



Adding value to pet food products with the inclusion of sorghum ingredients

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Ingredients utilized in pet food

1st



Farm & Mill-based ingredients

4M tons

2nd



Meat & Poultry Products

1.83M tons

3rd



Rendered Protein Meals

1.5M tons

Grains

Pulses

Cereal by-products

Fruits

Others



By weight, **whole grains** are the **most used ingredients** in dog and cat food

Source: Institute for Feed Education & Research, 2020

Grains utilized in pet food



Barley Rice Corn Flaxseed Linseed

Millet Oats Pearled Barley Quinoa

Rye Sesame Seeds Sorghum

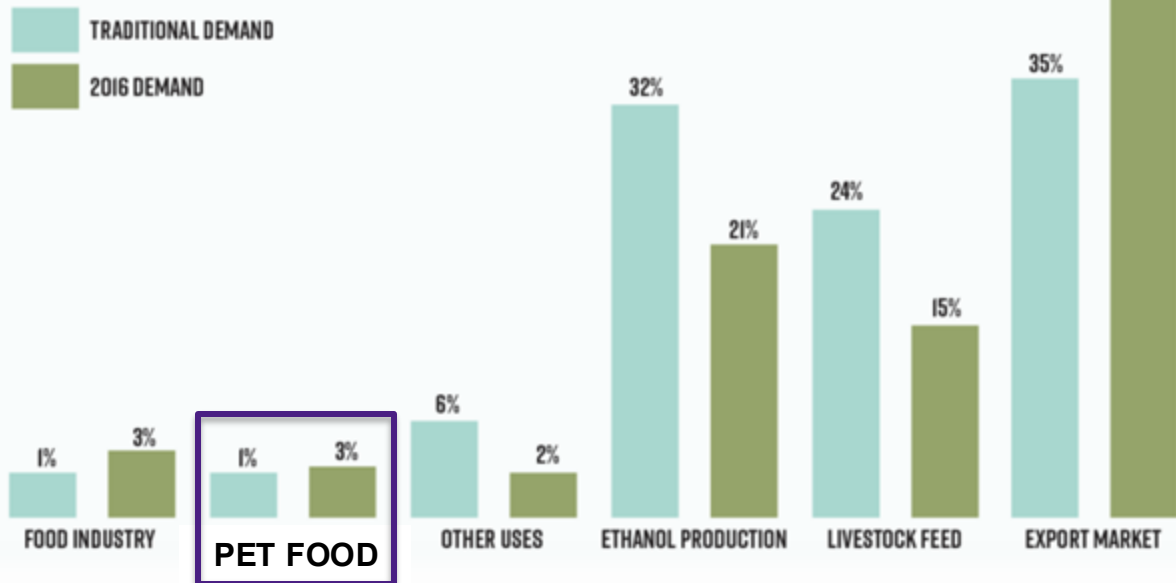
Sunflower Seeds Wheat



Sorghum usage

15 pet food companies

+ 130 products



Why sorghum?



Sorghum



Sorghum



Perennial grain usually grown as annual crop

Originates from northeast Africa and Asia

Grow in semi-arid environments

Sustainable choice



Sorghum



- 30% less water

 - 91% of sorghum acres are rain fed

 - 1.5 trillion gallons of irrigation water savings per year

- CO₂ emissions

 - Captures more carbon during respiration

 - 0.21 CO₂e per kg*

*EcoPractices 2020 On-farm Practices Report for Nu Life Market

Sorghum



Different varieties

White and red sorghum

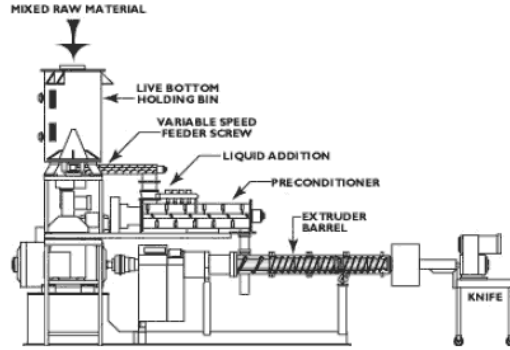


pet food

Sorghum in pet food



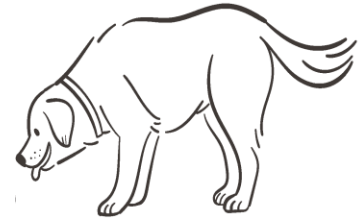
Consumer



Processing



Acceptability



Digestibility
Health benefits

Sorghum in pet food



Gluten-free

Non GMO

Ancient grain



Sustainable

Nutritional composition

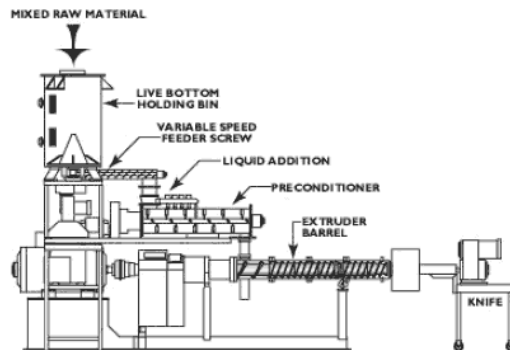


Item,%	Corn	Sorghum*	Brewer's rice
Dry matter	89	89	89
Organic matter	98	98	98
Crude protein	11	~9-11	7.6
Fat	5.2	~2.5- 6	3.8
Starch	78	~60-75	88
Total dietary fiber	4.1	~7-15	1.6
Soluble fiber	0.62	~1-3	0.23
Insoluble fiber	3.45	~5-13	1.41

Sorghum in pet food



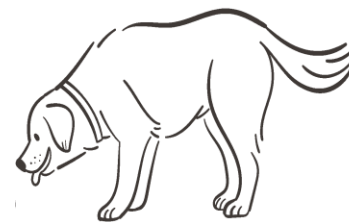
Consumer



Processing

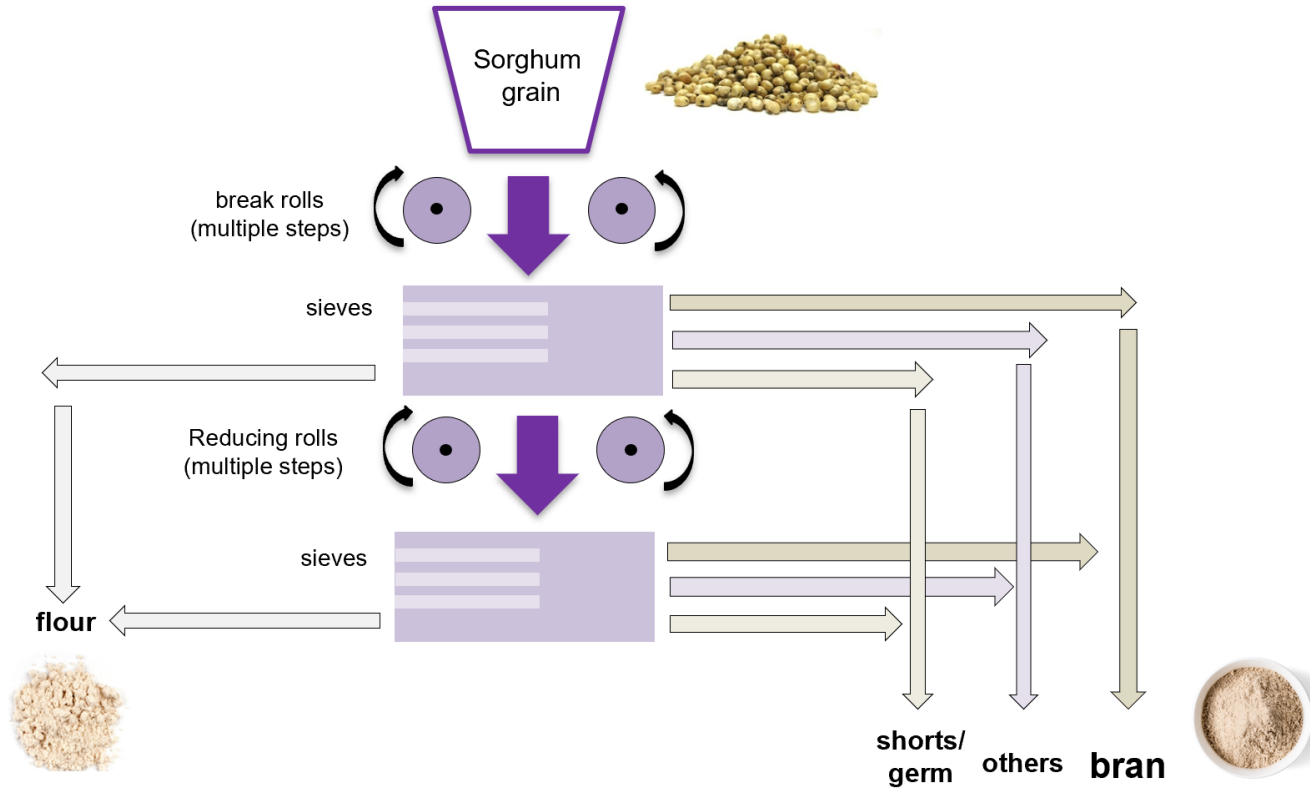


Acceptability



Digestibility
Health benefits

Sorghum – milling



Sorghum fractions in dog food



Sorghum Flour

Sorghum Germ

Sorghum Mill-feed

Sorghum fractions in dog food



Item	Sorghum to the mill	Flour	Mill-feed
Yield, kg	1,525	1,041	414
Yield, %	100	68.3	27.2
Moisture, %	12.22	11.59	10.87
Crude Protein, %	10.8	10.2	13.9
Crude Fat, %	6.59	5.12	4.96
Crude Fiber, %	1.70	n.d.	5.05
ADF, %	3.80	1.40	7.70
NDF, %	6.70	1.50	16.80
TDF, %	8.80	3.20	20.0
Soluble Fiber, %	2.60	2.50	1.60
Insoluble Fiber, %	6.20	0.70	18.30
Lignin, %	n.d.	n.d.	2.90
Total Starch, %	61.5	67.0	43.8
Ash, %	1.31	1.53	2.20



