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3 *Quality evaluation of composite bread produced from wheat*  
4 *and fermented cashew kernel flours*

5

6 **Abstract**

7 The aim of the research was to produce bread from composite flours of wheat and  
8 fermented cashew kernel flour and to determine its physicochemical and the sensory  
9 properties. The Hagberg falling number and rheological properties of wheat flour replaced  
10 with fermented cashew kernel flour at 10, 20 30 and 40% was evaluated. The physical  
11 proprieties and proximate composition of loaves were determined. Also its sensory  
12 characteristics were evaluated. Results showed that the substitution of wheat flour with  
13 fermented cashew kernel flour negatively impacts the rheological properties and increased the  
14 Hagberg falling number. Thereby, composite flours obtained from wheat flour substitution  
15 with fermented cashew kernel flour at 10 and 20 percent levels were retained for bread  
16 production. The weight, volume and specific volume of loaves varied from 208.02 to 229.23  
17 g, 433.43 to 657.02 cm<sup>3</sup> and 1.8 to 3.20 cm<sup>3</sup>/g respectively. The crude protein, fat, crude fibre,  
18 moisture and ash contents of the composite breads increased significantly (P<0.05) with  
19 increase in the proportion of fermented cashew kernel flours. The carbohydrate contents were  
20 observed to decrease significantly (P<0.05) from 38.08 to 56.18 % with increase in the  
21 percentage of the cashew kernel flour incorporation. Sensory Evaluation of the bread samples  
22 showed that substitution level of 10% fermented cashew kernel flour produced bread that was  
23 acceptable to the consumers whereas at 20% were neither like nor dislike. It is therefore  
24 recommended that substitution level of not more than 20% cashew kernel flour be used for  
25 fermented cashew kernel/wheat composite bread production.

26 **Keywords:** fermented cashew kernel; Composite flour; Bread, Quality

27 **1. INTRODUCTION**

28 In 2015, with 1 600 000 tons, Africa accounted for 49 % of world cashew production.  
29 However, Africa processes less than a quarter of its production [1]. Côte d'Ivoire, the world's  
30 largest producer of cashew nuts, processes only about 5 to 7 percent of its production [2]. This  
31 situation makes the income of producers unstable and dependent on the international market,

32 which is narrow and volatile. To make the situation of high cashew production profitable, it  
33 would be necessary to transform cashew nut and consume products based on cashew kernels  
34 locally. This would contribute to improving food security in Africa and particularly in Côte  
35 d'Ivoire.

36 Cashew kernel flour using for the bakery and pastry products formulation offers a real  
37 potential for cashew kernel valorization because in most African countries, consumption has  
38 increased considerably in recent years [3]. This increased trend in bread consumption has  
39 been the result of a number of factors including growing population, urbanization and  
40 increased wealth in these countries [4]. Cashew kernel flour using for the bakery and pastry  
41 products formulation reduce total dependence on imported wheat flour and save foreign  
42 exchange for countries of sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, cashew kernel flour using in bread  
43 production enhance nutrients of the bread [5].

44 However, tanins, phytate and oxalate have been considered as antinutritional factors  
45 because they interact with vegetable food source constituents such as carbohydrates, proteins  
46 and minerals and make them unavailable [6-7-8]. Fermentation was used to reduce these  
47 undesirable compounds, enhance phenolic compounds and nutritional qualities of cashew nut  
48 flour [9]. Fermentation also brings change in colour, flavor and texture of the food [10].

49 The aim of the research is therefore to produce bread from composite flours of wheat  
50 and fermented cashew kernel flour and to determine its physicochemical as well as the  
51 sensory properties of the bread.

52

## 53 **2. Materials and Methods**

### 54 **2.1 Materials**

55 The small Pieces of cashew kernels were purchased from a local supplier based in  
56 Yamoussoukro (Côte d'Ivoire). Food ingredients including wheat flour (Type 55), baker's  
57 yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*), salt, and bread improver were purchased from a  
58 supermarket in Yamoussoukro (Côte d'Ivoire).

