



Modified Atmospheric Packaging (Map) of *Trichosanthes Dioica (Parwal)* Sweet and Effect of Storage Temperature on the Physicochemical, Microbial and Sensory Characteristics

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Abstract

Trichosanthes dioica (Parwal) sweet was packed under air and modified atmospheric packaging (MAP) with a gas composition of 98% N₂ (2% O₂ impurity), and 70% N₂ : 30% CO₂, respectively. The samples were stored at 5, 10 and 25°C and evaluated for various microbial count, nutritional analysis (moisture, fat and protein), titratable acidity (TA), total carotenoids, vitamin C, DPPH inhibition activity, total phenolic content, hydroxymethylfurfuraldehyde (HMF), thiobarbituric acid (TBA), free fatty acid (FFA), Textural profile analysis and sensory attributes. Results showed that a combination of 70 %N₂+30% CO₂ had most significant effect to arrest the microbial growth followed by 100% N₂ and fresh. Similarly this combination of N₂ and CO₂ retained the proximate and textural quality of the products concluded that the MAP conditions of 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ and storage at 5°C, were the most suitable conditions for preserving the *Parwal sweet* up to 50 days.



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Introduction

From time immemorial ethnic food such as traditional sweets has played a significant role in our society and religion. *Parwal* or pointed gourd (*Trichosanthes dioica*) sweet is a type of indigenous dairy product prepared by filling of *khoa* in previously boiled *Parwal* in sugar syrup.¹⁻³ *Parwal* is a member of cucurbitaceae family and perennial, herbaceous and dioecious in nature.⁴ The edible part of the fruit is an influent source of the carotenoid (vitamin A) ascorbic acid (vitamin C), minerals and possesses cardiotoxic and anthelmintic properties.⁵⁻⁷

Customarily, production of *khoa* is very high and accounts 5.5 % of total milk production as it is the base material for number of relish milk sweets i.e. peda, barfi and kalakand, *Parwal sweet* etc.^{1,8,9} The shelf life of this kind of products is limited due to various constraints (i.e. temperature, moisture content, packaging material and storage conditions, etc.) which affects physical, biochemical and microbiological qualities.¹⁰ In general, the shelf life of commercial traditional products ranges from few days (at 25°C) to few weeks (at 4°C) and restricts the large-scale manufacturing and marketing.^{10,11} Biochemical changes i.e., hydroxymethylfurfuraldehyde (HMF), free fatty acid (FFA), thiobarbituric acid (TBA), proximate composition, microbial counts and physical properties alteration in some traditional sweets during storage period were studied at 4 and 37 °C.^{1,8,12} Other study has shown an increase in the storage life of traditional sweets by influencing in their water activity and sugar content etc.¹³⁻¹⁵

Recent trends in food science industries implied that the enrichment of nutrition value of the final product under consideration.¹⁶⁻²¹ Modified atmospheric packaging (MAP) is a technique commercially uses in minimal processing of fruits and vegetables by replacing the internal gases composition of the packaging material with a desirable amount of the gases. Most common gases use in MAP of traditional sweets are oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide.²²⁻²⁴ Oxygen in MAP causes several types of deterioration that include fat oxidation, pigment oxidation, browning reaction, aerobic microbial growth and strictly prohibit the anaerobic microbial spoilage. Therefore, to increase the shelf life, MAP should contain a low concentration of oxygen.^{25,26} Nitrogen is relatively safe as compared to oxygen concentration

which leads to displacing the oxygen in packs resulting delays in fat oxidation and growth of aerobic microorganisms.^{27,28} Antimicrobial activity of carbon dioxide retards the growth of aerobic microorganisms during their growth phase.^{29,30} Several research studies reported the effect of different processing techniques and conditions on the physicochemical characteristics of final product.³¹⁻³⁵ Ghayal *et al.*,¹² reported that the influence of gas compositions on the storage stability of MAP sweet was found to be more stable for the sample packed under 100 % N₂ than the sample packed under 50% CO₂:50% N₂ followed by atmospheric gas composition. However, for lal peda packed under the gas composition of 70 % N₂: 30 % CO₂ was better to retain the shelf life with respect to sample packed 98 % N₂ followed by air atmosphere.⁸ Another study reported that the effect of MAP on the shelf life of kalakand was up to 60 days in the gas composition of 50% N₂ and 50% CO₂ at 10°C however 98 % N₂ and 98 % CO₂ was least significant at all storage temperature (5, 10 and 37°C).³⁶ However, no scientific evidence is available on the modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) and storage stability of laboratory prepared *Parwal sweet*.

The purpose of the present study was to explore the influence of various gas compositions on the storage stability of the *Parwal sweets* stored at different temperature. In this paper, published researches on modified atmosphere packaging specifically on traditional ethnic sweets are critically reviewed and opportunities for future research are explored.

Materials and Methods

Materials

In the present study milk (Fat = 6% and SNF = 9%) was procured from the Department of Dairying and Animal Husbandry farm's, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India. Citric Acid (C₆H₈O₇·H₂O) (Mol. Wt.-210.14) from Fisher Scientific, India. However, sugar and fresh *Parwal* were acquired from the local market of Varanasi, India.

Method

Preparation of *Parwal Sweet*

The *khoa* was prepared using the procedure given by Aneja *et al.*,³⁷ however; the *Parwal sweet* was prepared by the method given by Viswas *et al.*,¹

and additionally, some almond slices were put to improve appearance.

Packaging of *Parwal Sweet*

The *Parwal sweet* (one in each pack) were packed in low-density polyethylene (LDPE) pouches (150 gauge thick with dimension 18×30 cm and oxygen transmission rate (OTR) 480 cc/0.001 inch/100 inch²/24h/atm O₂ and water transmission rate (WTR) 1.2 g/1002 inch/24 h at 90 % RH using modified atmospheric packaging (MAP) system (Reepack®, VAC-STAR, AG S 220 MP) from Switzerland coupled with gas mixer (MAP mix-9000, PBI DANSENSOR, Ringsted, Denmark). Two combinations of MAP gases used to pack the *Parwal sweet* samples were i.e. 98% N₂ (with 2 % O₂ impurity) and 70% N₂+30% CO₂, respectively. One another gas combination (air atmosphere) was used to pack the sample as to as control. Packed samples were investigated for their shelf life evaluation at different temperature viz., 5, 10 and 25°C at the interval of 10 days with respect to microbial, physicochemical, textural and sensory attributes.

Microbial Count Analysis

Microbial profiling of the laboratory prepared *Parwal sweet* were performed with respect to total plate count (TPC), yeast and mold count (YMC) and coliform counts. During microbial analysis plate count agar (PCA) was used for TPC, potato dextrose agar (PDA) for yeast & mold and violet red bile agar (VRBA) for coliform as a growth medium. 10⁻² dilution of the serial dilution was speeded on solidified medium subsequently TPC and coliform were incubated at 37°C and yeast and mold 25°C for 24-48 h.⁸

Proximate Composition of *Parwal Sweet*

The proximate composition of the *Parwal sweet* was evaluated following the method described by Patel *et al.*,²¹ However, determination of titratable acidity (TA) was performed titration method. All calculated data were presented on the percent wet basis (% w.b).³⁸

Antioxidant Properties

The total carotenoids estimation of *Parwal sweet* was performed using UV-1800 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu, Japan) at 452 nm and Vitamin-C (L-ascorbic acid) 2,6-Dichlorophenol-Indophenol

(DCPIP) by titration method.³⁹ Radical scavenging activity was measured with the help of stable free radical, 2,2-diphenyl-2-picryl 1 hydrazyl (DPPH).¹⁷ Total phenolic content was determined using the method as described by Pandey and Patel¹⁶ using Folin-Ciocalteu reagent and Gallic acid standard calibration curve (25, 50, 75, 100, 125 and 150 ppm).

Hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF) Analysis

Dehydration or catalytic conversion of sugar into organic acid was determined in terms of HMF.⁴⁰⁻⁴¹ 1.0 g sample was thoroughly mixed with 9.5 mL distilled water. Then, 10.0 mL of 3 N oxalic acid was added and the tubes were kept in boiling water bath for 60 min. The contents of the tubes were cooled and 10 mL of 40 % trichloroacetic acid solution was added and stayed for 10 minutes to precipitate. The precipitated was filtered through Whatman No. 42 filter paper. 1 mL of filtrate was taken into 10 mL test tube and 7 mL of distilled water added followed by 2 mL of 0.05 M trichloroacetic acid solution and mixed properly. The reaction mixture was placed into a water bath at 40°C for 50 min subsequently absorbance was taken at 443 nm using UV-1800 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu, Japan) and the results were expressed as µmol/L. From the standard curve (5 to 50 µmol/100g), the HMF content in the samples was determined using the following regression Eq (A.1):

$$\text{Total HMF } (\mu\text{mol}/100\text{g}) = (\text{Absorbance}-0.055) \times 87.5 \times 0.4 \quad \dots(1)$$

Thiobarbituric Acid (TBA) Analysis

The degree of fat oxidation was measured in terms of TBA relative substances value.⁸ 2 g of sample was taken into 50 mL of 20% trichloroacetic acid and well blended followed by 50 mL of distilled water and stayed for 10 min for precipitation. The precipitate was filtered, and 5 mL of filtrate was taken into test tubes with 5 mL of 0.01 M 2-thiobarbituric acid. The test tubes were subjected at 95°C water bath for 30 min to color development, cooled and absorbance was taken at 532 nm. Reference determination was made using the same additionally distilled water instead of sample.

Free Fatty Acid (FFA) Analysis

Determine the FFA content of the *Parwal sweet* was performed using the method prescribed by

Deeth *et al.*,⁴² The method consisted of accurate weighing of 1.0 g of *Parwal sweet* sample into a 60 ml stoppered test tube. 20 ml of extraction mixture (Isopropanol: Petroleum ether: 4.0 N H₂SO₄ in the ratio of 40:10:1) was added and mixed thoroughly. This was followed by the addition of 12 ml petroleum ether and 8 ml distilled water. The test tube was stoppered and tempered at 40°C for 10 min. The contents were vigorously shaken for 20 s. The two-layer were allowed to separate for 10-15 min and an aliquot of the upper layer (5-8ml) was withdrawn and titrated against 0.02N methanolic KOH solution using 1% methanolic phenolphthalein indicator. A blank was run in the same manner as above using distilled water. The results were expressed as µeq of oleic acid/g.

The FFA content of *Parwal sweet* was obtained from the following Eq (A.2):

$$FFA (\mu\text{eq/g}) = \frac{T \times N}{P \times W} 10^3 \quad \dots(2)$$

Where: T = ml of 0.02 N KOH used; N = normality of methanolic KOH solution; P = proportion of upper layer of aliquot titrated / total aliquot and W = weight of sample.

Analysis of Texture of *Parwal Sweet*

A texture profile analyzer (TA-XT2i, M/s Stable Micro Systems, UK) was used to analyze the texture profile of *Parwal sweet* following the method as described by Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Londhe *et al.*,¹⁰

Sensory Attributes

Sensory analysis of the samples was carried out using an untrained panel constituting of 15 respondents using a 9-points Hedonic scale.⁴³ The responses with respect to the color & appearance, flavor, body & texture and overall acceptability (OAA) of the samples were collected from each of the respondents and the results were statistically analyzed.

Statistical Analysis

Each experiment was conducted in triplicate (n=3) and obtained data were analyzed using a statistical analysis software PROC RSREG of SAS (SAS 2008, USA). A consequent least significant difference (P < 0.05) test was applied for multiple sample assessment.

Results and Discussion

Microbial Quality of *Parwal Sweet*

Initially the population of TPC and YMC were 3.27 and 3.08 log₁₀ cfu/g, respectively. However, the coliform count was not detected (nil) throughout the study. In the samples stored under air as control, 98% N₂, and 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ at 25°C microbial count (TPC and YMC) recorded as their critical limits (>5.0) within 10 days (Table 1). Hence, further microbial analysis of sample stored with air at 25°C was discontinued after 10 days however it was continuous till 20th days to evaluate the influence of MAP and air atmospheric condition on other quality parameters.

In the sample packed under air atmosphere, microbial counts were (TPC and YMC) reached their critical limits within 20 days (5.43 and 5.89 log₁₀cfu/g) stored at 10°C and 30 days (5.67 and 4.89 log₁₀cfu/g) stored at 5°C respectively. However, in the sample packed under 98% N₂ displayed a gradual increase in the TPC and YMC and showed their critical limits at 30 and 40 days of storage (5.75 log₁₀cfu/g at 10°C and 5.47 log₁₀cfu/g at 5°C). Similarly, when stored under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ gas composition, the TPC and YMC were detained significantly during 30 days of storage at 10°C and 50 days at 5°C respectively.

At the last day of storage, the TPC and YMC 4.91 and 4.85 log₁₀cfu/g (at 10°C) were 4.64 and 405 log₁₀cfu/g (at 5°C) respectively. In control sample (air atmosphere) the microbial activity was highest it may be due to the presence of sufficient oxygen under pack which accelerates the growth of aerobic microbes.²⁵ However, sample with 98% N₂ was found to better in retention of shelf life than packed under air. Because nitrogen is an inert gas which does not support the growth of microorganism.^{27,28} The gases combination of MAP viz., 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ displayed best retention in the shelf life of *Parwal sweet* sample, probably due to the antimicrobial/ anaerobic

the activity of CO₂ under package.^{27,29} The results were agreed with results reported by Jha *et al.*,⁸ for storage stability of MAP lal peda.

Table 1: Microbial evaluation of Parwal/sweet packaged under air and MAP stored at 5, 10 and 25°C

