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Effect of probiotic cultures on physicochemical and sensory attributes of probiotic Shrikhand

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Abstract

A study was undertaken to prepare shrikhand using low fat milk with probiotic cultures. Following Six different combinations of probiotic cultures using three probiotic bacteria viz. *Bifidobacterium longum*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus helveticus* (Bl, La, Lh) at 2 per cent level and three combined cultures viz. (*Bifidobacterium longum* with *Lactobacillus acidophilus*), (*Bifidobacterium longum* with *Lactobacillus helveticus*) and (*Lactibacillus acidophilus* with *Lactobacillus helveticus*) (BlLa, BlLh, LaLh) at 2 per cent (1:1 ratio) were used. The optimum acidity of 0.9 to 1 per cent was reached by La, Bl, BlLa cultures in 12 hours. Based on the acidity development, pH and sensory scores, the probiotic shrikhand prepared by employing *Bifidobacterium longum* and *Lactobacillus helveticus* was adjudged as the best among all the treatments.

Keywords: Probiotics, Bifidobacterium longum and Lactobacillus helveticus shrikhand, physicochemical properties

Introduction

Fermented milk products represent an increasing and considerable percentage of milk products purchased by the consumer. The organoleptic, nutritional and probiotic characteristics of fermented milk meet the expectations and requirement of all classes of consumers. Hence, fermented milk products are catching up the market of health-conscious consumers. Of the various fermented milk products produced in India, shrikhand is one receiving more popularity in the recent times due to its better palatability.

Shrikhand is a sweetened indigenous milk product of pasty consistency with slight sour taste, made from chakka. To, make it more dietetic, low fat (2%) milk and probiotic cultures were used for the preparation. According to Fuller (1989) [1], the probiotic could be designated as a live microbial feed supplement, which beneficially affects the host animal by improving its intestinal balance. Addition of probiotics imparts many potential health benefits like alleviation of lactose intolerance, hypocholesterolemic effect, immunostimulatory effect and anti-carcinogenic effect.

Materials and Methods Probiotic cultures

Six different combinations of probiotic cultures using three probiotic bacteria viz. Bifidobacterium longum, Lactobacillus acidophilus, Lactobacillus helveticus (designated as Bl, La and Lh respectively) at 2 per cent level and three combined cultures viz. (Bifidobacterium longum with Lactobacillus acidophilus), (Bifidobacterium longum with Lactobacillus helveticus) and (Lactibacillus acidophilus with Lactobacillus helveticus) (designated as BlLa, BlLh andLaLh respectively) at 2 per cent (1:1 ratio) were used.

Preparation of probiotic shrikhand (Suresh Subramonian, 1992) [4].

Fresh milk was obtained from University Research Farm, Madhavaram and subjected to cream separation and the fat percentage was adjusted to 2 per cent. Then, low fat milk was heated to 85°C for 30 min and cooled to 37°C inoculated with 2 per cent single culture and 2 per cent combined culture separately. Incubation of culture was done at 40°C to 10 to 12 hours. The whey was drained using a basket centrifuge with specially designed bag in Department of Dairy Science and Chakka obtained was kneaded with 80 per cent sugar, 0.4 per cent cleaned powdered cardamom and 0.1 per cent saffron (Sukumar De, 1980) [3]. The product was stored at 5°C. pH was estimated by using digital pH meter and acidity expressed as per cent lactic acid. Statistical analysis was done by SPS Duncan Multiple Range System.

Results

The physicochemical properties of probiotic shrikhand

prepared by employing six different combinations of probiotic cultures using three probiotic bacteria are given hereunder.

Table 1: Physicochemical properties of different probiotic cultures

	Probiotic cultures									
	Bl	La	Lh	BlLa	BlLh	LaLh	F-value			
Acidity (LA%)	$0.92^{d} \pm 0.042$	$0.98^{d} \pm 0.025$	$1.51^a \pm 0.047$	$0.95^{d} \pm 0.043$	$1.24^{\circ} \pm 0.088$	$1.42^{b} \pm 0.021$	12.240**			
pН	$5.34^{a} \pm 0.032$	$5.06^{b} \pm 0.02$	$4.65^{d} \pm 0.024$	$5.20^{b} \pm 0.101$	$4.88^{\circ} \pm 0.013$	$4.82^{c} \pm 0.014$	115.04**			

The sensorial attributes of probiotic shrikhand prepared by employing six different combinations of probiotic cultures using three probiotic bacteria are given hereunder.

Table 2: Sensory evaluation of different probiotic cultures

	Control	Probiotic Shrikhand							
		PSBl	PSLa	PSLh	PSBlLa	PSBlLh	PSLaLh	F-value	
Flavour	$7.00^{b} \pm 0.025$	$7.00^{\rm b} \pm 0.025$	$7.16^{b} \pm 0.307$	$7.16^{b} \pm 0.307$	$6.66^{\circ} \pm 0.210^{\circ}$	$8.16^{a} \pm 0.307$	$7.33^{b} \pm 0.210$	3.456**	
Consistency	$7.16^{ab} \pm 0.258$	$7.16^{ab} \pm 0.307$	$7.00^{b} \pm 0.258$	$7.000^{\text{ b}} \pm 0.25$	$7.00^{b} \pm 0.258$	$7.16^{a} \pm 0.258$	$7.16^{ab} \pm 0.307$	2.000**	
Acceptability	$8.00^{a} \pm 0.245$	$6.83^{\circ} \pm 0.307$	$7.00^{\circ} \pm 0.258$	$7.00^{\circ} \pm 0.25$	$7.16^{bc} \pm 0.307$	$8.16^{a} \pm 0.307$	$7.50^{ab} \pm 0.223$	3.095**	
Total scores	22.16 ^b	20.99 ^d	21.16 ^c	21.16 ^c	20.83e	24.38a	21.99 ^b	4.68**	

Discussion

After 12 hours of incubation, the Lh reached maximum acidity 1.51 and 0.92 by Bl. The Lh and Lh combinations reached maximum acidity because Lh is a high acid producers (IDF: 277) ^[2]. There was no significant difference noticed between La, BlLa and Bl cultures. The pH development was high in Bl cultures and low in BlLh, LaLh cultures after 12 hours. The acidity development of Bl and La cultures are concurrent with the findings of Ziden *et al.* (1990) ^[6] and Upadhayay (1982) ^[7].

After 12 hours of incubation the required pH of 5.4 to 4.6 was reached by Lh and Lh combinations in 10 hours itself. This was in agreement with the observations of Suryawanshi *et al.* (1993) ^[5].

The maximum total score of 24.38 and minimum total score of 20.99 were obtained by PSBlLh and PSBl respectively. The total sensory scores were influenced by flavour, consistency and acceptability scores and significant differences (P < 0.01) were noticed.

The *Bifidobacterium longum* and *Lactobacillus helveticus* are capable of producing flavour compounds acetaldehyde, acetone and diacetyl. Thus enhancing the flavour (IDF: 277). PSBILh scored the maximum points to conclude it as the most accepted shrikhand sample and best probiotic combination.

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