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Effect of number of washes on microbial population of homemade horse gram Sprouts

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Abstract

Sprouts provide a good supply of vitamins *viz.*, A, E, C and B complex vitamins (Shipard, 2005). The vitamin content of some seeds can increase by 20 times their original value within several days of sprouting. Mung Bean sprouts have increased B vitamin compared to the dry seeds, of - B₁ up by 285 per cent B₂ up by 515 per cent B₃ up by 256 per cent. Even, soaking seeds overnight in water yields greatly increased amounts of B and C. Sprouts contain 30 times more vitamin compared to matured plants. An experiment was conducted to see the microbial population of home made horse gram sprouts as influenced by varying number of washes at Department of Agricultural Microbiology, University of Agricultural Sciences, G. K. V. K., Bengaluru during the year 2009-2011. The results of the experiments showed that microbial population of bacteria and fungi decreases as the number of washes increases, and comparatively bacteria shows highest population.

Keywords: number, washes, microbial population, homemade horse, sprouts

Introduction

The whole seeds of horse gram are generally utilized as cattle feed. However, it is consumed as a whole seed, as sprouts, or as whole meal by a large population in rural areas of southern India. It is mostly used in South Indian states.

The chemical composition Horse Gram is comparable with more commonly cultivated legumes. Like other legumes, these are deficient in methionine and tryptophan, though horse gram is an excellent source of iron molybdenum. Comparatively, horse gram seeds have higher trypsin inhibitor and haemoagglutinin activities and polyphenols than most bean seeds. Natural phenols are mostly phenolic acids, namely, 3, 4-dihydroxy benzoic, P-hydroxy benzoic, vanillic, caffeic, P-coumaric, ferulic, syringic and sinapic acids. Dehusking, germination, cooking, and roasting have been shown to produce beneficial effects on nutritional quality of both the legumes. Though both require prolonged cooking, a soak solution has been shown to reduce cooking time and improve protein quality. Moth bean is mostly consumed as dhal or sprouts.

Material and Methods

Production of sprouts of horse gram sprouts

The collected seed samples were washed and soaked in water for eight hours at room temperature. Water was drained out and seeds were placed in muslin cloth and tide for sprouting. (Three days for horse gram).

Enumeration and isolation of bacteria and fungi from homemade horse gram sprout samples at different intervals

The home made sprout samples were collected. Sprouts were prepared by washing the legume seeds for varying number of washes *viz.*, 1, 2, 3, and 4. These samples were subjected for enumeration and isolation of bacteria and fungi by employing standard plate count method. Observations pertaining to colony forming units, colony characteristics, pigmentation and sporulation were recorded.

Results and Discussion

Enumeration of micro flora associated with homemade horse gram sprouts samples

The bacterial population in homemade horse gram sprout samples with different number of washes is presented in the Table 1.

The highest bacterial population (31.66×10^5 cfu/g,) (31.33×10^5 cfu/g) and (33.33×10^5 cfu/g,) was recorded in samples one, two and three respectively on the third day of storage with one wash given.

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Samples subjected to four washes showed the lowest bacterial population (20.66×10^5 cfu/g), (25.00×10^5 cfu/g) and (23.00×10^5 cfu/g) and were observed in samples one, two and three samples respectively. The similar trend was observed on fifth and seventh day in samples one, two and three.

There was significant difference between T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (two washes) and T₄ (four washes) of sample one on the third day. But, there was no significant difference between the T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes). They were on par with each other. A similar trend was observed on fifth and seventh day. Sample two also had the same trend except on seventh day. There was a significant difference between T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes). On fifth and seventh day of sample three, there was a significant difference between T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (two washes) and T₄ (four washes). But, on third day there was no significant difference between the T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes), they were on par with each other with reference to bacterial population (Table 1). (Plate No.1).

Fungal population of homemade horse gram sprout samples with different number of washes, at different time intervals is presented in the Table 2.

The fungal population in homemade horse gram sprout samples with different number of washes is presented in

Table 2. There was no visible fungal growth on first day of storage

The highest fungal population (7.33×10^3 cfu/g), (8.66×10^3 cfu/g), and (7.3×10^3 cfu/g) in samples one, two and three respectively, on third day with one wash. The lowest fungal population of 4×10^3 cfu/g, 4×10^3 cfu/g and 3×10^3 cfu/g were observed with sample one, two and three respectively on third day with four washes. Similar observations (the highest and the lowest fungal population) were observed on 5th and 7th day in sample one, two and three, with one wash and four washes respectively.

There was a significant difference between T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (two washes) and T₄ (four washes), T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes) with reference to fungal population of sample-one on third day. But, with fifth and seventh day, there were a significant differences between T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (two washes) and T₄ (four washes). But, T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes) were on par with each other. There is a significant difference between the T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (Two washes) and T₄ (four washes), T₃ (Three washes) and T₄ (four washes). On third, fifth and seventh day of sample two and three, but, except on seventh day for sample three, there was a significant difference between T₁ (one wash) and T₄ (four washes), T₂ (two washes) and T₄ (four washes). T₃ (three washes) and T₄ (four washes) were on par with each other.

Table 1: Bacterial population of homemade horse gram sprout samples as influenced by varying number of washes during storage.

Treatments (No. of washes)	Bacterial population ($\times 10^5$ cfu/g)											
	Sample 1 (days)				Sample 2 (days)				Sample 3 (days)			
	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th
1	-	31.66	46.66	53.66	-	31.33	38.00	42.00	-	33.33	35.00	40.00
2	-	25.00	31.00	33.33	-	29.00	34.00	40.00	-	27.00	32.00	37.00
3	-	23.00	29.00	32.00	-	27.00	31.00	37.00	-	25.00	30.00	33.00
4	-	20.66	27.00	31.00	-	25.00	29.00	34.00	-	23.00	27.00	29.00
SEm \pm	-	01.26	00.88	00.99	-	00.76	01.08	00.86	-	00.96	00.85	0.81
CD @ 5%	-	04.12	02.89	03.24	-	02.51	03.52	02.82	-	03.13	02.78	02.66

Note: Mean values indicate average of 4 replications

Table 2: Fungal population of homemade horse gram sprout samples as influenced by varying number of washes during storage.

Treatments (No. of washes)	Fungal population ($\times 10^3$ cfu/g)											
	Sample 1 (days)				Sample 2 (days)				Sample 3 (days)			
	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th	1 st	3 rd	5 th	7 th
1	-	07.33	11.66	16.00	-	08.66	12.66	15.00	-	07.33	10.33	13.00
2	-	05.66	08.00	11.00	-	07.00	11.00	13.66	-	06.00	08.33	10.00
3	-	04.66	07.33	10.00	-	05.66	09.00	12.00	-	04.66	07.00	08.33
4	-	04.00	07.00	09.00	-	04.0	06.66	09.00	-	03.00	05.00	07.33
SEm \pm	-	00.40	00.51	00.72	-	00.31	00.43	00.45	-	00.49	00.59	00.51
CD @ 5%	-	01.33	01.68	02.36	-	01.40	01.40	01.47	-	01.60	01.93	01.68

Note: Mean values indicate average of 4 replications

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