Storage period (days)	Atmosphere	Total plate count (log ₁₀ cfu/g)			Yeast and mold count (log ₁₀ cfu/g)			Coliform count (log ₁₀ cfu/g)		
		5°C	10°C	25°C	5°C	10°C	25°C	5°C	10°C	25°C
0	Fresh	3.27±0.07	3.27±0.07	3.27±0.07	3.08±0.01	3.08±0.01	3.08±0.01	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Control	4.03±0.15 ^a	4.63±0.01 ^{a,b}	6.53±0.50 ^c	3.14±0.04 ^a	4.73±0.08 ^b	6.14±0.07 ^c	NIL	NIL	NIL
	100% N ₂	3.68±0.03 ^a	3.92±0.01 ^b	5.61±0.27 ^c	3.11±0.54 ^a	3.56±0.01 ^a	5.59±0.54 ^c	NIL	NIL	NIL
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	3.31±0.50 ^a	3.44±0.01 ^b	5.26±0.00 ^c	3.10±0.54 ^a	3.20±0.03 ^{ab}	5.04±0.00 ^c	NIL	NIL	NIL
20	Control	4.83±0.44 ^a	5.43±0.03 ^b		3.69±0.05 ^a	5.89±0.04 ^b		NIL	NIL	
	100% N ₂	4.05±0.08 ^a	4.46±0.01 ^b		3.54±0.00 ^a	5.17±0.06 ^b		NIL	NIL	
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	3.39±0.04 ^a	4.13±0.01 ^b		3.09±0.11 ^a	3.86±0.01 ^{ab}		NIL	NIL	
	Control	5.67±0.17 ^a	6.38±0.08 ^b		4.89±0.07 ^a	7.65±0.08 ^b		NIL	NIL	
30	100% N	4.52±0.07 ^a	5.75±0.03 ^b		4.38±0.01 ^a	5.31±0.02 ^b		NIL	NIL	
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	3.51±0.04 ^a	4.91±0.02 ^b		3.14±0.02 ^a	4.85±0.01 ^b		NIL	NIL	
	Control	6.22±0.01			5.79±0.04			NIL		
	100% N ₂	5.47±0.27			5.04±0.14			NIL		
40	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	4.13±0.14			3.52±0.03			NIL		
	Control	7.40±0.02			6.12±0.00			NIL		
	100% N ₂	5.77±0.21			5.30±0.00			NIL		
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	4.64±0.00			4.05±0.00			NIL		

Note: Values presents in mean ± standard deviation of triplicate for each sample (n=3); values are significantly different at the level of p<0.05 for each storage period, storage temperature and packing conditions.

Table 2: The nutritional composition of Parwal sweet packaged under air and MAP stored at 5, 10 and 25°C

Storage period (days)	Atmosphere	Moisture			Fat			Protein			Titratable acidity		
		5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C
0	Fresh	15.30±0.95	15.30±0.95	15.30±0.95	28.22±0.00	28.22±0.00	28.22±0.00	15.40±0.00	15.40±0.00	15.40±0.00	0.20±0.00	0.20±0.00	0.20±0.00
	Control	14.72±0.37 ^a	13.23±0.25 ^b	10.65±0.28 ^c	26.89±0.54 ^a	25.15±0.54 ^b	20.65±0.54 ^c	14.83±0.27 ^a	14.58±0.27 ^{ab}	12.65±0.27 ^b	0.23±0.04 ^a	0.24±0.00 ^a	0.29±0.00 ^b
	100% N ₂	15.23±0.44 ^a	13.98±0.54 ^b	11.14±0.42 ^c	27.54±0.54 ^a	27.12±0.54 ^a	22.72±0.00 ^b	15.07±0.27 ^a	14.76±0.27 ^{ab}	13.06±0.00 ^c	0.22±0.01 ^a	0.23±0.02 ^a	0.27±0.06 ^b
10	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	15.30±0.35 ^a	14.52±0.41 ^b	11.56±0.30 ^c	28.17±0.00 ^a	28.02±0.00 ^a	23.45±0.00 ^b	15.38±0.44 ^a	15.29±0.44 ^a	13.13±0.54 ^b	0.21±0.01 ^a	0.23±0.01 ^a	0.27±0.00 ^c
	Control	14.44±0.00 ^a	12.54±0.34 ^b	10.41±0.44 ^c	26.26±0.54 ^a	24.26±0.00 ^b	18.25±0.00 ^c	14.05±0.27 ^a	13.57±0.00 ^{ab}	10.23±0.00 ^c	0.27±0.00 ^c	0.42±0.00 ^a	0.83±0.14 ^c
	100% N ₂	14.93±0.27 ^a	13.28±0.34 ^b	11.07±0.27 ^c	27.12±0.54 ^a	26.67±0.00 ^{ab}	19.78±0.00 ^c	14.84±0.27 ^a	14.32±0.00 ^{ab}	11.16±0.00 ^c	0.24±0.04 ^a	0.38±0.02 ^b	0.72±0.02 ^c
20	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	15.25±0.43 ^a	13.87±0.65 ^b	11.34±0.34 ^c	28.12±0.54 ^a	27.54±0.00 ^b	20.65±0.00 ^c	15.29±0.44 ^a	14.84±0.00 ^{ab}	11.67±0.00 ^c	0.23±0.01 ^a	0.24±0.04 ^a	0.67±0.01 ^b
	Control	13.76±0.44 ^a	10.21±0.54 ^b	25.85±0.54 ^c	23.16±0.04 ^b	23.16±0.04 ^b	25.85±0.54 ^c	13.51±0.27 ^a	12.12±0.23 ^b	0.34±0.01 ^a	0.91±0.06 ^a	0.34±0.01 ^a	0.91±0.06 ^a
	100% N ₂	14.72±0.27 ^a	12.82±0.37 ^b	27.04±0.54 ^c	25.43±0.03 ^b	25.43±0.03 ^b	27.04±0.54 ^c	14.42±0.27 ^a	13.47±0.22 ^b	0.30±0.00 ^a	0.88±0.04 ^a	0.30±0.00 ^a	0.88±0.04 ^a
30	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	15.17±0.45 ^a	13.27±0.54 ^b	28.04±0.54 ^c	26.86±0.13 ^b	26.86±0.13 ^b	15.05±0.44 ^a	14.33±0.74 ^{ab}	0.24±0.03 ^a	0.43±0.12 ^b	0.24±0.03 ^a	0.43±0.12 ^b	0.24±0.03 ^a
	Control	12.54±0.44	14.02±0.27	23.67±0.54	26.45±0.54	26.45±0.54	23.67±0.54	12.87±0.27	14.08±0.27	0.52±0.14	0.44±0.8	0.52±0.14	0.44±0.8
	100% N ₂	14.87±0.44	14.87±0.44	27.74±0.54	27.74±0.54	27.74±0.54	27.74±0.54	14.88±0.44	14.88±0.44	0.44±0.8	0.25±0.02	0.44±0.8	0.25±0.02
40	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	11.24±0.00	13.03±0.00	21.57±0.00	25.13±0.00	25.13±0.00	11.56±0.00	11.56±0.00	1.22±0.54	1.06±0.28	1.22±0.54	1.06±0.28	1.22±0.54
	Control	13.03±0.00	14.55±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	13.42±0.00	14.62±0.00	1.06±0.28	0.31±0.02	1.06±0.28	0.31±0.02
	100% N ₂	14.55±0.00	14.55±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	27.39±0.00	14.62±0.00	14.62±0.00	0.31±0.02	0.31±0.02	0.31±0.02	0.31±0.02

Note: Values presents in mean ± standard deviation of triplicate for each sample (n=3), values are significantly different at the level of p<0.05 for each storage period, storage temperature and packing conditions.

Proximate Composition

Initially, the nutritional composition of laboratory prepared fresh *Parwal sweet* was protein (15.40% w.b.) and fat (28.22% w.b.), and moisture (15.30% w.b.) respectively (Table 2). It was observed that there was a simultaneous and quick loss in moisture content (15.28%, fresh to 11.41%, 20 days) stored at 25°C respectively under air atmosphere and varied significantly ($p < 0.05$) with another storage period, temperature and MAP conditions. Gas compositions of 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ displayed greater retention of moisture content (14.55%) after 50 days of storage at 5°C with respect to sample packed with 98% N₂ (13.03%) and air atmosphere (11.24%) respectively. Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Ghayal *et al.*,¹² reported similar observations in rabri and lal peda during storage period packed under MAP and air atmosphere samples, respectively.