59

### 60 **2.2 Methods**

#### 61 **2.2.1 Production of fermented cashew kernel flour**

62 The cashew kernels are sorted to get rid of foreign bodies and unhealthy almonds.  
63 They are then dried in an oven for 6 hours at 60 ° C. The sorted kernels are fermented using

64 the modified method described by [11]. Almonds (1 kg) are boiled at 100° C with distilled  
65 water for 30 minutes. They are wrapped in plantain leaves to be fermented for 72 hours. The  
66 fermented kernels are dried in a ventilated oven at 65° C for 48 hours. The fermented kernels  
67 oil was then extracted according to the modified method proposed by [12]. The oil of the  
68 previously treated kernels was extracted twice with n-hexane at a ratio of 1:1 (w / w). The  
69 oilcakes were reduced to flour using a hammer mill containing a 150 µm mesh screen. The  
70 flour obtained is placed in polyethylene bags and stored at room temperature.

### 71 **2.2.2 Preparation of Composite Flour**

72 Four flour blends, each containing wheat and fermented cashew kernel flour were  
73 prepared by mixing flours in the proportions (w/w) of 90:10 (FBAF10), 80:20 (FBAF20),  
74 70:30 (FBAF30) and 60:40 (FBAF40) respectively, using a blender, (PHILIPS). The control  
75 sample was 100% wheat (FB).

### 76 **2.2.3 Bakery value**

77 Hagberg falling number was determined according to [13] International Approved  
78 Methods 56-81.03, (2010).

79 The alveograph (Chopin NG France) was used to measure characteristics that provided  
80 insight in to the fermentation tolerance of the dough as may be exhibited during proofing  
81 stage of bread making with a built-in diaphragm pump to supply air for inflating the tested  
82 dough piece [14]. Characteristics of interest that were measured included the average  
83 resistance to expansion indicated by tenacity (P), extensibility indicated by length (L) of the  
84 alveogram curve, stability (P/L), energy input (Joules) required for the mechanical  
85 deformation of the dough (W), inflation required for maximum development (G).

### 86 **2.2.4 Baking Process**

87 In the bread-making process, the ingredients (yeast, salt, water, and flour) were mixed  
88 at low speed and the mass was kneaded for 15 min at high speed in a spiral kneader  
89 (MAHOT, France). Dough was separated into 250 g pieces and are left standing for 10  
90 minutes. The pieces of dough were put in short baguette form and a second fermentation was  
91 carried for 1 hour during at 27 °C in a fermentation chamber. When the baguettes were ready-  
92 to-bake, incisions were made with a cutter. Baguettes were baked in an oven (BONGARD) at  
93 235 °C for 30 min.

### 94 **2.2.5 Determination of physical properties of bread samples**

95 The volume was determined using the volumetric displacement method in which  
96 the pinto bean displacement was modified by using soybean [15]. Specific volume (SV) was  
97 calculated as the ratio of volume to the weight.

#### 98 **2.2.6 Nutritional composition bread samples**

99 The moisture content and fat content of the various breads samples were performed  
100 using [16]. The crude protein content was determined by estimating the nitrogen content using  
101 the Kjeldahl method [17]. Ashes and carbohydrates (by difference) were analyzed using the  
102 standard method of [18]. Cookie samples were analyzed for fiber content according to the  
103 method described in [19].

#### 104 **2.2.7 Sensory evaluation**

105 A panel of sixty consumers was recruited from staff and students of Institute  
106 National Polytechnique, Félix Houphouët-Boigny (INPHB), Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire.  
107 Criteria for selection were that panelists were regular consumers of bread and were not  
108 allergic to any food. Panelists were instructed to evaluate color, taste, texture, Aroma and  
109 general acceptability. A 9-point hedonic scale with 1 = like extremely, 5= neither like nor  
110 dislike and 9= dislike extremely was used. Samples were coded and presented in a random  
111 sequence to the panelists as described by [20].

#### 112 **2.2.8 Statistical analysis**

113 All analyses were made in triplicates. Statistical analysis was carried out using  
114 Statistica 7.1. Soft software. The Newman-keuls multiple means comparison test was used to  
115 verify differences between the samples.  $P < 0.05$ , was set as the criterion of significance.

