, 200, 300 mg/L) in reducing the levels of VSCs in UHT milk,
 - Its effect on β - lactoglobulin denaturation in UHT and batch-heated milk

Analysis

A. Effect of H₂O₂ on Sulfur Volatiles

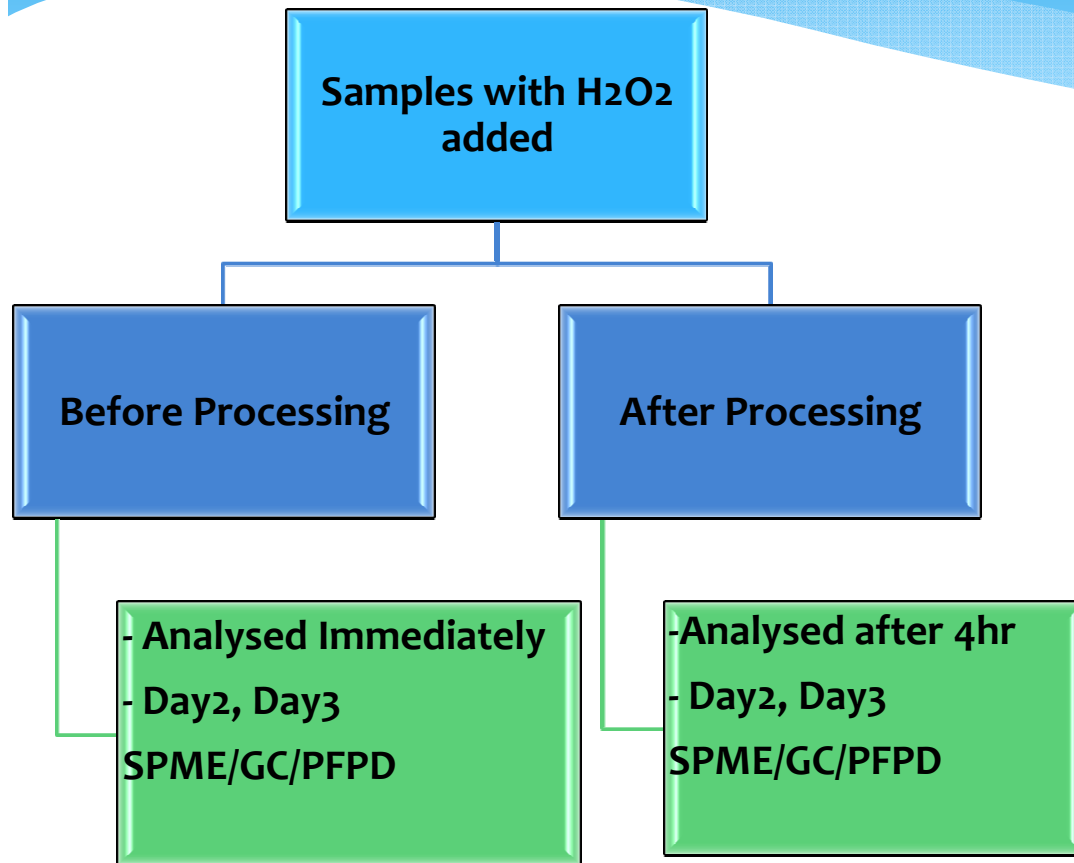
Milk sample preparation and H₂O₂ addition