Protein and fat compositions of *Parwal sweet* were significantly ($p < 0.05$) influenced with different storage periods, storage temperatures and packing conditions. Gas composition of 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ at 5°C was found to most significant to prevent the degradation of nutritional compositions compared to sample packed under 98% N₂ and air atmosphere, varied from 15.40% to 14.62% (protein) and 28.22% to 27.39% (fat) after 50 days of storage, however the sample store at 10°C displayed the greater rate deterioration than stored at 5°C ranged from 15.40% to 13.74 and 28.22% to 25.43% respectively, after 30 days of storage (Table 2). Sample stored at 25°C displayed 24.22% (from 15.40 to 11.67%) reduction in total protein content and 26.82 % (from 28.22 to 20.65%) reduction in total fat content after 20 days of storage under same packaging condition, however, sample packed under 98% N₂ and air atmosphere displayed 27.53% & 33.57% reduction in protein and 29.91% & 35.33% reduction in fat contents respectively. In sample stored at 5°C under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ reduction was five times lower in protein content and nine times lower fat content with respect to sample stored at 25°C under the same. This reduction may be due to hydrolysis of protein into free amino acids^{44,45} and hydrolysis of fat by present microorganisms and enzymatic activities into free fatty acids.¹³

Titrateable acidity of the *Parwal sweets* increased gradually due to increasing in the storage temperature

and period under MAP and air atmosphere. The acidity in the *khoa* based *Parwal sweet* is expressed as lactic acid of *khoa* and ascorbic acid of *Parwal*.^{7,10} Initial TA of *Parwal sweet* was found to be 0.20% respectively and increased slightly packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ gas composition at 5°C of storage temperature. However, the sample stored at 10 and 25°C under same gas composition displayed significantly ($p < 0.05$) increasing in TA varied from 0.20 to 0.43% (30th days) and 0.20 to 0.67% (20th days) respectively (Table 2). *Parwal sweet* packed in 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ was found to most valuable to retain the TA of the sample compared packed under 98% N₂ followed by air atmosphere. So, storage of the *Parwal sweet* at relatively lower temperature i.e. 5°C under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ gas composition was efficient to maintain the TA at an acceptable limit even at the last days (50th) of storage.

Antioxidant Properties

Carotenoids and vitamin C are major antioxidants in *Parwal* which possesses cardiogenic and anthelmintic properties⁵⁻⁷ in their respective products if utilized properly. Total carotenoids ($\mu\text{g}/100\text{g}$), vitamin C ($\text{mg}/100\text{g}$), DPPH inhibition activity (%) and total phenolic content (mg/g) in fresh laboratory prepared *Parwal sweet* was found to 82.59, 53.51, 67.15, 71.84 and 29.87 respectively (Table 3). These values were found to be diminished significantly ($p < 0.05$) during progression in storage temperature and period. Samples stored at 25°C displayed faster decrement in these values with respect to samples stored at 10°C followed by 5°C respectively.

significant effect of different packing conditions was also observed, displayed that sample packed under air atmosphere and 98% N₂ resulted in a high rate of deterioration followed by packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ respectively. In the sample packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ and stored at 5°C was found to be reduction of 10.87% of total carotenoids, 8.71% of vitamin C, 9.96% of DPPH inhibition activity and 11.01% of total phenolic content after 50 days of storage was much lower than the samples stored at 10 & 25°C, were 17.31 & 46.92%, 24.05 & 38.98%, 23.05 & 32.42%, 14.48 & 19.99% and 15.73 & 26.88% respectively after 30 & 20 days of storage respectively. However, the effect of packing conditions (98% N₂ & air atmosphere) on the

reduction of these contents stored at 5°C were 28.25 & 38.07%, 24.48 & 36.76%, 20.36 & 28.90%, 25.56 & 48.98% and 21.06 & 27.68% respectively, were much higher than the sample packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂. The results were agreement with the finding of other researchers^{46,47} reported the rapid decreasing in the antioxidant activity, carotenoids and phenolic content in two different pigment's carrots stored under different gas composition. It may be due to higher concentration of inert nitrogen leads to displacing the oxygen in packs resulting delays degradation,²⁸ however, carbon dioxide hinders the aerobic metabolism.³⁵

Hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF)

HMF content (μmoles/100 g) of the MAP (98% N₂, 70% N₂:30% CO₂) and air atmosphere packed *Parwal sweets* stored at different temperatures (5, 10 and 25°C) for different storage period were estimated as shown in Figure 1 (a-c). The HMF content for sample packed under air atmosphere varied with variation in temperature. The sample stored at 5°C showed a minimal and gradual increase in the HMF content followed by sample stored at 10°C; however, a sudden increasing in HMF content were observed in case of sample stored at 25°C and reached maximum the limits among all samples. The HMF content in sample increased gradually with increasing in storage period was also observed. It was observed the highest (33.5) in sample packed under air atmosphere stored at 25°C after 20 days, was much higher than the sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ gas composition and stored at minimum of storage temperature (5°C) after 50 days of storage content (28.6), which was lowest among all samples. In sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ was found to be detained the formation of HMF compared to samples packed under 98% N₂ followed air atmosphere. Based on the above findings, it could be assured that the effect of storage temperature on the HMF content was most significant (p<0.05) than the others. Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Londhe *et al.*,¹⁰ reported that the combination of carbon dioxide and nitrogen showed better results in the prevention of HMF formation in the brown peda and the lal peda packed under air atmosphere and another MAP, respectively. Jain *et al.*,³⁶ studied the shelf life of kalakand stored at different temperature (10, 25, and 37°C) and gas compositions, reported

that the HMF content was increasing during storage as the storage temperature was increasing.

Thiobarbituric Acid (TBA)

Parwal sweet is a milk-based product contained a high amount of milk fat (28.22%) makes it prone to oxidation degradation followed by rancidity. TBA values *Parwal sweets* packed under air and MAP atmosphere at 5, 10 and 25°C for different days of storage are shown in Figure 2 (a-c), depicted alteration in gas compositions, storage temperature and periods significantly (p<0.05) influenced the TBA value. It was observed that the rate of the increase of TBA value was more in sample packed under air atmosphere and 98% N₂ with progression in storage temperature and period than the sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ gas composition. The trend for increasing of TBA value in the samples packed under different gas compositions was 70% N₂:30% CO₂ < 98% N₂ < air respectively. Similar findings were reported in dietetic rabry and kalakand.^{12,36} Similarly, some researchers^{36,48} mentioned the increase in TBA value of different types of milk during storage period. They also reported relationship of TBA value and occurrence of off flavor in milk, which makes the product unacceptable.

Free Fatty Acid (FFA)

As stated earlier *Parwal sweet* is a dairy-based product containing a high amount of milk fat thus leads to greater possibility of degradation either hydrolytic or autoxidative liberate FFAs.^{27,28} The FFA value of the *Parwal sweet* samples packed under different gas compositions and stored at different temperature and storage periods are shown in Figure 3 (a-c) depicted the same trends as observed in TBA value. FFA value of sample stored at different temperature and storage periods observed increased significantly (p<0.05) with progression as well. Similar findings have been reported by several researchers in brown peda, dietetic rabry and *khoa*.^{9,10,14} General trend for increasing FFA value as recorded in samples packed under different gas compositions were 70% N₂:30% CO₂ < 98% N₂ < air. FFA value in the sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ and stored at 5°C was found to be the lowest compared to samples packed under 98% N₂ & air atmosphere and storage temperature of 10 and 25°C respectively.

