

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Characterization and influence of hydrocolloids on low caloric orange jellies

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## ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to evaluate the influence of hydrocolloids (low methoxyl pectin [LMP], guar gum, and carrageenan) on the characteristics of low caloric orange jellies. A mixture design with 12 tests to determine properties of the jellies. Physical, physicochemical, and sensory analyses were performed. The results were analyzed by response surface methodology and a Tukey mean test at a significance level of 5% ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). The formulations with high LMP concentration resulted in low caloric orange jellies that have a rigid structure, light color, more acidic nature and exhibited optimal sensory acceptability. The jelly formulations with carrageenan concentration of 0.25% had lower total sugar values. Therefore, for the preparation of low caloric orange jellies, it is necessary to use LMP concentration between 0.75% and 1% and carrageenan concentration of 0%–0.25% as well as to exclude guar gum.

**Keywords:** Kappa-carrageenan; Guar gum; Low methoxyl pectin; Simplex-lattice

## INTRODUCTION

Oranges are among the most consumed fruits in the world on a large scale because of their pleasant flavor and high nutritional value. Orange juice contains a high concentration of vitamin C and appreciable amounts of other essential nutrients, such as carotenoids, folate, and potassium. Moreover, it is a source of flavonoids, hesperidin, and naringenin, which are provide protection against cancer and atherosclerosis (Jayaprakasha et al., 2008).

In recent decades, consumers have noticed that a healthy diet is one way to maintain good health. The demand for foods with low calories and saturated fat as well the demand by consumers for products with high-quality ingredients reveals the necessity of using technologies that provide microbiological security and increase their commercial validity (Chow, 2000; Hoffman, 2008).

Considering that jellies are an important alternative for processing, utilization, and consumption of fruits, fruit jellies represent the object of a market that is growing due to the sensory acceptability and high-value-added and

nutritional quality (Ferreira et al., 2011; Oliveira et al., 2016; Korus et al., 2017).

Conventional jellies are obtained using high methoxyl pectins (HMPs), which constitute firm and stable gels in environments having above 55% soluble solid concentration and 2.8–3.5 pH. A higher pH results in soft gels; for lower pH (up to 2.0), the gels are very hard; and for extremely low pH (below 2.0), the pectin becomes hydrolyzed. Already, low methoxyl pectins (LMPs) may form stable gels in the absence of sugars but require the presence of bivalent ions, such calcium, which provoke the formation of crossed links between molecules. This type of gel is more appropriate for products with a reduction/exclusion of sugar. LMP is less sensitive to pH than HMP, allowing the production of gels in the pH range from 2.5 to 6.5. Although this pectin does not require the addition of sugar to make the gel, as HMP, the addition of 10 to 20 g of saccharose per 100 g of products results in a gel with a more appropriate texture (Zambiazzi et al., 2006).

The use of LMPs and sugar substitutes in the preparation of low-calorie products causes changes in the formation

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of the pectin gel and in the conditions under which the products are obtained; however, when not used properly, LMPs and sugars can cause product fragility or further syneresis (Campos and Cândido, 1995; Gajar and Badrie, 2001).

Hydrocolloids are included in the preparation of low caloric jellies to improve and maintain rheological characteristics, such as texture, viscosity, and structure, which are important to impart flavor of the product. Hydrocolloids typically withhold water and increase viscosity and gelation (Dziezak, 1991).

Considering the characteristics of the jellies and their preparation methods, many researchers have demonstrated the advantages of using combined hydrocolloids (Dunstan et al., 2001; Ramírez et al., 2002; Mandala et al., 2004; Arda et al., 2009; Pereira et al., 2017).

Thus, the objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of hydrocolloids on the characteristics of low caloric orange jellies.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Processing of low caloric orange jellies

Ripe oranges (Pera Rio cultivar) were used from a local market. The guavas were processed in the Sensory Analysis Laboratory in the Department of Food at the Federal University of Ouro Preto/MG, Brazil. The fruits were washed with water, sanitized in a 200 mg L<sup>-1</sup> sodium hypochlorite solution for 15 min, selected, pulped in an electrical squeezer, packed in low-density polyethylene bags, and frozen at 18 °C. The following ingredients were used: sucrose (Alvinho Governador Valadares, Brazil), sucralose, acesulfame-k, polydextrose (Nutramax Catanduva, Brazil), potassium sorbate, LMP (Rica Nata Piracema, Brazil), guar gum (PrymeFoods Sorocaba, Brazil), and  $\kappa$ -carrageenan (Gastronomy Lab Distrito Federal, Brazil).