Owner and pet acceptance



Pet and owner acceptance of dry dog foods manufactured with sorghum and sorghum fractions

[Brizio Di Donfrancesco](#)^a, [Kadri Koppel](#)^a  , [Charles Gregory Aldrich](#)^b

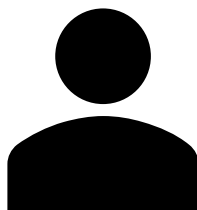
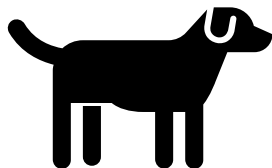


Table 1. Experimental diets composition: control (CD), whole sorghum (WSD), sorghum flour (FD) and sorghum mill-feed (MF).

Ingredients, %	CD	WSD	FD	MF
Brewers' rice	21.21	–	–	–
Maize	21.21	–	–	–
Wheat	21.21	–	–	–
Whole sorghum	–	64.69	–	–
Sorghum flour	–	–	63.11	–
Sorghum mill-feed	–	–	–	67.65
Chicken by-product meal	20.94	20.02	20.00	20.00
Chicken fat	5.36	5.54	6.69	3.30
Beet Pulp	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Maize gluten meal	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Calcium carbonate	0.75	0.35	0.26	0.67
Potassium chloride	0.49	0.52	0.65	0.19
Salt	0.46	0.45	0.47	0.43
Dicalcium phosphate	0.87	0.95	1.27	0.24
Choline chloride	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Vitamin premix	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
Trace mineral premix	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Natural antioxidant (dry)	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08

Owner and pet acceptance



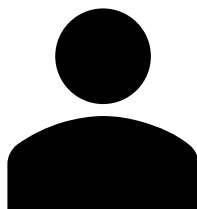
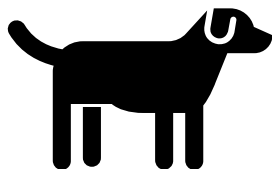
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Nutrient	CD	WSD	FD	MF
Moisture, % ^a	6.91	7.13	5.56	6.17
Dry matter, %	93.09	92.87	94.44	93.83
Protein (crude), %	21.70	21.1	21.5	24.6
Fat (acid hydrolysis), %	11.40	11.7	10.3	9.17
Fiber (crude), %	0.78	1.04	0.38	2.29



Owner and pet acceptance



Pet and owner acceptance of dry dog foods manufactured with sorghum and sorghum fractions

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Home use test (client owned dogs)

Single bowl test



(n=30)



5 d



5 d



5 d



5 d



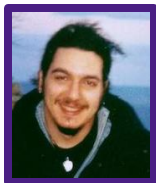
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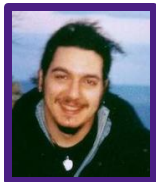


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Similar acceptability among control and sorghum diets

Owner and pet acceptance



Pet and owner acceptance of dry dog foods manufactured with sorghum and sorghum fractions

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Table 4. Consumer panel (N=105) of dog owners evaluation of “liking” (1–9 hedonic score; 1=dislike to 9=likes extremely) control (CD), whole sorghum (WSD), flour (FD) and sorghum mill feed (MF) containing diets.

	CD	WSD	FD	MF
Overall Liking	6.44 ^a	6.59 ^a	6.17 ^b	6.08 ^b
Overall Appearance Liking	6.60 ^a	6.67 ^a	6.23 ^b	6.00 ^b
Color Liking	6.46 ^a	6.59 ^a	6.34 ^{ab}	6.12 ^b
Aroma Liking	5.89	6.09	5.91	5.91

*Means with the same letter are not significantly different ($P < 0.05$). Scores not sharing the same letter were significantly different ($p < 0.05$).

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Darker

Larger

Processing effects



Effects of milling sorghum into fractions on yield, nutrient composition, and their performance in extrusion of dog food

[Isabella Corsato Alvarenga](#), [Zhining Ou](#), [Shawn Thiele](#), [Sajid Alavi](#), [Charles Gregory Aldrich](#) 

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Total starch, %	46.9	45.6	50	35.3

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- ✓ **Whole sorghum** process similar to corn and rice
- ✓ Expands well



Table 5. Least square means^a ± standard error of the mean (SEM) of processing data collected during production of extruded control (CON), whole sorghum (WSD), sorghum flour (FLD), and sorghum mill-feed (MFD) diets.

Item	CON	WSD	FLD	MFD	P
Flow rate, kg/h	152 ^a ± 2.2	149 ^a ± 1.6	150 ^a ± 1.0	133 ^b ± 2.2	0.0071
Density OE ¹ , g/L	325 ^b ± 2.2	333 ^b ± 3.8	286 ^c ± 1.4	425 ^a ± 19.5	0.0002
Density OD ² , g/L	304 ^{bc} ± 2.7	317 ^{ab} ± 6.0	285 ^c ± 3.9	391 ^a ± 17.7	0.0098
FS ³ speed, rpm	13.3	13.3	13.3	13.0	0.9436
PC ⁴ steam, kg/h	17.5 ± 0.20	17.3 ± 0.36	17.5 ± 0.27	17.5 ± 0.27	0.9611
PC water, kg/h	15.8 ^a ± 0.24	15.6 ^a ± 0.49	15.8 ^a ± 0.57	13.3 ^b ± 0.03	0.0012
PC temp, °C	98.3 ^{ab} ± 0.46	98.5 ^a ± 0.21	98.2 ^{ab} ± 0.31	97.1 ^b ± 0.12	0.0141
EX ⁵ shaft speed, rpm	322.7 ^b ± 3.57	319.7 ^b ± 0.80	319.4 ^b ± 0.82	383.7 ^a ± 0.21	<.0001
EX steam, kg/h	19.33 ^a ± 0.10	19.47 ^a ± 0.21	5.34 ^b ± 0.47	3.19 ^b ± 0.60	<.0001
Motor load, %	45.9 ± 1.44	46.6 ± 1.14	46.4 ± 1.44	41.2 ± 0.99	0.0633
EX water, kg/h	7.69 ^b ± 0.09	7.61 ^b ± 0.02	7.76 ^b ± 0.03	10.17 ^a ± 0.02	<.0001
Knife speed, rpm	937 ± 5.6	930 ± 3.3	943 ± 18.0	991 ± 18.4	0.1071
SME ⁶ , kJ/kg	102.2 ± 10.34	109.7 ± 8.03	105.9 ± 10.79	92.6 ± 9.70	0.6278

^{ab}Variable means within a row with unlike superscripts differ (P<0.05).

Processing effects



Effects of milling sorghum into fractions on yield, nutrient composition, and their performance in extrusion of dog food

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- ✓ Sorghum flour =  bulk density
- ✓ Sorghum mill-feed =  bulk density

As full replacement (high inclusion)

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Processing – additional applications

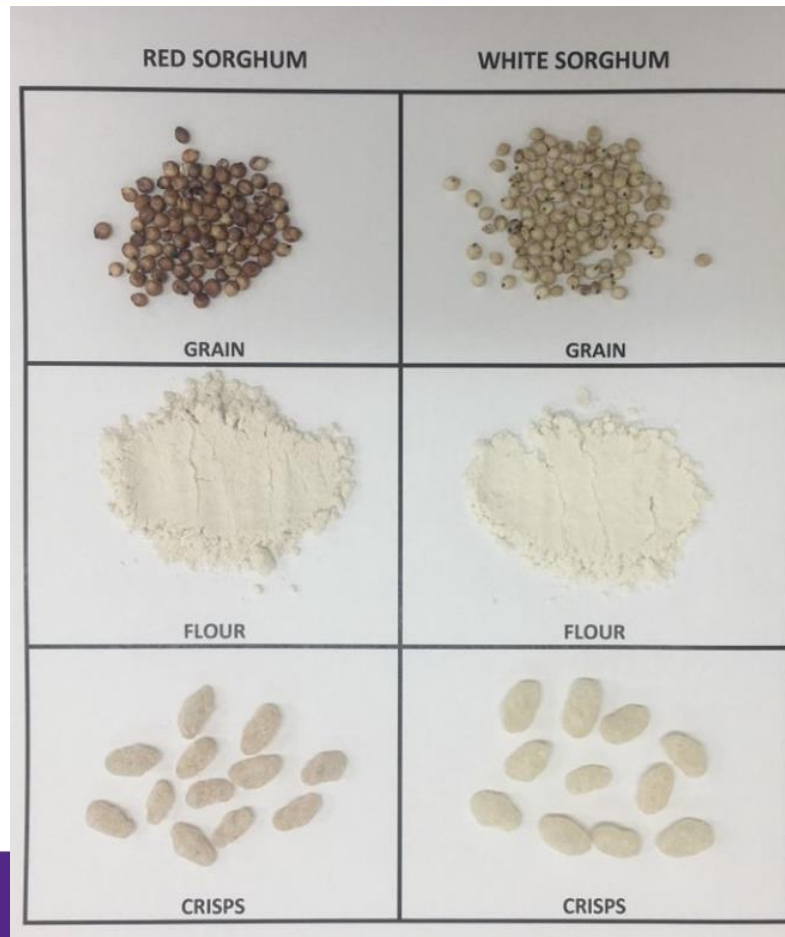


Characterization of white and red sorghum flour and their potential use for production of extrudate crisps