Table 3: Antioxidant properties of Parwal sweet packaged under air and MAP stored at 5, 10 and 25°C

Storage period (days)	Atmosphere	Total Carotenoid ($\mu\text{g}/100\text{g}$)			Vitamin C ($\text{mg}/100\text{g}$)			DPPH Inhibition activity (%)			Total Phenolic Content (mg/g)		
		5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C
0	Fresh	82.54±9.22	82.54±9.22	82.52±9.22	53.07±1.87	53.07±1.87	53.07±1.87	67.15±0.76	67.15±0.76	67.15±0.76	29.87±0.56	29.87±0.13	29.87±0.13
	Control	75.52±0.82 ^a	72.11±1.83 ^{ab}	57.12±0.87 ^c	48.23±2.41 ^a	40.56±0.22 ^c	36.15±0.48 ^c	64.12±2.54 ^a	58.54±0.22 ^{ab}	47.34±0.93 ^c	26.45±0.02 ^a	25.15±0.22 ^{ab}	21.64±0.33 ^c
	100% N ₂	77.02±1.64 ^a	74.85±5.07 ^{ab}	57.20±1.02 ^c	50.51±0.54 ^a	48.155±0.45 ^b	39.34±1.52 ^c	65.84±0.81 ^a	63.34±0.30 ^{ab}	51.31±0.08 ^c	27.24±0.80 ^a	26.78±1.04 ^{ab}	23.84±0.57 ^c
	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	81.14±0.81 ^a	80.12±4.41 ^{ab}	60.85±0.13 ^c	53.21±0.63 ^a	51.64±0.86 ^{ab}	42.27±0.27 ^c	67.25±0.73 ^a	65.78±0.72 ^{ab}	54.12±1.82 ^c	28.17±1.13 ^a	27.15±0.92 ^{ab}	25.68±1.24 ^c
20	Control	67.54±1.13 ^a	62.07±0.65 ^b	27.19±1.57 ^c	48.25±1.22 ^a	34.25±0.13 ^b	25.81±1.06 ^c	57.07±0.16 ^a	50.74±1.07 ^b	31.31±1.52 ^c	25.55±0.23 ^a	24.28±1.16 ^{ab}	18.11±0.04 ^c
	100% N ₂	70.26±0.72 ^a	65.54±1.62 ^b	38.25±2.14 ^c	49.85±0.74 ^a	42.84±0.72 ^b	28.48±0.55 ^c	58.51±0.83 ^a	53.54±0.21 ^b	40.87±0.50 ^c	26.87±0.77 ^a	24.08±1.42 ^b	20.48±3.55 ^c
	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	78.32±0.42 ^a	71.21±2.71 ^b	43.81±0.92 ^c	52.85±0.38 ^a	48.54±1.04 ^b	32.65±1.02 ^c	65.55±0.43 ^a	61.37±0.72 ^{ab}	45.38±2.42 ^c	28.58±2.42 ^c	26.57±0.12 ^b	21.84±1.03 ^c
	Control	60.78±2.37 ^a	51.98±0.05 ^b	46.21±0.53 ^b	46.21±0.53 ^a	28.87±1.21 ^b	55.75±0.82 ^a	55.75±0.82 ^a	35.91±0.25 ^b	24.15±2.24 ^a	20.18±0.13 ^b	25.04±0.82 ^a	22.24±0.28 ^b
30	Control	65.16±1.53 ^a	55.85±2.07 ^b	47.45±0.80 ^b	47.45±0.80 ^a	35.16±1.22 ^b	58.14±2.17 ^a	42.18±1.03 ^b	63.88±1.71 ^a	51.67±1.48 ^b	27.00±0.78 ^a	25.17±0.11 ^b	
	100% N ₂	77.02±5.32 ^a	68.25±0.81 ^b	50.78±0.17 ^a	50.78±0.17 ^a	41.64±0.12 ^b	50.01±1.25	55.96±0.14	61.21±0.83	47.74±1.22	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18
	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	54.20±1.28	62.49±0.87	75.84±2.14	42.27±2.68	43.18±0.81	49.78±0.22	50.01±1.25	55.96±0.14	61.21±0.83	47.74±1.22	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16
	Control	51.12±1.83	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	33.84±0.52	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18
40	Control	51.12±1.83	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	33.84±0.52	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18
	100% N ₂	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	48.85±1.24	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18	
	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	54.20±1.28	62.49±0.87	75.84±2.14	42.27±2.68	43.18±0.81	49.78±0.22	50.01±1.25	55.96±0.14	61.21±0.83	47.74±1.22	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16
	Control	51.12±1.83	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	33.84±0.52	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18
50	Control	51.12±1.83	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	33.84±0.52	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18
	100% N ₂	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	48.85±1.24	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18	
	70 %N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	54.20±1.28	62.49±0.87	75.84±2.14	42.27±2.68	43.18±0.81	49.78±0.22	50.01±1.25	55.96±0.14	61.21±0.83	47.74±1.22	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16
	Control	51.12±1.83	59.22±0.58	73.57±0.44	33.84±0.52	40.41±1.05	48.85±1.24	47.74±1.22	53.27±0.51	60.46±1.58	21.87±3.15	23.58±1.16	26.58±2.18

Note: Values presents in mean ± standard deviation of triplicate for each sample (n=3); values are significantly different at the level of p<0.05 for each storage period, storage temperature and packing conditions.

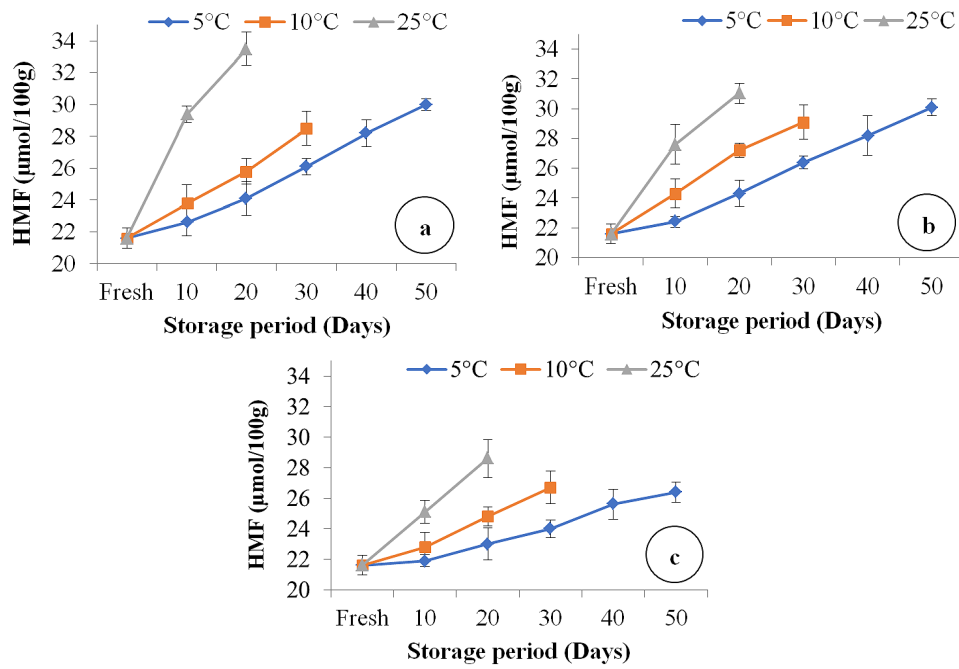


Fig. 1: Change in HMF content of the *Parwal* sweet packed under air (a), 98% N₂ (b), 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ (c)