### 116 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### 117 **3.1 Bakery value of composite blends with fermented cashew kernel flour.**

118 Table 1 presents the Bakery value of wheat and composite flours.

119 Hagberg falling number (HF) measures the liquefaction of the gelatinized starch by  
120 the  $\alpha$ -amylase in the test sample. The falling number increased with increased wheat flour  
121 replacement. This indicates a low amylase activity of composite flours (fermented cashew  
122 kernel / wheat) which could be explained by the low starch content and / or a low presence of  
123  $\alpha$ -amylase in fermented cashew kernel meal. The decrease in amylase activity leads to a  
124 minimum of liquefaction of the starch and has a very high water retention capacity. As a  
125 result, compared with wheat flour, composite flours would have a higher viscosity. The  
126 consequence of this high viscosity on composite breads is a small volume because a high

127 viscosity opposes the emergence under the effect of gas (carbon dioxide) [21]. According to  
128 [22] an optimal enzymatic activity which corresponds to a Hagberg falling number of between  
129 200 and 300 seconds is essential for obtaining a bread of high volume, homogeneous and  
130 appreciable crumb.

131 The alveograph is an important dough testing instrument used to evaluate the quality  
132 of wheat flours for bread making [23].

133 The tenacity (P) values ranged from 59 to 101 mm with the composite flour 30% and  
134 the 20% fermented cashew kernel flour blend offering the least and highest resistance to  
135 expansion, respectively (Table 5). The flour is of standard quality for P between 60 and 80  
136 mm, it is of very good quality for P situated between 80 and 100 mm [24]. Taking into  
137 account this classification, the composite flours FBAF10 and FBAF20 could give pastes with  
138 acceptable tenacity in bakery.

139 The maximum inflation (G) ranged from 9.2 to 18.2 cm<sup>3</sup>, decreased significantly as  
140 wheat flour was replaced with fermented cashew kernel flour. The wheat flour had  
141 significantly higher values than other blends. The inflation (G) values are lower than those  
142 recommended by [25] who reports that a bread flour must have a maximum inflation (G)  
143 between 19 and 23 cm<sup>3</sup>.

144 The length (L) indicated the extensibility of the dough. The L values ranged from 17  
145 to 67 mm with the 30% fermented cashew kernel flour blend and Wheat flour having the least  
146 and highest extensibility, respectively. The extensibility of composite dough reduction could  
147 be explained by the decrease in gluten content due to the substitution of wheat flour for  
148 fermented cashew kernel flour.

149 The stability P/L (configuration ratio) ranged from 1.1 to 3.45. The wheat flour and  
150 30% fermented cashew kernel flour had the highest and lowest values, respectively.

151 The energy (W) ranged from  $95 \times 10^{-4}$  J in the 30% blend to  $208 \times 10^{-4}$  J in the wheat  
152 flour. It decreased with substitution levels and the wheat flour and offered significantly better  
153 energy. According to [26], a flour can be oriented to bread making when its configuration  
154 ratio P/L is in the range of 0.8 to 2. The composite flour FBAF10 and the limit the composite  
155 flour FBAF20 could be adapted to bread making because the ratio P / L are close to 2. In  
156 addition according to Algerian standards [27], composite flours FBAF10 and FBAF20 are  
157 classified as flour of good baking strength because they have their W between 130 and  $180 \times$   
158  $10^{-4}$  joules.

159 The quantity and quality of gluten proteins are important factors in bakery. In this  
 160 study, reduce gluten quantity impact negatively the rheological properties of the dough.  
 161 However, the composite flours FBAF10 and FBAF20 could be used to produce bread.

162 **Table 1: Hagberg falling number and alveogram of wheat flour and its composite blends**  
 163 **with fermented cashew kernel flour.**

164

165 *FB: Wheat flour;*

166 *FBAF10: 90% wheat flour + 10% fermented cashew kernel flour;*

167 *FBAF20: 80%wheat flour + 20% fermented cashew kernel flour.*

168 *FBAF30: 70% wheat flour + 30% fermented cashew kernel flour;*

169 *FBAF40: 60%wheat flour + 40% fermented cashew kernel flour.*

Flour blends	HF (s)	Rheological properties				
		P (mm)	G (cm <sup>3</sup> )	L (mm)	P/L	W (10 <sup>-4</sup> J)
<b>FAF</b>	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
<b>FBAF10</b>	315±3	67	16.1	49	1.37	178
<b>FBAF20</b>	333±2	101	15.5	40	2.5	132
<b>FBAF30</b>	351±4	59	9.2	17	3.45	95
<b>FBAF40</b>	364±2	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
<b>FB</b>	298±3	73	18.2	67	1.1	208