Bench-top UHT pilot plant



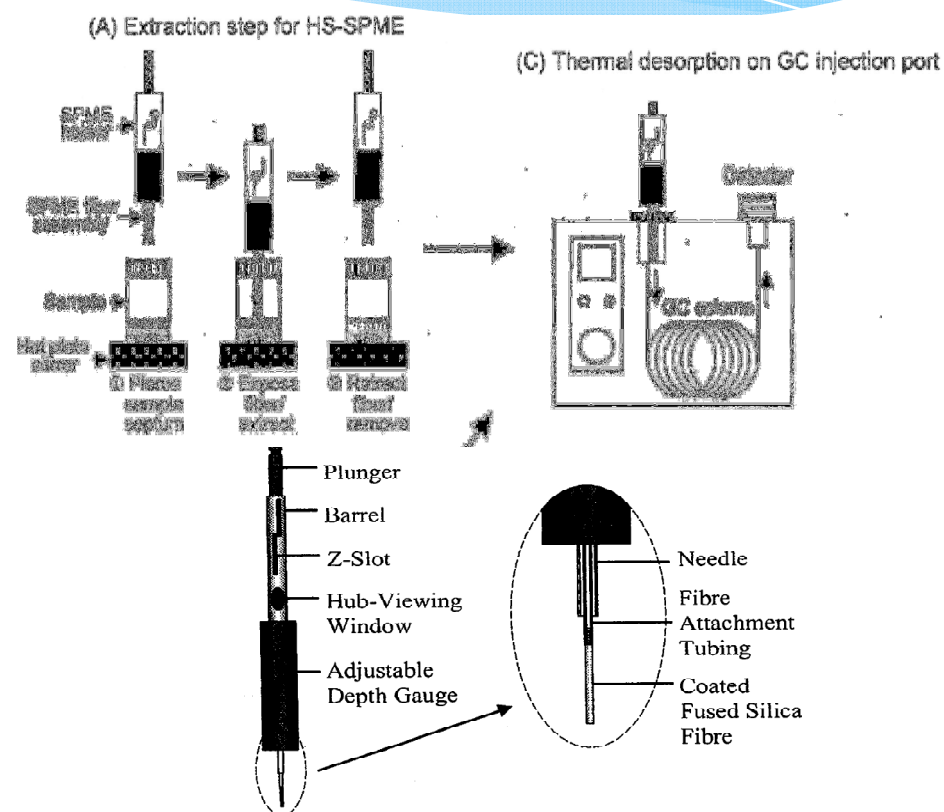
A. Effect of H₂O₂ on Sulfur Volatiles



- * H₂O₂ residues measured semi-quantitatively at RT for up to one week after processing using Merckoquant® 126 Peroxide strips (Merck, Australia).
- * The colour chart referred to concentration ranges of 1-3-10-30-100 mg.L⁻¹