Julia Guazzelli Pezzali  Anu Suprabha-Raj  Kaliramesh Siliveru  Charles Gregory Aldrich  

Published: June 23, 2020 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0234940>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage	Peer Review
					



Processing – additional applications



The use of protein binders and sorghum crisps as potential ingredients in a cereal bar for dogs

Julia Guazzelli Pezzali, Weilun Tsai, Kadri Koppel, Charles Gregory Aldrich ✉

First published: 25 June 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/joss.12689>



RED SORGHUM	WHITE SORGHUM
 GRAIN	 GRAIN
 FLOUR	 FLOUR
 CRISPS	 CRISPS

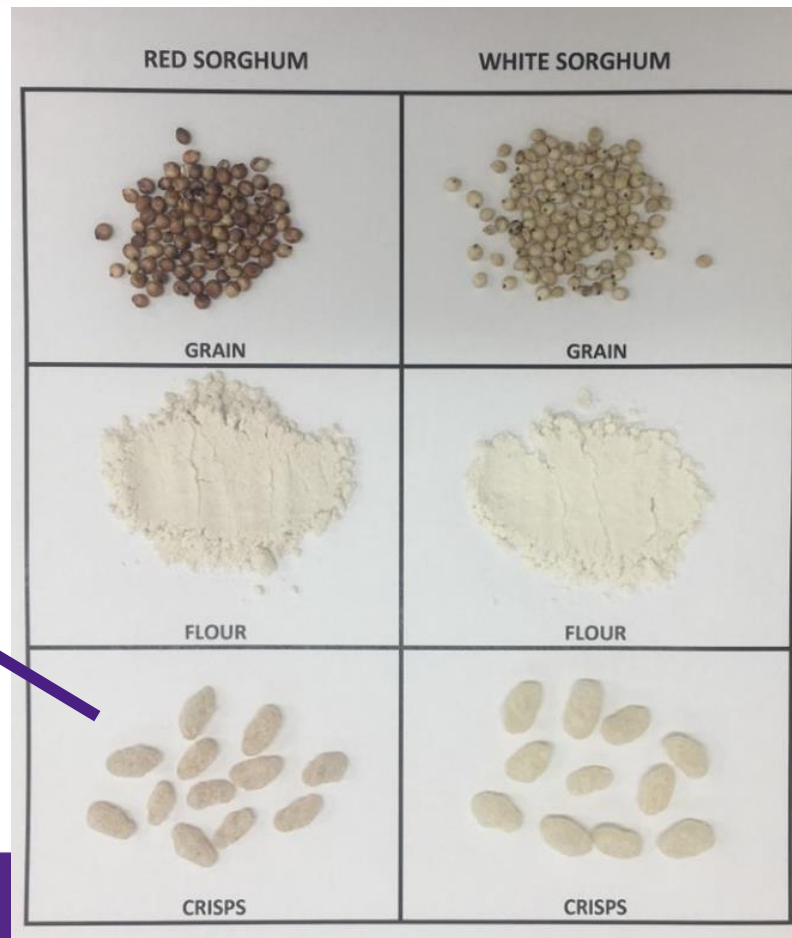
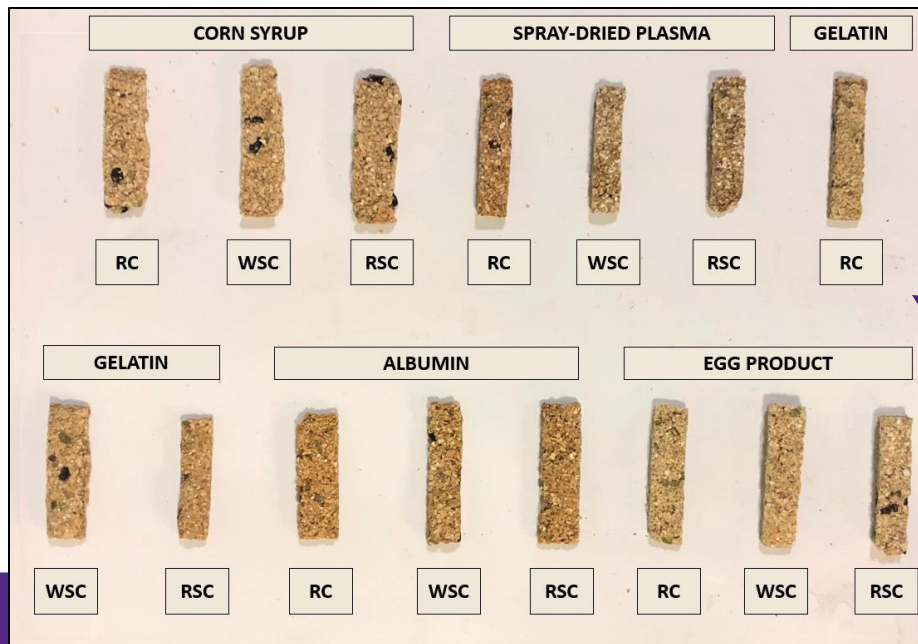
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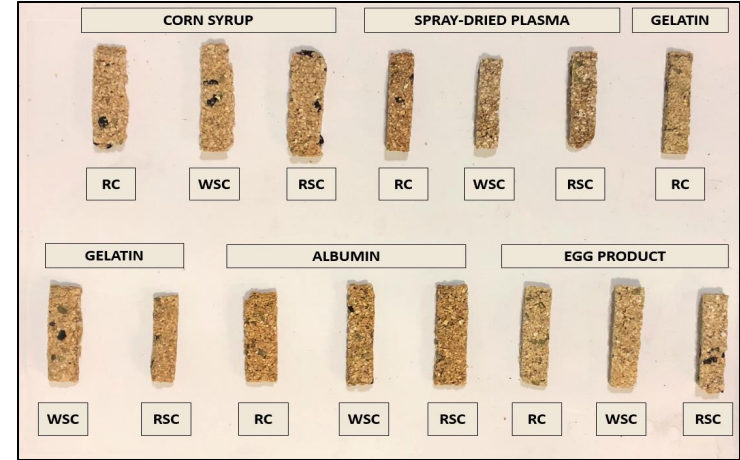
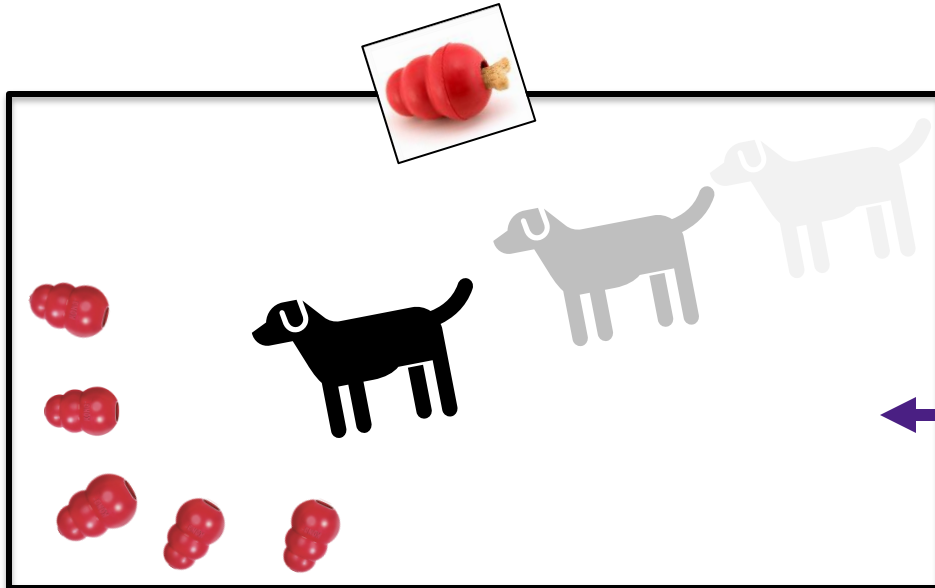
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Three ranking tests:

1. RSC w/ different binders
2. WSC w/ different binders
3. RSC w/ different binders
4. Most preferred binder w/ different crisps