### 170 3.2 Physical properties of bread samples

171 The weight, volume and specific volume (**Table 2**) of the loaves ranged from 208.02  
 172 to 229.23g, 433.43 to 657.02 cm<sup>3</sup> and 1.8 to 3.20 cm<sup>3</sup>/g respectively. The loaf volume and  
 173 specific loaf volume was observed to decrease significantly (P<0.05) as the proportion of  
 174 fermented cashew kernel flour increased from 10% -20%.

175

176 This could be due to reduction of the quantity of gluten in the dough with addition of  
 177 composite flour resulting to less retention of carbon dioxide gas and a dense texture [28]. The  
 178 gluten causes the dough to extend and trap the carbon dioxide produced by yeast during  
 179 fermentation making the dough to be elastic and retain high volume. The weight of the loaves  
 180 increased with increase in fermented cashew kernel flour. This may be as a result of higher  
 181 water absorption observed in the yam based bread samples during the dough mixing process.

182 Furthermore, the reduction of trapped air causes the thickening of the dough and this gives  
183 heavy loaves [29].

184

185

**Table 2 : Physical properties of bread samples**

Physical properties			
Samples	Weight (g)	Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )	Specific volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
<b>BFAF20</b>	229.23±4.54 <sup>c</sup>	433.43±3.67 <sup>c</sup>	1.8±0.09 <sup>c</sup>
<b>BFAF10</b>	221.85±2.24 <sup>b</sup>	544.31±5.57 <sup>b</sup>	2.48±0.05 <sup>b</sup>
<b>BFB</b>	208.02±5.46 <sup>a</sup>	657.02±6.26 <sup>a</sup>	3.20±0.03 <sup>a</sup>

186

187 Values in the same column with different superscript are significantly different at P<0.05

188 Values are means ± standard deviation of duplicate determinations

189 **BFB: Wheat flour;**

190 **BFAF10: 90% wheat flour + 10% fermented cashew kernel flour;**

191 **BFAF20: 80%wheat flour + 20% fermented cashew kernel flour.**

192

### 193 3.2 Proximate Composition of bread samples

194 The proximate composition of the bread samples is shown in Table 3.

195 The moisture, ash, protein, fat and fibre contents of the bread samples increased  
196 significantly (P<0.05) with increased substitution of wheat flour by fermented cashew kernel  
197 flour. The moisture content varied from 28.48 to 38.21%, the ash varied from 0.58 to 0.81%  
198 while the protein, fat and fibre content ranged from 13.83 to 19.57 %, 1.03 to 3.37 % and 0.54  
199 to 0.83 % respectively. The increased proteins, fat, ash and fibre contents could be attributed  
200 to the fermented Cashew kernel flour which is rich in protein, fat, minerals and fibre [30].  
201 These results are consistence with [31] in incorporation fermented chickpea flour to bread.  
202 The increased protein content is an indication that substitution of wheat flour with defatted  
203 fermented cashew kernel flour greatly improved the protein and nutritional quality of the  
204 bread. Thus the enriched bread would be used to solve malnutrition problems. Cashew kernel  
205 is reported to contain all the essential amino acids [32]. High fibre is reported by [33] to  
206 enhance the gastrointestinal tract (GIT) health. It helps normal bowel movements thereby  
207 reducing constipation problems.

208 The inclusion of fermented cashew kernel flour to the formulation decreased the  
 209 carbohydrate contents with regard to the control sample. The low carbohydrate content of  
 210 composite breads would be importance in reducing the risk of diabetes linked to the low  
 211 glycemic index of this type of food [34].