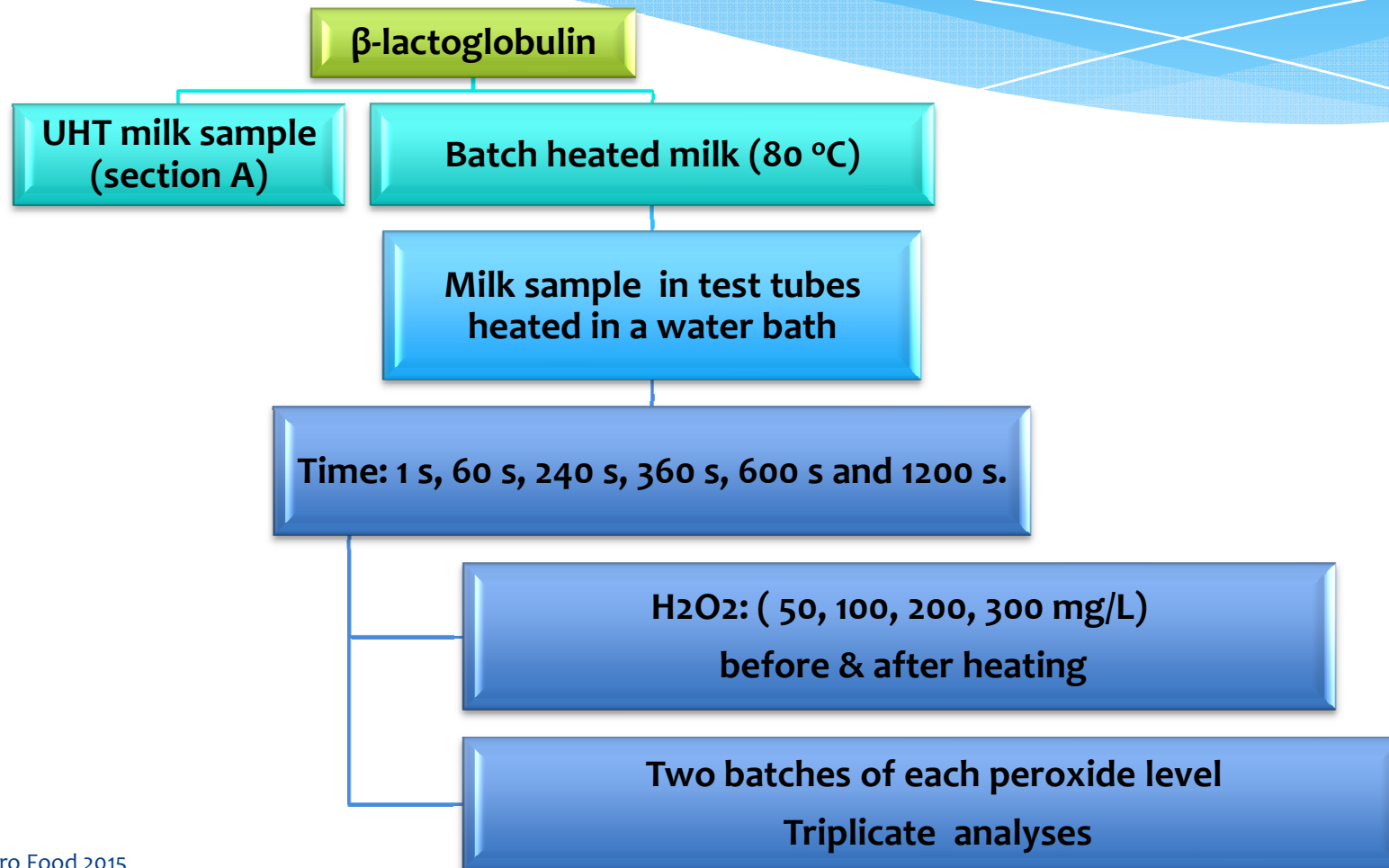
Analysis For Volatile sulfur compounds

- * SPME/GC/PFPD
- * GC: Varian CP-3800
- * **Sample:** 5 mL, 10 mL screw-top vial, fitted with a PTFE-faced silicone septum.
- * **Fiber:** CAR-PDMS, 85 μm (Supelco, Australia)
- * **Extraction time & temperature:** 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ /15 min.
- * Triplicate analyses



Analysis

B. Effect of H₂O₂ on β -lactoglobulin using UHT & Batch-heated Milk



Analysis For β -lactoglobulin Denaturation

- analysis was performed according to **Elliott et al. (2005)**
- Sample (1ml)
- Eppendorf tube

- 30 μ L of acetic acid (33%) added
- stand for 10 min
- 30 μ L of 3.3 M sodium acetate
- centrifuged for 20 min at 4500 rpm
- supernatant removed carefully and filtered through a 0.22 μ m Millex filter (Millipore Corporation, Bedford, USA).

- **Shimadzu HPLC system with a SPD M10AV UV/Vis detector** operated at 205 nm.
- standard of β -lactoglobulin
- **Triplicate analyses**

Results & discussion

A. The effects of H₂O₂ addition on volatile sulfur compounds

Table 1. Volatile sulfur compounds ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in UHT milk, with H_2O_2 added before and after processing, during 3-d storage

a. H_2S ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)

| H_2O_2 (mg L^{-1}) | H_2O_2 added before processing | | | H_2O_2 added after processing | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|---|------------|-----------|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | 14.73±3.68 | 0.89±0.09 | 0.70±0.09 | 14.7±3.68 | 0.89±0.09 | 0.70±0.09 |
| 10 | 4.06±2.02 | 0.68±0.12 | | 0.70±0.09 | 0.59 ±0.00 | |
| 50 | | | | | | |
| 100 | | | | | | |
| 200 | | | | | | |
| 300 | | | | | | |

- ✓ Day1, **completely oxidized** when added either before or after processing, at all concentrations except 10 mg/L H_2O_2 (Conc. below its threshold value **(10 $\mu\text{g/L}$)**).
- ✓ **H_2O_2 was more efficient in oxidizing H_2S when added at 10 mg/L after processing**

b. COS (mg L⁻¹)

| H ₂ O ₂ (mg L ⁻¹) | H ₂ O ₂ added before processing | | | H ₂ O ₂ added after processing | | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | 1.07±0.27 | 0.25±0.01 | 0.11±0.00 | 1.07±0.27 | 0.25±0.01 | 0.11±0.00 |
| 10 | 0.37±0.16 | 0.26±0.15 | 0.08±0.02 | 0.28±0.13 | 0.12±0.05 | 0.07±0.01 |
| 50 | | | | 0.09±0.01 | | |
| 100 | | | | 0.05±0.01 | | |
| 200 | | | | | | |
| 300 | | | | | | |

- Completely oxidized when it was added before processing at all concentrations, except for 10 mg/L H₂O₂ (**Day1**).
- After processing, COS decreased from 0.28 mg/L at 10 mg/L H₂O₂ to 0.05 mg/L at the 100 mg/L H₂O₂
- The addition of 50 mg/L and 100 mg/L H₂O₂ caused the complete disappearance of COS by **day2** when added after processing.