Processing – additional applications



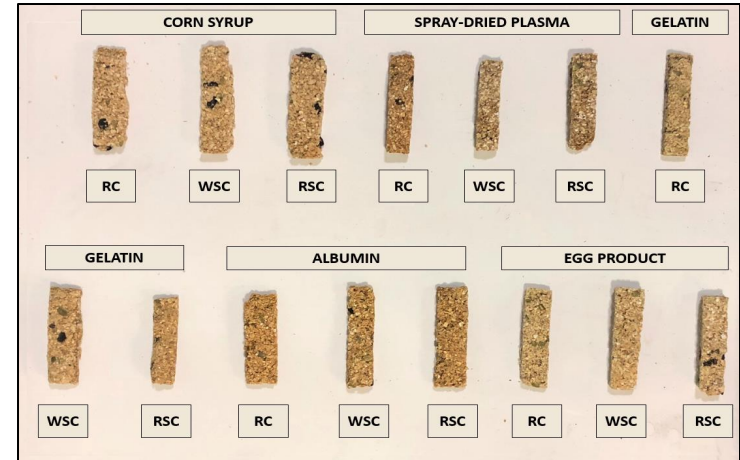
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1 – moist preferred, 5 – least preferred

Ranking test	Treatments						p=
	CS	SDP	GL	AL	EP	SEM	
1. RC	3.12	2.79	3.38	2.73	2.78	0.195	.0973
2. WSC	2.80 ^{ab}	2.68 ^b	3.17 ^{ab}	2.75 ^{ab}	3.41 ^a	0.194	.0110
3. RSC	2.90 ^{ab}	2.40 ^b	3.62 ^a	2.90 ^{ab}	3.06 ^{ab}	0.188	.0004



Processing – additional applications



The use of protein binders and sorghum crisps as potential ingredients in a cereal bar for dogs

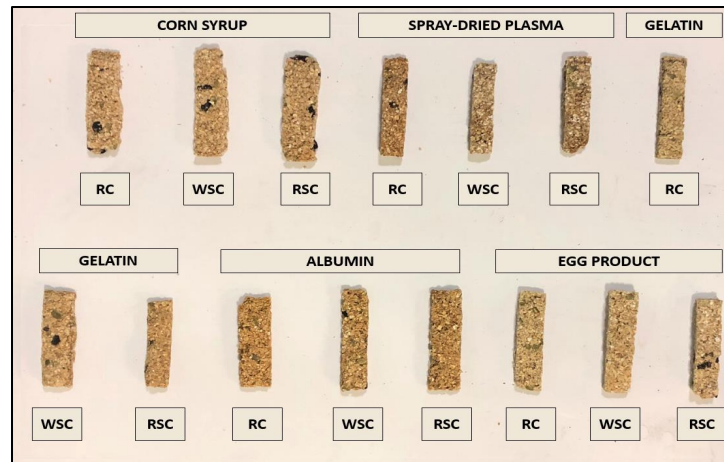
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3. RSC	2.90 ^{ab}	2.40 ^b	3.62 ^a	2.90 ^{ab}	3.06 ^{ab}	0.188	.0004
4. SDP	1.81	2.05	2.14	0.129	.2900		

Note: Different letters following the row in the same column indicate a significant difference ($p < .05$).
Abbreviations: AL, albumin; CS, corn syrup; EP, egg product; GL, gelatin; RC, rice crisp; RSC, red sorghum crisp; SDP, spray-dried plasma; WSC, white sorghum crisp.





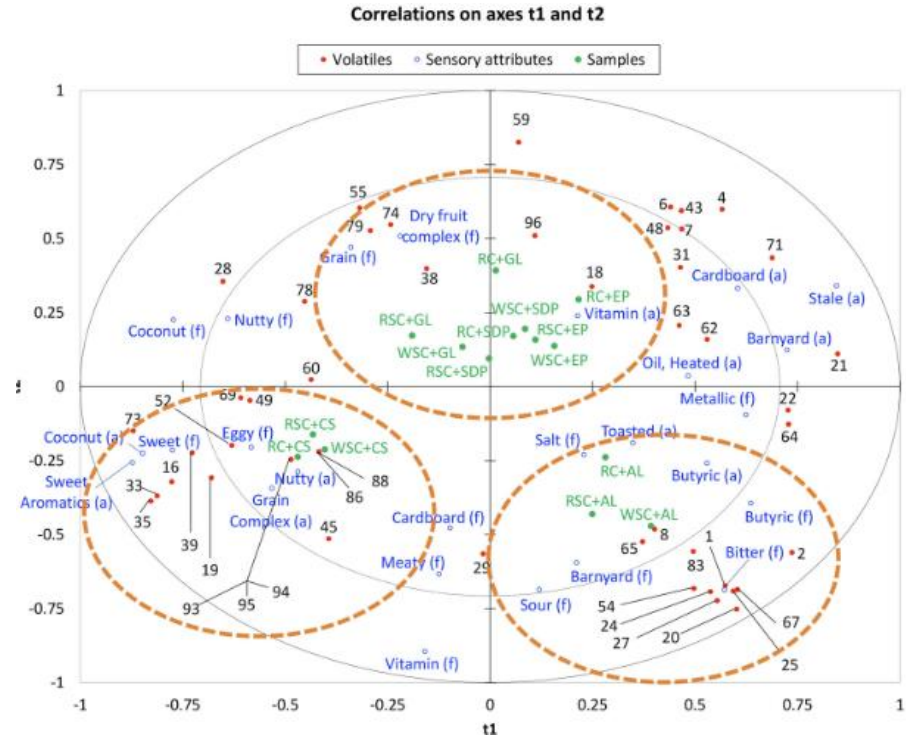
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Plot of partial least square regression analysis of volatile compounds and sensory attributes

Group by binder, **not** crisp source



Processing – additional applications



Sensory attributes, dog preference ranking, and oxidation rate evaluation of sorghum-based baked treats supplemented with soluble animal proteins



Krystina A Lema Almeida, Kadri Koppel ✉, Charles G Aldrich ✉

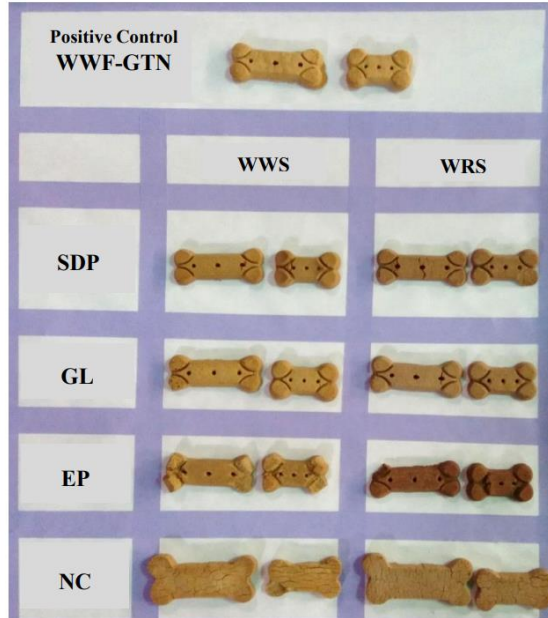
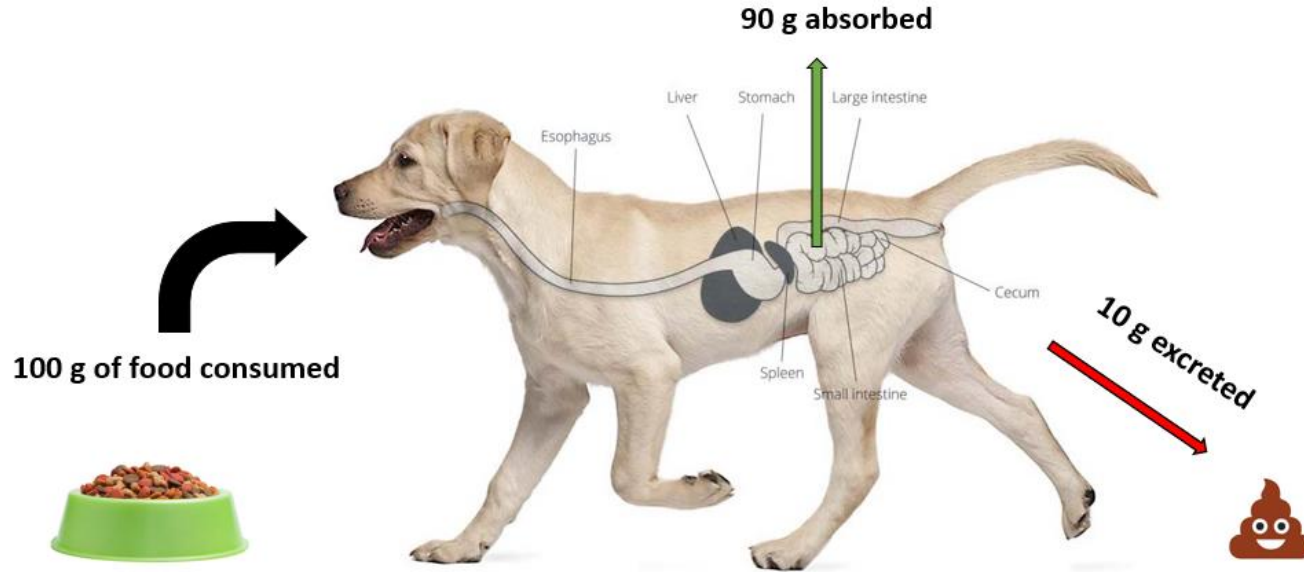