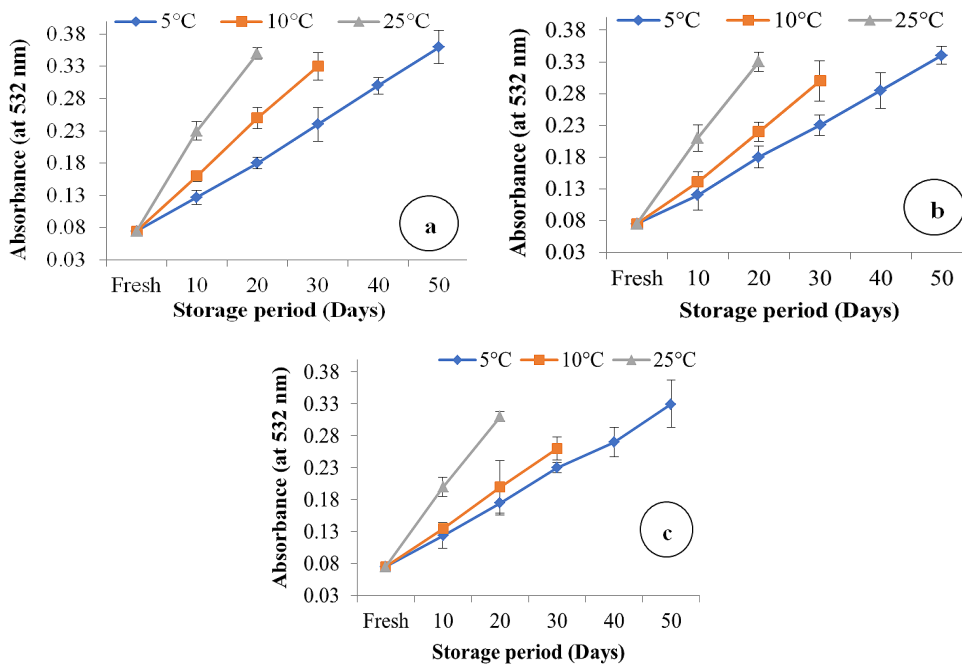


Fig. 2: Change in TBA value of the *Parwal* sweet packed under air (a), 98% N₂ (b), 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ (c) stored at different temperature

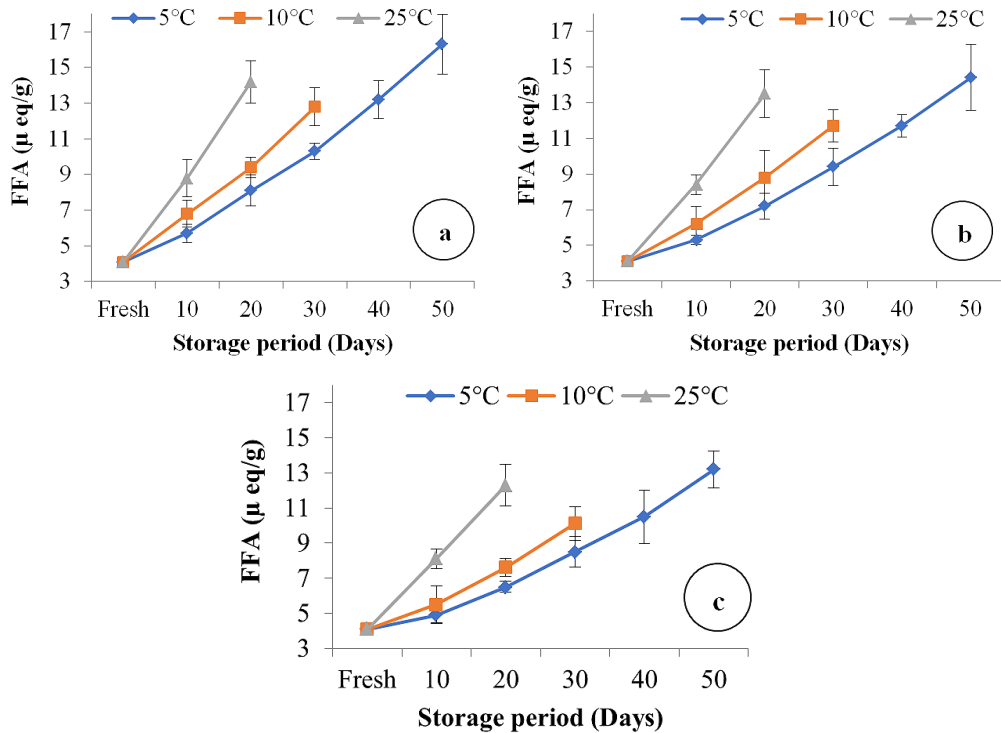


Fig. 3: Change in FFA of the *Parwal sweet* packed under air (a), 98% N₂ (b) and 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ (c) stored at different storage temperature

Texture Quality of *Parwal Sweet*

The textural properties are the key factors, play a decisive role to determine primary acceptability of any kinds of product. Effect of different storage temperature, periods and gas compositions on the textural properties of *Parwal sweet* were given in Table 4, depicted that significant different ($p < 0.05$) to each other. In the sample packaged under 98% N₂ and air atmosphere displayed sudden rise in the hardness compared to sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ gas composition. Progression in storage temperatures and periods also displayed a gradual increase in hardness. Moisture content in the samples plays a key role in their hardness. It was found that sample stored at 5°C was found to be detained to increase the hardness of sample than sample stored at 10 and 25°C respectively. As observed that the sample stored at 5°C under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ displayed a gradual increase in hardness from 2650.5 (fresh) to 3742.05g, however sample packed under 98% N₂ and air atmosphere displayed steep increasing 2650.5 to 4833.53g and 2650.5 to 5732.42g after 50th day. In the sample

packed under MAP displayed lower rate of increasing in the hardness it may be due to its greater moisture retention capacity than air atmosphere. This result was in agreement with the findings of Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Jain *et al.*,³⁶ who reported that the increase of total solid content in kalakand and lal peda resulted increasing the hardness.

The adhesiveness of a product is related to its sensory stickiness. Table 4 shows that the average adhesiveness of the *Parwal sweet* samples decreased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increasing the storage period and temperature. This is possibly due to the reduction in the moisture content of the sample during storage which causes less attractive forces between the surface of food and to which it contacts. *Parwal sweet* samples stored under MAP and air atmosphere also were found to significantly different ($p < 0.05$) to each other. The adhesiveness of the samples stored at 5°C decreased from -120.32 (fresh) to -42.33 (air), -63.12 (98% N₂) and -93.84 g.sec (70% N₂:30% CO₂) respectively after 50 days of storage (Table 4).