The different formulations of low caloric orange jellies were processed in open stainless-steel pots by modifying the methodology proposed by Souza et al. (2012). The mixture of orange juice (60%), sucrose (20%), and polydextrose (18.925%) was heated to achieve a 30°Brix concentration. The hydrocolloids (LMP, guar gum, and carrageenan gum) were dissolved in 5 mL of water and immediately added to the mixture, according to the experimental design (Table 1), containing 1% of gelling agents. The total quantity of hydrocolloids was defined by the previous tests. The process of cooking continued until a total soluble solid content of 60°Brix was obtained. Sweeteners were added according to Souza et al. (2013) (0.01875% of acesulfame-k and 0.00625% of sucralose).

Potassium sorbate (0.05%) was added at the end of the cooking process (diluted 1:1 in water at room temperature) to prevent degradation at a high temperature (above 85 °C). Low caloric orange jellies were placed in glass jars after being previously sterilized and filling was performed at a high temperature (85 °C). The containers were closed, cooled to room temperature, and stored in an incubator chamber at 25 °C for further analysis.

### Rheological measurements

The rheological measurements were performed in a cone/plate-type rheometer (Brookfield model RV-III) connected to the Rheocalc software Version V. 3.0 using a spindle CP52 and 0.5 g of sample at 25 °C. The measurements were performed from 1 to 250 rpm by increasing the speed by 50 rpm after every 10 min obtain an upward curve. The procedure was repeated in the opposite manner by progressively reducing the speed (250 to 1 rpm) to obtain a downward curve. The measurements were performed in two replicates. Experimental data for the flow curves were adjusted using the power law model. The parameters included consistency index (K, Pa.s<sup>n</sup>) and flow index (n, dimensionless).

### Physicochemical analysis

A physicochemical analysis (color, titratable acidity, moisture, and total sugar) of low caloric orange jellies was performed in triplicate.

To evaluate the color, a spectrophotometer was used (Musell, Hunter, CIE, CIELAB). The color space was set in the rectangular coordinates (L\*, a\* and b\*). The color of the jellies was determined according to the methodology proposed by Lau et al. (2000). The values of L\*, a\* and b\* were determined using a colorimeter (Minolta CR model unit 400) by employing D65 (daylight) and the standard CIELab, where L\* ranges from 0 (black) to 100 (white), a\* varies from green (-) to red (+), and b\* ranges from blue (-) to yellow (+).

The values of total acidity (IAL, 2008) and moisture (AOAC, 2005) were determined.

The method proposed by Dische (1962) was used for the determination of total sugar.

### Sensory evaluation

An acceptance test in relation to color, flavor, consistency, sweetness, and overall liking was conducted in the laboratory with 100 consumers evaluating the low caloric orange jellies using a 9-point hedonic scale, where 1 = extremely dislike and 9 = extremely like (Stone and Sidel, 1993).

The sensory analysis was performed with the approval of the local ethics committee (approval number 32888814.6.0000.5150).

The sensory evaluation was conducted in three sessions (four samples per session) in individual booths. During the sensory analysis, the samples were maintained at 20 °C. The samples (approximately 5 g of each) were served in disposable plastic cups and coded using three-digit numbers obtained from a table of random numbers (Acosta et al., 2008).

### Experimental design and statistical analysis

In this study, a simplex-lattice mixture design (Cornell, 1983) was used to determine and optimize the concentrations of LMP (X<sub>1</sub>), guar gum (X<sub>2</sub>), and carrageenan gum (X<sub>3</sub>) in the low caloric orange jellies on the basis of their rheological, physicochemical, and sensory analyses. The design and experimental levels for the three factors are presented in Table 1.

Statistical analyses were based on the predicted model. The general model of the regression function was adjusted to

the values of the variable answers. Those values have linear and non-linear terms according to Equation 1.

$$Y_i = B_1X_1 + B_2X_2 + B_3X_3 + B_{12}X_1X_2 + B_{13}X_1X_3 + B_{23}X_2X_3 \quad (1)$$

To evaluate the data adjustment, the analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the coefficient of determination (R<sup>2</sup>) for each parameter were determined and analyzed by the Statistica 8.0 software package (StatSoft Inc., USA). For the parameters in which there was no adjustment of the model, the Scott–Knott mean test was used to verify if there was a difference between samples at a significance level of 5% (p ≤ 0.05) by using the Sisvar software (Ferreira, 2000).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Rheological measurements

The rheological measurements of the formulations were evaluated using the power law model, and the relative parameters from the model are presented in the Table 2. All formulations presented a flow index (n) of less than one, which means that they have pseudoplastic behavior once the fluids are static and present a disorderly state; when subjected to shear stress, the molecules tend to be guided into the direction of the applied force. Higher the tension applied better is the structural order. Therefore, the apparent viscosity will be less (Holdsworth, 1971).

Steffe (1996) reported that when the consistency index (K) is higher than zero and when the flow index is 0 < n < 1, the fluid is considered to be non-Newtonian and pseudoplastic. The pseudoplastic behavior is frequently reported in formulations that contain natural, synthetic, or polymer gums (Yasar et al., 2007), which corroborates with the present study.