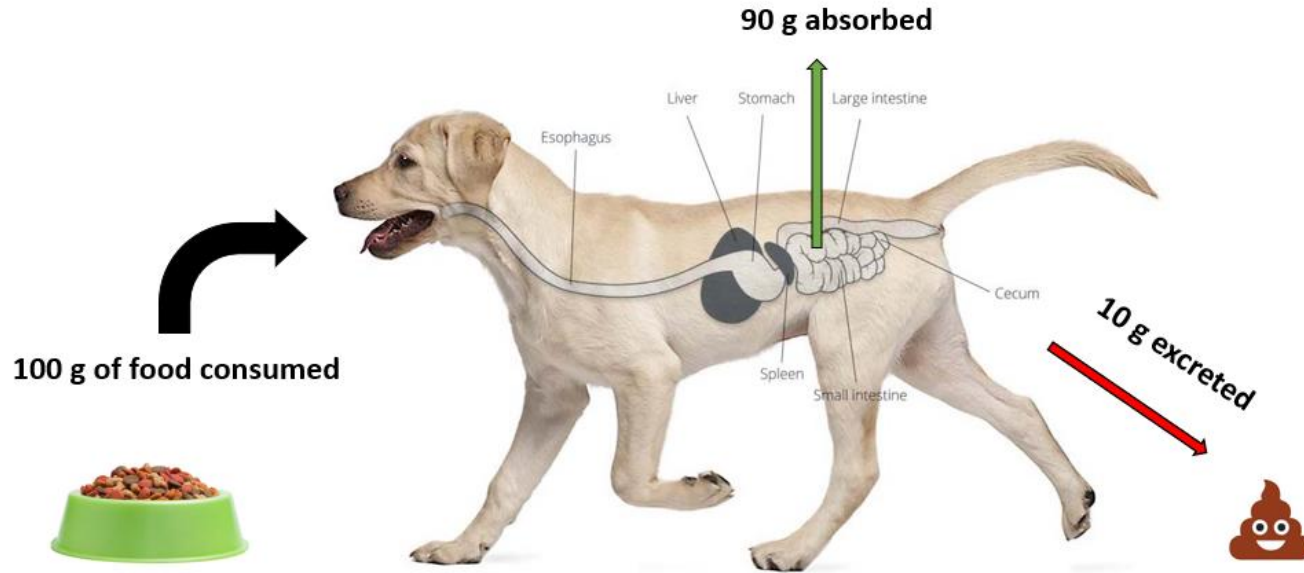
Figure 3.1 Baked dog treats produced with different cereals and soluble animal proteins combinations.

WWF= whole wheat flour, WWS= whole white sorghum, WRS= whole red sorghum, GTN=gluten, NC=no protein, SDP=spray dried plasma, EP=egg protein, GL=gelatin

Digestibility



Digestibility



Apparent total tract (fecal) digestibility: 90%

Digestibility

Table 4. Nutrient intakes and digestibilities by ileally cannulated dogs (n = 6) fed diets containing grain flours

Item	Diet						SEM
	Barley	Corn	Potato	Rice	Sorghum	Wheat ^a	
Intake, g/d							
Dry matter	391	399	401	379	430	395	19.6
Organic matter	364	370	365	341	398	369	17.7
Crude protein	109 ^c	122 ^{cd}	110 ^c	110 ^c	137 ^d	117 ^c	5.6
Fat	67	74	67	70	80	74	3.4
Starch	158	150	160	146	153	159	7.1
TDF ^b	35 ^d	20 ^c	31 ^d	22 ^c	38 ^d	22 ^c	2.5
Ileal digestion, %							
Dry matter	74.9	73.5	66.7	77.5	74.1	81.2	3.02
Organic matter	80.9 ^d	79.8 ^{cd}	73.6 ^c	83.1 ^d	79.5 ^{cd}	85.7 ^d	2.43
Crude protein	81.1 ^d	72.5 ^{cd}	63.6 ^c	76.2 ^d	76.9 ^d	81.5 ^d	3.20
Fat	89.9	91.3	89.8	92.9	90.9	94.2	1.09
Starch	99.38 ^c	99.53 ^{cd}	99.57 ^{cd}	99.82 ^e	99.67 ^{de}	99.78 ^e	.06
TDF	12.2	-4.6	-9.7	20.1	15.1	5.1	13.2
Total tract digestion, %							
Dry matter	82.5 ^d	85.4 ^e	83.6 ^{de}	83.9 ^{de}	79.7 ^c	83.5 ^{de}	.83
Organic matter	87.0 ^d	89.5 ^f	87.9 ^{de}	88.9 ^{ef}	84.4 ^c	88.2 ^{def}	.64
Crude protein	83.4 ^c	86.5 ^d	82.9 ^c	84.9 ^{cd}	83.3 ^c	84.9 ^{cd}	.81
Fat	92.4	94.3	93.8	94.0	92.6	93.7	.57
Starch	99.85 ^{de}	99.80 ^{cd}	99.80 ^{cd}	99.91 ^e	99.77 ^c	99.88 ^e	.02
TDF	41.7	13.2	36.6	24.0	18.3	13.7	8.68

^aTotal tract digestibility data based on n = 5.

^bTotal dietary fiber.

^{c,d,e,f}Means in the same row not sharing common superscript letters differ ($P < .05$).



Murray et al. 1999

Digestibility



Food intake, feces collected (on dry matter basis) per day, number of defecations per day, fecal scores and apparent total tract digestibility (ATTD) of dogs fed control (CON), whole sorghum (WSD), flour (FLD) and mill-feed (MFD) diets (N = 12).

Item	CON	WSD	FLD	MFD	SEM	P
Food intake, g/d	185	186	181	195	6.5	0.4818
Wet feces, g/d	75.2 ^c	95.6 ^b	60.6 ^c	159.7 ^a	5.03	<.0001
Dry feces, g/d	42.0 ^c	55.7 ^b	32.6 ^c	95.4 ^a	3.24	<.0001
Defecations per day	2.18 ^b	2.38 ^b	2.10 ^b	3.02 ^a	0.098	<.0001
Fecal score (1–5)	3.60 ^b	3.68 ^{ab}	3.78 ^{ab}	3.92 ^a	0.068	0.0007
ATTD, %						
Dry Matter	83.0 ^b	81.1 ^c	86.0 ^a	65.9 ^d	0.44	<.0001
Organic Matter	88.0 ^b	85.8 ^b	90.7 ^a	70.6 ^c	0.34	<.0001
Gross Energy	87.2 ^b	85.4 ^b	90.3 ^a	70.2 ^c	0.68	<.0001
Crude Protein	77.5 ^b	76.3 ^b	81.8 ^a	67.2 ^c	0.73	<.0001
Crude Fat	91.5 ^a	88.4 ^b	91.4 ^a	77.9 ^c	0.37	<.0001
NFE (calculated)	94.2 ^b	91.6 ^c	96.3 ^a	77.0 ^d	0.35	<.0001
TDF	13.7 ^b	27.7 ^a	30.2 ^a	10.3 ^b	1.94	<.0001

^{abc} Means within a row that lack a common superscript differ ($P < 0.05$).

NFE = nitrogen free extract; TDF = total dietary fiber.



Alvarenga et al. 2018

Digestibility



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Alvarenga et al. 2018

Full Access

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First published: 28 June 2008 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1439-0396.2007.00794.x> | Citations: 111

Short communication

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C.M.L.S. Fortes^a, A.C. Carciofi^b , N.K. Sakomura^c, J.M. Kawauchi^a, R.S. Vasconcellos^a

Show more



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300, 450, and 600 μm



Particle size



Digestibility

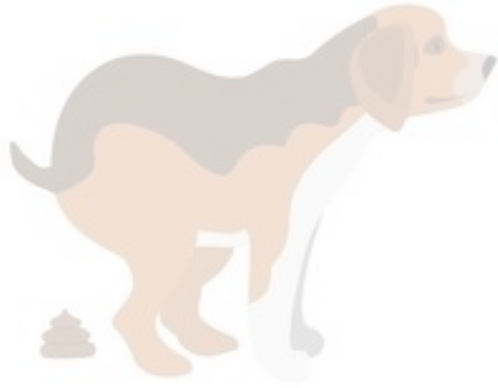


Short chain fatty acids

Digestibility



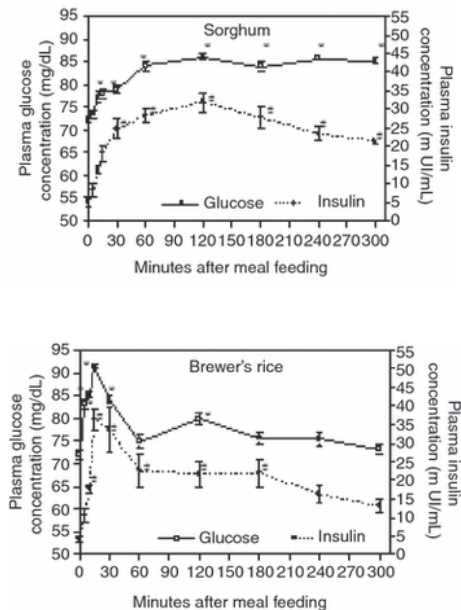
Metabolism



Metabolic effects

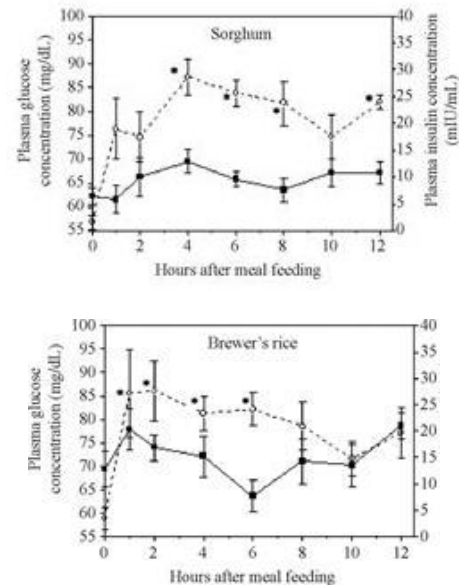
Glycemic index

Plasma glucose and insulin response curves of dogs fed experimental diets containing different starch sources