Table 4: Textural changes in Parwal sweet packaged under air and MAP stored at 5, 10 and 25 °C

Storage period (days)	Atmosphere	Hardness (g) Adhesiveness (g.sec)			Springiness			Cohesiveness					
		5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C	5 °C	10 °C	25 °C			
0	Fresh	2650.52±	2650.57±	2650.5±	-120.32±	-120.32±	-120.32±	0.27±	0.27±	0.27±	0.20±	0.20±	0.20±
10	Control	65.11	65.11	65.11	21.11	21.11	21.11	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.01	0.01	0.01
	100% N ₂	3238.25±	3760.05±	3958.2±	-109.88±	-89.85±	-65.11±	0.32±	0.31±	0.37±	0.28±	0.36±	0.41±
	30% CO ₂	106.15 ^a	106.10 ^b	111.11 ^c	12.41 ^a	14.12 ^{bc}	05.17 ^c	0.002 ^a	0.02 ^{ab}	0.005 ^c	0.006 ^a	0.005 ^c	0.01 ^c
20	Control	3109.05±	3641.41±	3833.5±	-115.04±	-101.67±	-77.13±	0.31±	0.33±	0.34±	0.24±	0.28±	0.58±
	100% N ₂	64.07 ^a	89.95 ^b	112.00 ^c	08.94 ^a	17.71 ^{bc}	10.15 ^c	0.004 ^a	0.02 ^{bc}	0.004 ^c	0.008 ^a	0.01 ^b	0.003 ^c
	30% CO ₂	2650.15±	2827.14 ±	3248.51±	-118.72±	-112.38±	-84.18±	0.33±	0.37±	0.39±	0.22±	0.23 ±	0.43±
30	Control	65.11 ^a	88.75 ^b	25.43 ^c	02.17 ^a	11.67 ^{bc}	07.01 ^c	0.001 ^a	0.01 ^b	0.02 ^c	0.05 ^a	0.08 ^b	0.05 ^c
	100% N ₂	106.54 ^a	100.30 ^b	110.11 ^c	20.45 ^a	13.67 ^b	11.23 ^c	0.005 ^a	0.04 ^b	0.005 ^c	0.02 ^a	0.06 ^b	0.01 ^c
	30% CO ₂	3979.52±	4543.45±	5444.20±	-110.44±	-87.84±	-52.60±	0.35±	0.41±	0.44 ±	0.271±	0.35±	0.49±
40	Control	110.61 ^a	100.24 ^b	106.15 ^c	14.21 ^a	05.13 ^{bc}	01.80 ^c	0.0045 ^a	0.01 ^b	0.002 ^c	0.01 ^a	0.03 ^b	0.03 ^c
	100% N ₂	2870.12±	3829.21 ±	5238.0±	-115.75±	-105.63±	-57.30±	0.34±	0.39±	0.42 ±	0.23±	0.25±	0.47±
	30% CO ₂	85.61 ^a	113.68 ^b	67.10 ^c	11.54 ^a	02.18 ^{bc}	13.15 ^c	0.003 ^a	0.04 ^b	0.003 ^c	0.08 ^a	0.07 ^b	0.07 ^c
50	Control	4552.84±	6454.43±		-89.51±	-51.55±		0.41±	0.51±		0.39±	0.53±	
	100% N ₂	57.11 ^a	101.76 ^b		03.11 ^a	0.23 ^b		0.002 ^a	0.005 ^b		0.05 ^a	0.04 ^b	
	30% CO ₂	3762.67±	5246.56±		-96.12±	-66.62±		0.39±	0.48±		0.31±	0.39±	
60	Control	110.61 ^a	123.32 ^b		07.94 ^a	0.04 ^b		0.003 ^a	0.07 ^b		0.09 ^a	0.03 ^b	
	100% N ₂	3126.24±	4546.1±		-110.47±	-87.72±		0.37±	0.44±		0.23±	0.34±	
	30% CO ₂	105.64 ^a	108.43 ^b		02.11 ^a	0.04 ^b		0.001 ^a	0.01 ^b		0.07 ^a	0.17 ^b	
70	Control	5679.51±			-65.62±			0.44±			0.45±		
	100% N ₂	87.30			05.78			0.003			0.06		
	30% CO ₂	5356.02±			-86.56±			0.43±			0.34±		
80	Control	110.11			08.11			0.002			0.03		
	100% N ₂	3578.42±			-97.85±			0.41±			0.24±		
	30% CO ₂	106.39			01.58			0.010			0.01		
90	Control	5732.42±			-42.33±			0.48±			0.49±		
	100% N ₂	101.21			01.06			0.002			0.06		
	30% CO ₂	4833.53±			-63.12±			0.46±			0.38±		
100	Control	23.57			07.13			0.002			0.05		
	100% N ₂	3742.05±			-93.84±			0.43±			0.25±		
	30% CO ₂	15.62			01.048			0.009			0.01		

Note: Values presents in mean ± standard deviation of triplicate for each sample (n=3); values are significantly different at the level of p<0.05 for each storage period, storage temperature and packing conditions.

Table 5: Sensory evaluation of Parwal sweet packaged under air and MAP stored at 5, 10 and 25°C

Storage period (days)	Storage Atmosphere	Color & appearance			Flavor			Body & texture			Overall acceptability (OAA)		
		5°C	10°C	25°C	5°C	10°C	25°C	5°C	10°C	25°C	5°C	10°C	25°C
0	Fresh	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00	9.00±0.00
10	Control	7.60±0.50 ^a	6.70±0.54 ^b	6.00±0.00 ^c	7.40±0.54 ^b	6.90±0.54 ^b	6.00±0.10 ^c	7.80±0.27 ^a	7.10±0.27 ^b	6.00±0.00 ^c	7.70±0.27 ^a	7.05±0.42 ^b	6.38±0.18 ^c
	100% N ₂	8.00±0.50 ^a	7.00±0.50 ^b	6.20±0.27 ^c	7.90±0.14 ^a	6.10±0.54 ^b	5.90±0.04 ^c	8.30±0.17 ^a	6.30±0.27 ^b	6.30±0.27 ^c	8.10±0.61 ^a	6.65±0.52 ^b	6.13±0.21 ^c
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	8.50±0.15 ^a	8.10±0.50 ^b	6.50±0.50 ^c	8.40±0.27 ^a	7.40±0.54 ^b	6.40±0.53 ^c	8.80±0.44 ^a	8.50±0.44 ^{ab}	6.80±0.54 ^c	8.78±0.54 ^a	8.10±0.08 ^b	6.57±0.14 ^c
20	Control	7.30±0.44 ^a	6.27±0.07 ^b		6.90±0.39 ^a	6.07±0.10 ^b		7.30±0.21 ^a	6.10±0.03 ^b		7.30±0.27 ^a	6.40±0.00 ^b	
	100% N ₂	7.50±0.50 ^a	6.84±0.20 ^b		7.40±0.08 ^a	6.90±0.03 ^b		7.80±0.31 ^a	6.50±0.10 ^b		7.10±0.41 ^a	5.00±0.00 ^b	
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	8.30±0.44 ^a	7.38±0.03 ^b		8.20±0.02 ^a	7.02±0.10 ^b		8.30±0.14 ^a	7.00±0.28 ^b		7.90±0.54 ^a	7.50±0.00 ^b	
30	Control	6.40±0.44 ^a	5.00±0.32 ^b		6.40±0.11 ^a	5.40±0.04 ^b		6.80±0.05 ^a	5.10±0.23 ^b		6.80±0.27 ^a	5.40±0.43 ^b	
	100% N ₂	7.20±0.27 ^a	5.40±0.32 ^b		6.90±0.08 ^a	5.70±0.17 ^b		6.80±0.08 ^a	5.70±0.34 ^b		6.60±0.41 ^a	5.80±0.43 ^b	
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	8.10±0.27 ^a	6.14±0.01 ^b		7.92±0.51 ^a	6.50±0.13 ^b		8.05±0.14 ^a	6.80±0.74 ^b		8.25±0.24 ^a	6.80±0.21 ^b	
40	Control	6.10±0.04			5.90±0.09			6.30±0.26			6.60±0.07		
	100% N ₂	6.70±0.27			6.60±0.01			6.80±0.17			6.73±0.17		
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	7.50±0.14			7.64±0.04			7.80±0.43			7.71±0.24		
50	Control	5.10±0.07			5.40±0.20			5.61±0.01			5.40±0.07		
	100% N ₂	6.40±0.00			6.30±0.10			6.40±0.07			6.40±0.13		
	70% N ₂ + 30% CO ₂	7.20±0.04			7.10±0.07			7.55±0.02			7.52±0.07		

Note: Values presents in mean ± standard deviation of triplicate for each sample (n=3); values are significantly different at the level of p<0.05 for each storage period, storage temperature and packing conditions.