212 **Table 3: Proximate composition of bread samples**

Parameters	BFAF20	BFAF10	BFB
Moisture (%)	38.21±0.51 <sup>b</sup>	34.25±0.86 <sup>a</sup>	28.48±0.72 <sup>c</sup>
Ash (%)	0.81±0.02 <sup>b</sup>	0.66±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.58±0.06 <sup>c</sup>
Protéin (%)	19.57±0.58 <sup>b</sup>	15.45±0.55 <sup>a</sup>	13.83±0.76 <sup>c</sup>
Fat%	3.37±0.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.17±0.15 <sup>a</sup>	1.03±0.47 <sup>b</sup>
Carbohydrate (%)	38.08±0.49 <sup>b</sup>	47.45±1.44 <sup>a</sup>	56.18±1.23 <sup>c</sup>
Crude fibre (%)	0.83±0.04 <sup>b</sup>	0.76±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.54±0.02 <sup>c</sup>
Energy (kcal/100g)	260.83±3.16 <sup>a</sup>	255.74±3.89 <sup>a</sup>	289.33±2.03 <sup>b</sup>

213  
 214 Values in the same row with different superscript are significantly different at P<0.05

215 Values are means ± standard deviation of duplicate determinations

216 ***BFB: Wheat flour;***

217 ***BFAF10: 90% wheat flour + 10% fermented cashew kernel flour;***

218 ***BFAF20: 80%wheat flour + 20% fermented cashew kernel flour.***

219

### 220 3.4 Sensory characteristics of bread samples

221 The sensory evaluation scores are presented in Table 4. According to the performed  
 222 statistical analysis, the substitution of fermented cashew kernel flour significantly affected  
 223 negatively crumb colour, bread texture, taste, aroma and overall acceptance. The formulation  
 224 of bread substituted with 20 % fermented cashew kernel flour exhibited the lowest colour,  
 225 texture, taste, aroma and overall acceptance scores among the three variant breads.

226 This result may be attributed to the compactness and hardness of the bread crumb, which  
 227 resulted from the low specific volume obtained from PFAF20, as mentioned earlier (Table 2).

228 This result may be also attributed to the brown colour of the crumb as well as to the taste and  
 229 aroma developed by cashew kernel fermentation.

230 The appearance, texture and colour of the bread is an important sensory characteristic for  
 231 consumers [35]. Panellists prefer bread with the wheat flour for the crumb colour and bread  
 232 texture, taste and aroma. However, Panellists judged the **PFAF10** was acceptable as it



233 received score greater than 5 of overall acceptance. The result obtained from this present  
 234 study is in good agreement with that reported by [36] that successfully substituted flour made  
 235 from defatted cashew kernel to obtain good quality bread at 20% wheat flour substitution.  
 236

Bread samples	Parameters					
	Colour (Crust)	Colour (crumb)	Texture	Taste	Aroma	Overall acceptance
<b>PFAF20</b>	6.40±0.50 <sup>b</sup>	4.63±0,54 <sup>c</sup>	6.2±0,69 <sup>c</sup>	5.65±0.48 <sup>c</sup>	5.25±0.44 <sup>c</sup>	5.45±0.51 <sup>c</sup>
<b>PFAF10</b>	8.38±0.60 <sup>a</sup>	5.72±0,43 <sup>b</sup>	7.27±0,46 <sup>b</sup>	6.66±0.48 <sup>b</sup>	6.27±0.46 <sup>b</sup>	7.16±0.7 <sup>b</sup>
<b>PFB</b>	8.04±0.66 <sup>a</sup>	7.5±0,38 <sup>a</sup>	8.09±0,62 <sup>a</sup>	7.38±0.49 <sup>a</sup>	7.38±0.58 <sup>a</sup>	8.66±0.57 <sup>a</sup>

237 **Table 4:** Sensory properties of bread samples

238

239 Values in the same row with different superscript are significantly different at P<0.05

240 Values are means ± standard deviation of duplicate determinations

241 **PFB: Wheat flour;**

242 **PFAF10: 90% wheat flour + 10% fermented cashew kernel flour;**

243 **PFAF20: 80%wheat flour + 20% fermented cashew kernel flour.**

## 244 CONCLUSION

245 This study has shown that bread of acceptable quality can be produced from composite  
 246 flours at 10 % level of flour substitution fermented cashew kernel. The bread samples  
 247 produced have increased nutrients of fibre, protein and ash contents which are all desirable for  
 248 good health and provide nutritious bread to combat malnutrition problems and enhanced food  
 249 security. Fermented cashew kernel flour using to produce bread was would improve the  
 250 processing and consumption of cashew kernels and also stabilize the income of cashew nut  
 251 producer.

252

## 253 COMPETING INTERESTS

254 Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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