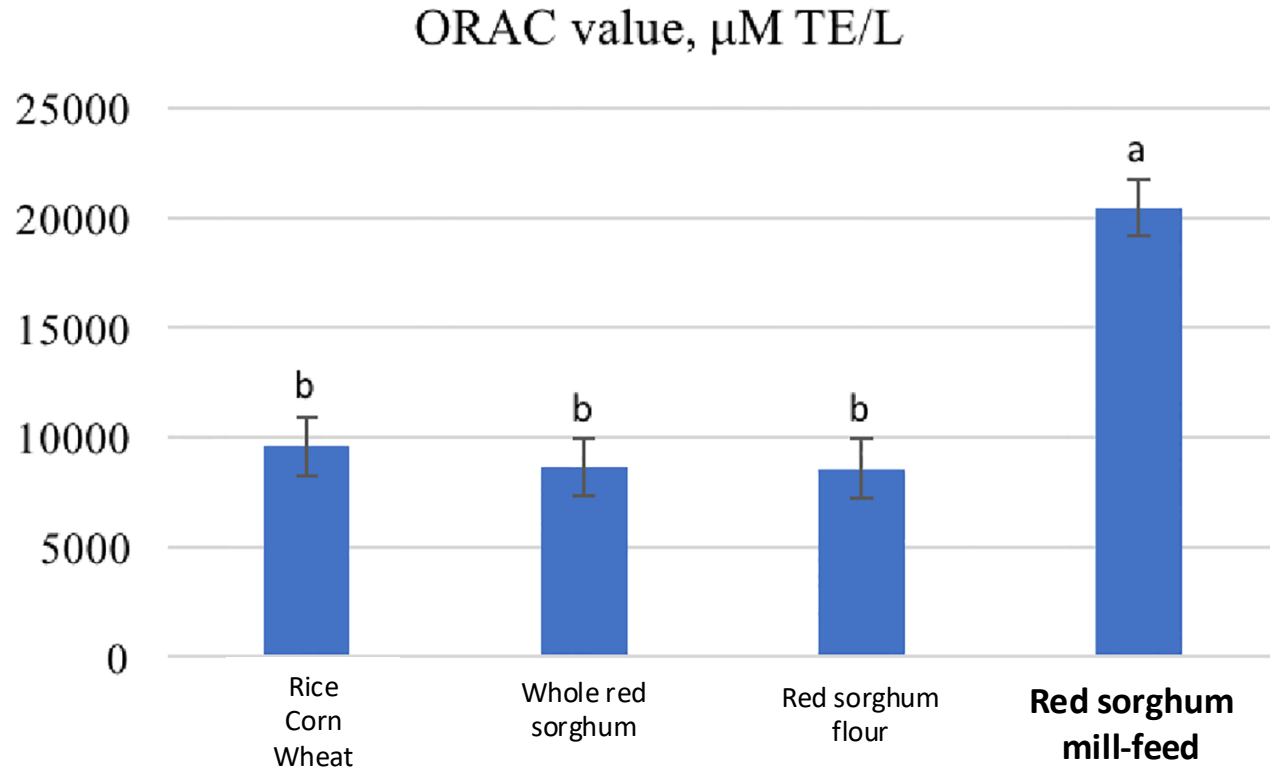
Carciofi et al. 2006

Plasma glucose and insulin response curves of cats fed experimental diets containing different starch sources



De Oliveira et al. 2008

Potential metabolic effects



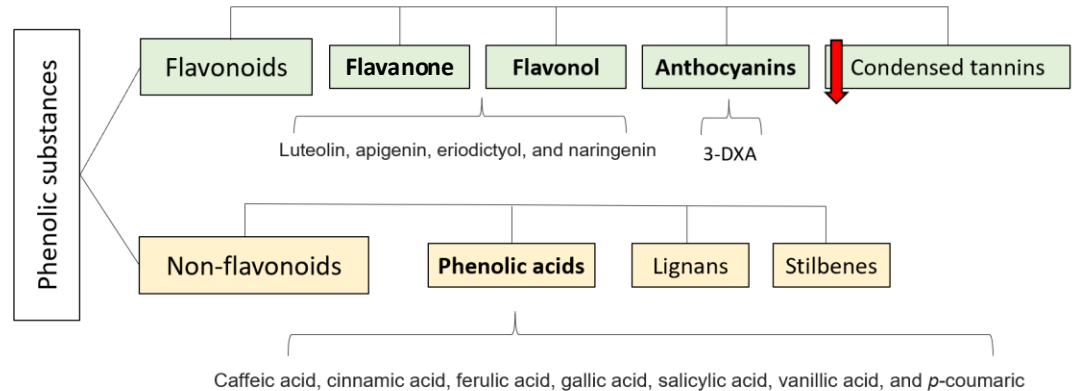
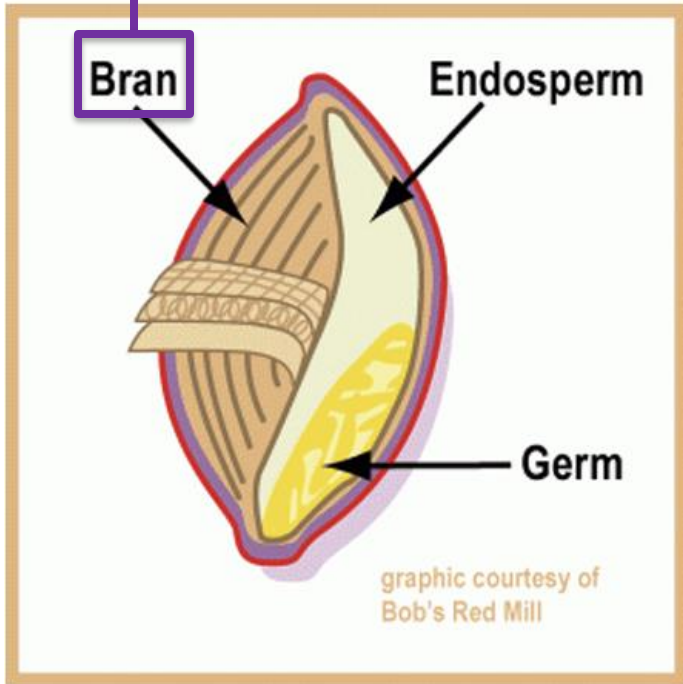
Alvarenga et al. 2018