c. MeSH ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)

| H_2O_2 (mg L^{-1}) | H_2O_2 added before processing | | | H_2O_2 added after processing | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | 2.33±0.04 | 0.97±0.05 | 0.51±0.00 | 2.33±0.04 | 0.97±0.05 | 0.51±0.00 |
| 10 | 1.47±0.12 | 0.62±0.08 | | 2.12±0.34 | 0.78±0.05 | |
| 50 | 1.47±0.20 | | | 0.90±0.01 | | |
| 100 | 1.17±0.17 | | | 0.53±0.04 | | |
| 200 | 0.23±0.05 | | | 0.25±0.07 | | |
| 300 | | | | | | |

- ❖ **Conc. higher than its threshold value in water ($0.2\mu\text{g/L}$)**
- * Undetectable at 300 mg/L H_2O_2 . **on day one**
- * **MeSH conc.** Gradually **↓** with **↑** H_2O_2 conc. added either before or after processing
- * Completely oxidized by day two for both additions (before or after), except in the 10 mg/L H_2O_2 samples where it disappeared by day three.
- * **The oxidation rate of MeSH was slightly higher when H_2O_2 was added after processing.**

d. DMS ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)

| H_2O_2 (mg L^{-1}) | H_2O_2 added before processing | | | H_2O_2 added after processing | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | 8.54±0.86 | 6.26±0.50 | 4.57±0.22 | 8.54±0.86 | 6.26±0.50 | 4.57±0.22 |
| 10 | 7.66±1.33 | 6.25±0.07 | 5.15±0.41 | 6.68±1.33 | 6.14±2.14 | 4.32±1.02 |
| 50 | 6.40±0.60 | 4.25±1.30 | 3.07±0.80 | 4.93±0.07 | 3.50±0.44 | 2.70±0.63 |
| 100 | 4.94±0.12 | 2.25±0.32 | 1.85±0.01 | 3.12±0.32 | 1.23±0.42 | 1.11±0.11 |
| 200 | 2.24±0.32 | 0.48±0.05 | 0.44±0.04 | 1.02±0.38 | | |
| 300 | 1.22±0.40 | | | 0.52±0.11 | | |

- * **DMS** conc. in control sample was 8.54 $\mu\text{g/L}$, < threshold values in milk, **20 $\mu\text{g/L}$** .
- * The DMS conc. gradually **decreased** as the H_2O_2 conc. increased, added either before or after
- * The conc. similar in the control sample and the samples with 10 mg/L peroxide even during storage **indicating limited oxidation of DMS at low H_2O_2 concentration**.
- * **The oxidation rate of DMS was slightly higher when H_2O_2 was added after processing.**

e. CS₂ (µg L⁻¹)

| H ₂ O ₂ (mg L ⁻¹) | H ₂ O ₂ added before processing | | | H ₂ O ₂ added after processing | | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | 3.29±0.95 | 1.96±0.40 | 1.91±0.23 | 3.29±0.95 | 1.96±0.40 | 1.91±0.23 |
| 10 | 3.25±0.69 | 4.22±1.62 | 3.0±0.55 | 2.53±0.49 | 2.11±0.34 | 1.69±0.35 |
| 50 | 1.04±0.20 | 0.81±0.20 | 0.62±0.20 | 2.09±0.01 | 1.43±0.30 | 1.18±0.25 |
| 100 | 0.61±0.15 | 0.46±0.11 | 0.23±0.03 | 1.96±0.13 | 1.44±0.15 | 1.35±0.08 |
| 200 | 0.38±0.04 | | | 1.95±0.16 | 1.36±0.14 | 1.23±0.06 |
| 300 | 0.32±0.00 | | | 1.87±0.03 | 1.33±0.24 | 1.1±0.14 |

- * The **CS₂** conc. control sample was 3.29 µg/L , < threshold values in milk 100-1000 µg/L
- * **H₂O₂ was more effective in oxidizing CS₂ when added before processing than after processing**
- * At the 200 mg/L & 300 mg/L H₂O₂ concentrations, CS₂ was undetectable on days two and three.

f. DMDS ($\mu\text{g g L}^{-1}$)

| H_2O_2 (mg L^{-1}) | H_2O_2 added before processing | | | H_2O_2 added after processing | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----|-----|
| | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d | 1 d | 2 d | 3 d |
| 0 | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | |
| 50 | | | | | | |
| 100 | 0.06±0.02 | 0.13±0.02 | 0.12±0.00 | | | |
| 200 | 0.16±0.02 | 0.18±0.01 | 0.18±0.01 | | | |
| 300 | 0.19±0.01 | 0.17±0.00 | 0.17±0.00 | | | |

- * **Not** detected in the control UHT milk
- * Produced when the H_2O_2 was added before processing at conc. of 100, 200 and 300 mg/L
- * Conc. below the threshold value in milk (**21 $\mu\text{g/L}$**)
- * **It is presumed that the DMDS was formed from MeSH through oxidation by H_2O_2 .**
- * No DMDS was generated when the peroxide was added after processing.