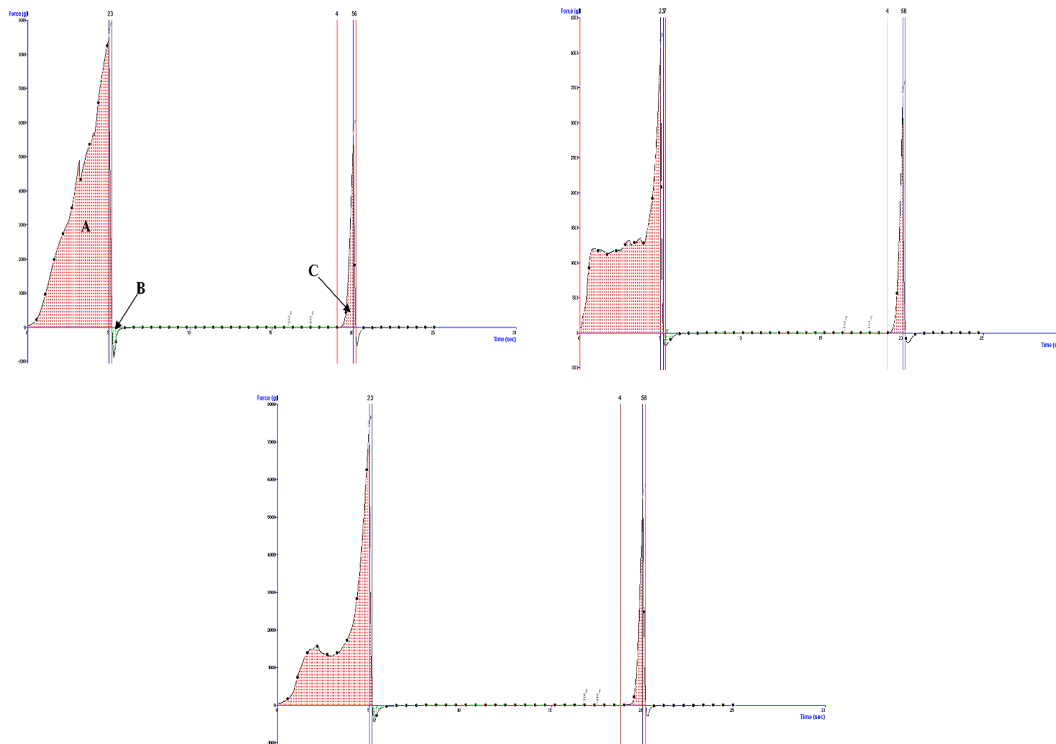


Fig. 4: Typical curve for measurement of textural properties (A - hardness, B – adhesiveness and C - springiness) of *Parwal sweet* packed under air (a), 98% N₂ (b) and 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ (c) after 50th days of storage at 5°C temperature

Cohesiveness is the ratio of the area under the second bite curve and before reversal compression to under the first bite of the products. It is the measure of the extent to which the *Parwal sweet* structure was disrupted during the first compression. It was observed that cohesiveness of sample packed under MAP and air atmosphere increased gradually with increasing the storage period and temperature (10 and 25°C). However, the cohesiveness of the sample packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ condition and stored at 5°C remained fairly constant throughout the storage. The cohesiveness of the samples packed under air, 98% N₂ and 70% N₂:30% CO₂ and stored at 5°C was in the ranged of 0.20 (fresh) to 0.49, 0.38 and 0.25 respectively, after 50 days of storage. The result was agreement with the results reported by Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Londhe *et al.*,¹⁰ for lal peda and brown peda cohesiveness, was remain constant stored under MAP condition. Loss in moisture content may be responsible for increment in the cohesiveness with progression of storage and temperature. The finding was also in

agreement with the result reported by Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Jain *et al.*,³⁶ for cohesiveness of lal peda and kalakand increased with increasing the total solids.

Springiness refers to a sample's ability to return to its original form after compression. It is the height that the sample recovers between the first and second compression. Springiness of *Parwal sweet* samples displayed that increased significantly ($p < 0.05$) during progression in storage period, temperature and alteration in gas composition (Table 4). Springiness values of *Parwal sweet* during storage with air, 98% N₂ and 70% N₂:30% CO₂ ranged between 0.27 (fresh) to 0.48, 0.47 and 0.43 respectively after 50th days of storage at 5°C. Observations were similar to the results reported by Jha *et al.*,⁸ and Jain *et al.*,³⁶ for lal peda and kalakand stored under 98% N₂, 98% CO₂ & 50% N₂: 50% CO₂ and air, 98% N₂ & 70% N₂:30% CO₂. The springiness values in *Parwal sweet* was higher than those reported in lal peda at 10°C after 30th days of storage,⁸ but similar than those reported in kalakand by Jain *et al.*,³⁶ Texture profile

analysis (TPA) graph of samples packed under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ and stored at 5°C after (50th days) were showed in Figure 4 (a-c), depicted the textural changes (hardness, adhesiveness, springiness and their dependent cohesiveness).

Effect on MAP Packed *Parwal Sweet* Sensory Attributes

Sensory attributes of all samples were found to be decreased significantly ($p < 0.05$) with increasing the storage period and temperatures (Table 5). Progression in the storage temperatures and periods displayed a decrement in the sensory attributes of samples. The sample stored at a higher temperature (25°C) were found to be unacceptable within 10 days of storage and sample stored at 10°C was 30 days, hence discarded from further sensory evaluation however sample stored at 5°C was acceptable after 50 days of storage under 70% N₂:30% CO₂ respectively. *Parwal sweet* sample packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂, was found to be the maximum sensory score among all the samples packed under different gas compositions. Nonetheless, the samples stored at 5°C packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ showed the highest sensory characteristics of the samples.

Conclusions

An attempt was made to evaluate the shelf life of laboratory prepared *Parwal sweet* stored under

air and MAP with variation in gas composition viz., 98 % N₂, 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ during three different storage temperatures (5, 10 and 25°C). The sample stored under air displayed lower nutritional value, antioxidant activity and higher microbial load, HMF, TBA, FFA with poor textural and sensory quality comparatively. Therefore, the MAP could be considered as an option to ensure the storage stability of *Parwal sweet*. The sample packed under 70% N₂: 30% CO₂ was optimally effective in preserving the microbial, textural, sensory and physicochemical properties of *Parwal sweet* at 5°C for 50 days followed by stored at 10 °C for 30 days. This study could prove to be helpful in preservation of other vegetables based dairy products using MAP.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Informed Consent

This article does not contain any studies with either animals or human participants performed by any of the authors.

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