Sorghum grain - polyphenols

Polyphenols

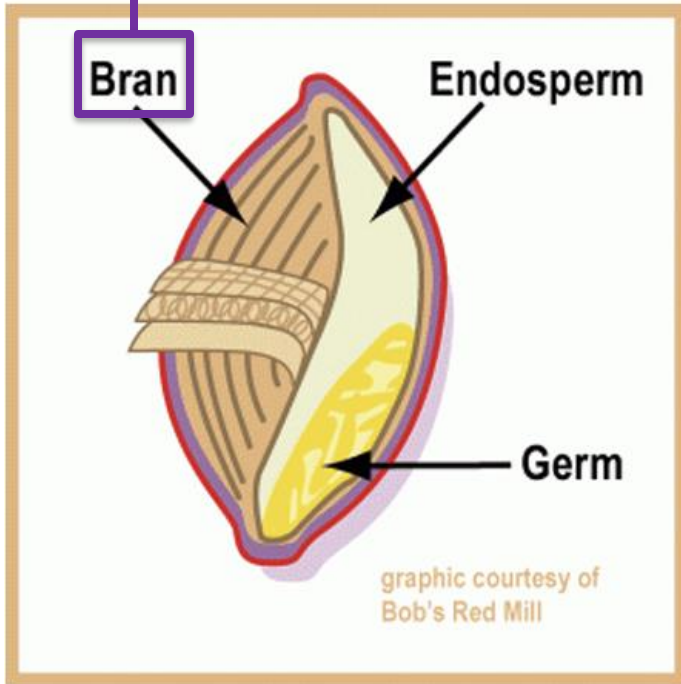
- Secondary metabolites from plants

Phenolic acid and flavonoid derivatives

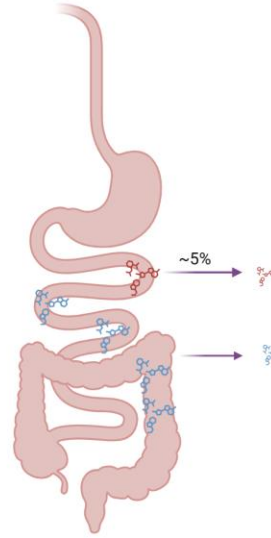


Sorghum grain - polyphenols

Polyphenols



- Secondary metabolites from plants
Phenolic acid and flavonoid derivatives



Local and systemic effects

Gut health

Antioxidant

Anti inflammatory

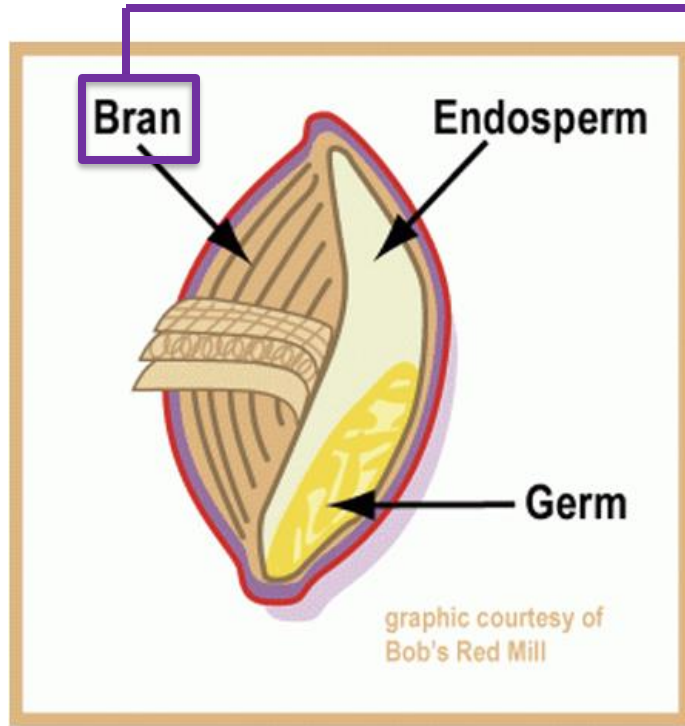
Carbohydrate metabolism

Lipid metabolism

Girard and Awika (2018)

Sorghum grain - polyphenols

Polyphenols



- Color is due to phenolic flavonoid pigments

The darker the color → ↑ polyphenols

3-deoxyanthocyanin



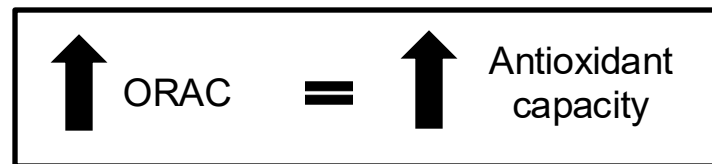
Alfieri et al. (2017)

Sorghum grain - polyphenols

Antioxidant activity (ORAC) of sorghum grain and bran compared to common fruits and vegetables

	Commodity	ORAC (μmol TE/g, dry wt)	References
Sorghum	Tannin sorghum (grain) ^a	868	Awika et al. (2003b)
	Tannin sorghum (bran) ^a	3124	Awika et al. (2003b)
	Black sorghum (grain)	219	Awika et al. (2003b)
	Black sorghum (bran)	1008	Awika et al. (2003b)
	Red sorghum (grain)	140	Awika et al. (2003b)
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	Apple, red delicious	295	Wu et al. (2004)
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^aSumac variety.



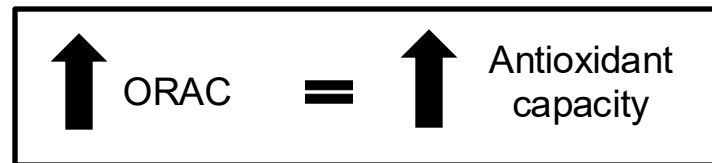
Sorghum bran → ↑ Antioxidant capacity

Sorghum grain - polyphenols

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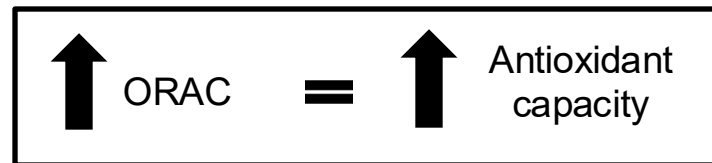
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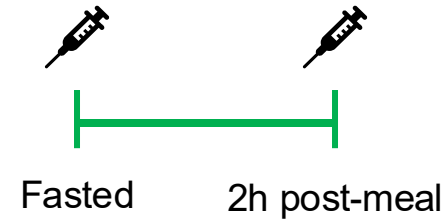
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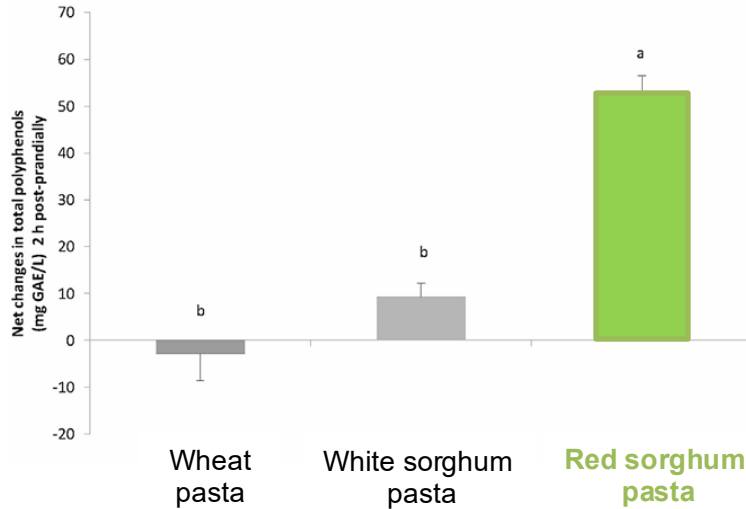
Acute effects of wheat vs sorghum pasta (humans)



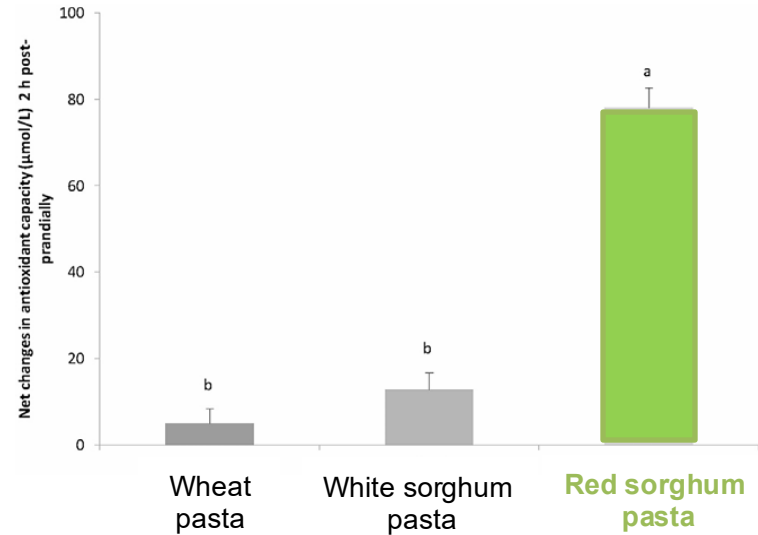
Acute effects of wheat vs sorghum pasta (humans)

Red sorghum pasta

↑ Plasma total polyphenols



↑ Antioxidant capacity



Chemical and energy composition

Analyzed chemical and energy composition of white and red sorghum bran, and sorghum mill-feed

Item	Mill-feed	Red sorghum bran	White sorghum bran
Production days	3	3	1
Dry matter, %	93.7 ± 0.49	94.4 ± 0.79	92.41
		% dry matter basis	
Crude protein	10.8 ± 0.06	10.7 ± 0.52	11.2
Acid-hydrolyzed fat	9.70 ± 0.44	11.8 ± 0.45	10.3
Total dietary fiber	22.39 ± 3.02	27.0 ± 0.93	25.5
Insoluble	19.8 ± 2.82	23.6 ± 0.80	22.9
Soluble	2.64 ± 0.21	3.41 ± 0.16	2.53
Ash	4.63 ± 0.08	5.10 ± 0.28	4.25
		kcal/kg, dry matter basis	
Gross energy	4512 ± 45	4456 ± 134	4619