Table 3. H₂O₂ residues (mg L⁻¹) in UHT milk following addition before and after processing

| H ₂ O ₂ added (mg L ⁻¹) | H ₂ O ₂ added before heating, measured on | | | | | | H ₂ O ₂ added after heating, measured on | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 0 h | 1 d | 2d | 3 d | 4 d | 7 d | 4 h | 1 d | 2d | 3 d | 4 d | 7 d |
| 10 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 50 | 10 | 1 | | | | | 30 | 6 | 1 | | | |
| 100 | 40 | 4 | 1 | | | | 50 | 30 | 3 | 2 | | |
| 200 | 120 | 40 | 20 | 6 | 3 | | 150 | 40 | 30 | 30 | 20 | 9 |
| 300 | 150 | 60 | 40 | 30 | 60 | 30 | 210 | 150 | 100 | 90 | 90 | 90 |

- ✓ The residues detected when the H₂O₂ was added after processing were higher than when H₂O₂ addition was made before processing
- ✓ This can be attributed to the heat treatment, since H₂O₂ can be removed from milk by heating and prolonged storage (Mishra *et al.* 1985).

B. The effects of H₂O₂ on whey proteins

(A) UHT Milk

Table 4 Whey protein denaturation in UHT milk with and without H₂O₂ added before and after processing.

| Milk sample | β -lactoglobulin denaturation (%) | | α -lactoalbumin denaturation (%) | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| | H ₂ O ₂ added before | H ₂ O ₂ added after | H ₂ O ₂ added before | H ₂ O ₂ added after |
| UHT control | 95.9 | 95.9 | 78 | 78 |
| UHT + 10 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | 94.2 | 95 | 63 | 73 |
| UHT + 50 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | 99.3 | 97.8 | 78 | 83 |
| UHT + 100 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | 99.6 | 97.7 | 89 | 85 |
| UHT + 200 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | 99.5 | 98.1 | 100 | 96 |
| UHT + 300 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | 100 | 97.9 | 100 | 100 |

Overall, as for β -lactoglobulin, α -lactalbumin was denatured **more** when H₂O₂ was added **before** processing than when added after processing.

B. The effects of H₂O₂ on whey proteins

(B) Batch-Heated Milk

Table 5 β -Lactoglobulin denaturation (%) in batch-heated milk without and with H₂O₂ added before and after processing

| Processing Conditions | Control No H ₂ O ₂ | 50 mg/l H ₂ O ₂ | | 100 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | | 200 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | | 300 mg/L H ₂ O ₂ | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------|--|-------|--|-------|--|-------|
| | | Before | After | Before | After | Before | After | Before | After |
| 80 °C, 1 s | 40 | 30 | 40 | 55 | 32 | 58 | 41 | 70 | 45 |
| 80 °C, 60 s | 49 | 42 | 47 | 62 | 43 | 65 | 46 | 73 | 53 |
| 80 °C, 240 s | 69 | 63 | 70 | 72 | 70 | 80 | 72 | 87 | 73 |
| 80 °C, 360 s | 79 | 72 | 77 | 80 | 77 | 88 | 80 | 94 | 83 |
| 80 °C, 600 s | 89 | 84 | 90 | 88 | 91 | 89 | 90 | 97 | 92 |
| 80 °C, 1200 s | 98 | 96 | 97 | 96 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 99 | 98 |

The addition of H₂O₂ after heating caused less denaturation at the shorter holding times (i.e. 1 s & 60 s) than addition before heating except at 50 mg/L H₂O₂ where it had minimal effect at all holding times as well as less denaturation compared to the control

Conclusion

- * **Low concentrations of H₂O₂ (10 mg/L or 50mg/L) were sufficient to reduce the level of VSC in the UHT milk under the processing conditions used.**
- * **One of the major contributors to the cooked flavour, H₂S, was completely eliminated or reduced to well below its flavour threshold value.**
- * **Low conc. of H₂O₂ had no effect on, or reduced, β-lactoglobulin denaturation when added after or before processing, respectively.**
- * **The addition of H₂O₂ could be a practical solution to the prevention or alleviation of cooked flavour development in UHT milk**
- * **However, the levels of H₂O₂ addition must be within the range permitted by the relevant regulatory jurisdiction.**