Phenolic concentrations



Item, ug/g DM	Rice	Barley	White sorghum A	White sorghum B	Oat	Burgundy sorghum	Millet	Sumac	White sorghum bran	Mill feed	Red sorghum bran
Gallic acid	2.8	16.6	9.4	6.8	Nq	6.3	21.9	42.3	97.4	109 + 35.6	247 + 18
4-Hydroxybenzoic acid	Nq	Nq	0.6	4.3	2.7	21.8	2.8	166.3	94.7	92 + 31.7	179 + 13.3
Vanillic acid	2.2	7.5	7.5	10.7	9.7	20.2	130.8	62.7	40.6	34 + 6.9	68 + 5.8
Syringic acid	1	2	3.2	3.9	29.6	10	19.9	7.6	21.6	16 + 5.3	38 + 1.9
p-coumaric acid	2.3	26.7	20.5	21.5	69.3	20.4	320.7	45.2	40.6	190 + 91.5	143 + 45.8
Ferulic acid	45.7	244	208.5	171.6	160.1	236.2	455.1	388.1	849	916 + 137.7	1278 + 52.7
Sinapic acid	1.5	6.9	Nq	1	10.5	Nq	1.5	Nq	8.1	9 + 1.6	21 + 2.5
Total phenolic (ug/g)	313	692	700	741	903	1053	2119	3197	2315	3436 + 548	3519 + 333

Phenolic concentrations



Item, ug/g DM	Rice	Barley	White sorghum A	White sorghum B	Oat	Burgundy sorghum	Millet	Sumac	White sorghum bran	Mill feed	Red sorghum bran
Gallic acid	2.8	16.6	9.4	6.8	Nq	6.3	21.9	42.3	97.4	109 + 35.6	247 + 18
4-Hydroxybenzoic acid	Nq	Nq	0.6	4.3	2.7	21.8	2.8	166.3	94.7	92 + 31.7	179 + 13.3
Vanillic acid	2.2	7.5	7.5	10.7	9.7	20.2	130.8	62.7	40.6	34 + 6.9	68 + 5.8
Syringic acid	1	2	3.2	3.9	29.6	10	19.9	7.6	21.6	16 + 5.3	38 + 1.9
p-coumaric acid	2.3	26.7	20.5	21.5	69.3	20.4	320.7	45.2	40.6	190 + 91.5	143 + 45.8
Ferulic acid	45.7	244	208.5	171.6	160.1	236.2	455.1	388.1	849	916 + 137.7	1278 + 52.7
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High variation

Phenolic concentrations



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High variation

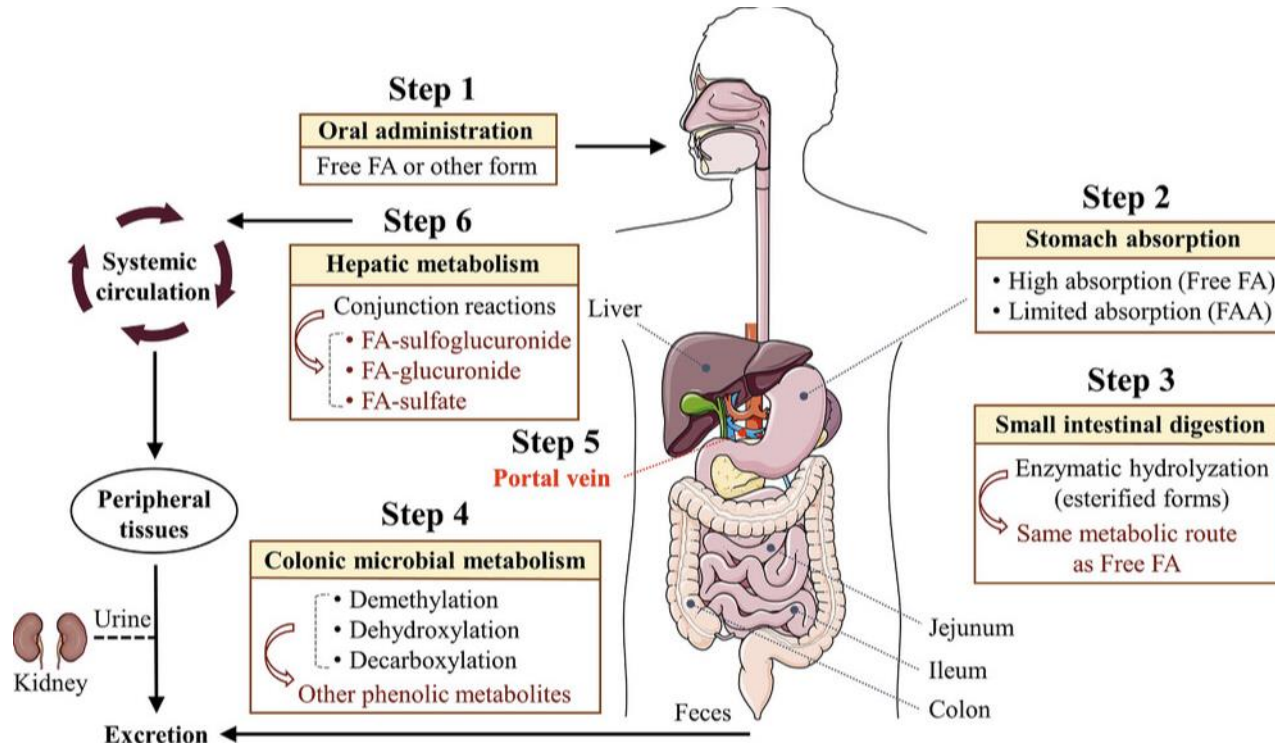
Phenolic concentrations



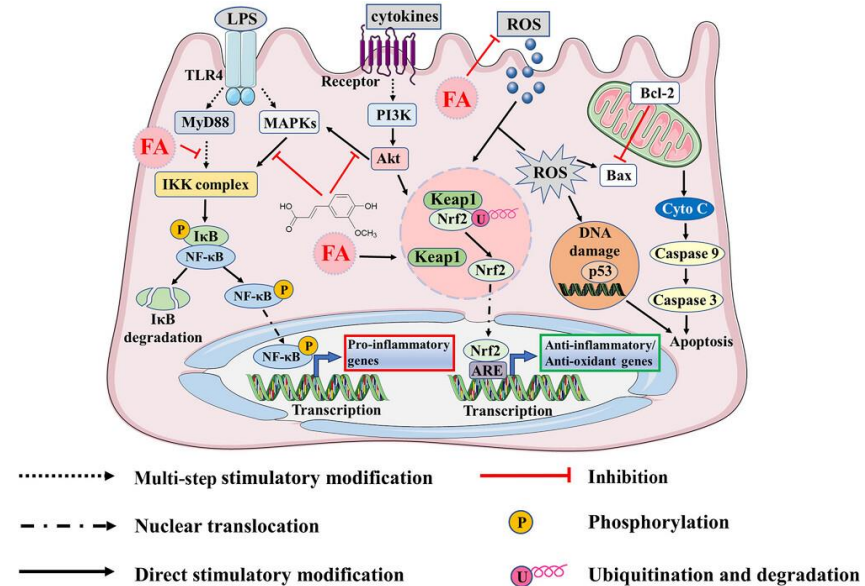
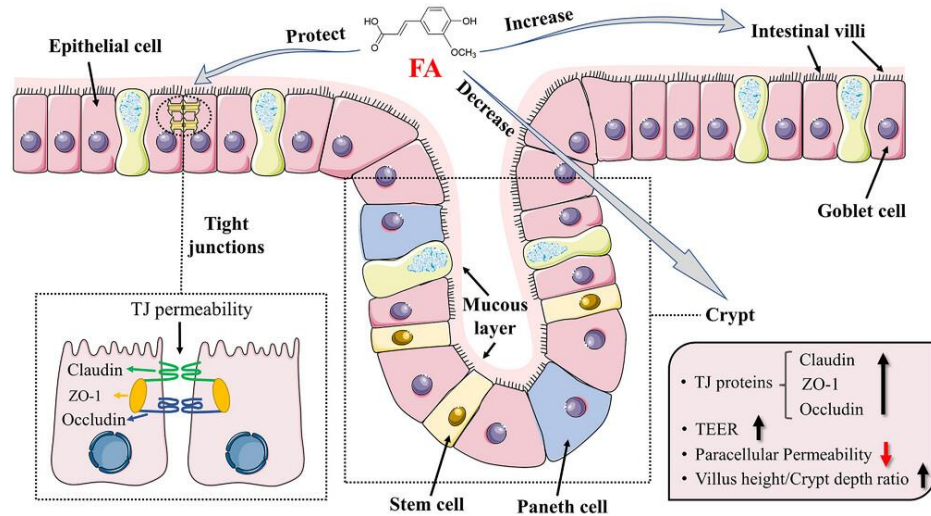
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High variation

Principal absorption and metabolism of FA in humans



Potential impact of FA on the intestine



Project overview

1



Nutrient analysis

Phenolic compound quantification

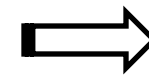
AOX

2



TPC
AOX

Extrusion



TPC
AOX

Polyphenol losses
Bioavailability?

3



n=12

4 x 4 Latin Square
28 d each period

CBC and biochemistry

Gut health markers

Fasted & Postprandial

Antioxidant markers

Lipid & protein oxidation

0%

7%

14%

28%

Shelf life

Summary



- Ancient grain, non-GMO, gluten-free, sustainable
- Whole grain process similar to other cereal grains
- Nutrient digestibility
- Opportunities to explore sorghum products and polyphenol extracts



AOX?



Antimicrobial agents?



Gut health?



Systemic affects?

Thank you!

jpezzali@ksu.edu



Colbey