For the consistency index (Table 3), there was a positive significance effect (p ≤ 0.05) in X<sub>1</sub> (LMP), X<sub>3</sub> (carrageenan) and between X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub> (guar gum and carrageenan) as well as a negative significance effect (p ≤ 0.05) between X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub> (LMP and guar gum). For the flow index (Table 3), there was a positive significance effect (p ≤ 0.05) between X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub> (LMP and guar gum) and X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>3</sub> (LMP and carrageenan).

Therefore, the jellies that presented a higher consistency index (Figure 1a) included those that were obtained with LMP concentrations above 0.75% combined with those

**Table 1: Independent variables of mixed Jelly samples according to the simplex-lattice mixture design**

| Formulations | Variables      |                |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|              | X <sub>1</sub> | X <sub>2</sub> | X <sub>3</sub> |
| F1           | 1              | 0              | 0              |
| F2           | 0              | 1              | 0              |
| F3           | 0              | 0              | 1              |
| F4           | 0.5            | 0.5            | 0              |
| F5           | 0.5            | 0              | 0.5            |
| F6           | 0              | 0.5            | 0.5            |
| F7           | 0.68           | 0.16           | 0.16           |
| F8           | 0.16           | 0.68           | 0.16           |
| F9           | 0.16           | 0.16           | 0.68           |
| F10          | 0.33           | 0.33           | 0.34           |
| F11          | 0.33           | 0.33           | 0.34           |
| F12          | 0.33           | 0.33           | 0.34           |

X<sub>1</sub>: low methoxyl pectin (LMP), X<sub>2</sub>: guar gum, X<sub>3</sub>: carrageenan gum.

**Table 2: Values of flow index and consistency index of mixed low caloric orange Jellies**

| Formulations | n    | K (Pa.s <sup>n</sup> ) |
|--------------|------|------------------------|
| F1           | 0.30 | 78.712                 |
| F2           | 0.60 | 4.037                  |
| F3           | 0.34 | 34.856                 |
| F4           | 0.56 | 5.201                  |
| F5           | 0.33 | 40.565                 |
| F6           | 0.42 | 21.074                 |
| F7           | 0.55 | 7.525                  |
| F8           | 0.59 | 9.877                  |
| F9           | 0.24 | 55.344                 |
| F10          | 0.44 | 37.968                 |

\*Formulation 10: mean of rheological values obtained by formulations 10, 11 and 12.

**Table 3: Predicted model for the consistency index and flow index of mixed low caloric orange Jellies**

| Parameter              | Predicted model   | R <sup>2</sup> |
|------------------------|---|----------------|
| K (Pa.s <sup>n</sup> ) | 35832.0X <sub>1</sub> * + 4029.0X <sub>2</sub> + 25964.4X <sub>3</sub> * - 84336.2X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>2</sub> * - 43021.0X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>3</sub> + 99381.4X <sub>2</sub> X <sub>3</sub> * | 0.85           |
| n                      | 8.4667X <sub>1</sub> * + 0.7298X <sub>2</sub> + 0.4201X <sub>3</sub> - 15.8869X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>2</sub> * - 16.2941X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>3</sub> * + 2.8066X <sub>2</sub> X <sub>3</sub>      | 0.91           |

X<sub>1</sub>: low methoxyl pectin (LMP), X<sub>2</sub>: guar gum, X<sub>3</sub>: carrageenan gum. \* Significance to level of 0.05.

with guar gum concentration 0%–0.75% and carrageenan concentration 0.25%–1%. Thus, the use of gelling agents (LMP, guar gum, and carrageenan) influenced the consistency index values. In addition, the combination of guar gum and carrageenan tended to increase the index values.

According to Cui (2005), there is synergetic increase in the viscosity or resistance of the gel due to the mixture of the galactomannan (guar gum) with some types of polysaccharides, such as xanthan, carrageenan-k, and agarose. This corroborates with the results obtained in this study.

In the case of LMP, the increase in the consistency index may have occurred due to the presence of calcium in the orange pulp, which contains between 7 and 11 mg of calcium per 100 g of the edible part of the fruit (USDA, 2005). This index occurs because the LMP molecules interact with the calcium ions in the juice; therefore, gel formation was ensured by the ionic bonds formed by the bivalent metallic ions in which calcium (Fennema et al., 2010) had the most pronounced effect on high concentrations of LMP, resulting in an increase in the consistency index.

Regarding the carrageenan, in Pietrasik (2003) in which the binding and texture properties of gels of processed meats was studied with carrageenan, egg albumin, and microbial transglutaminase, it was determined that samples of meat products prepared with carrageenan had a substantial increase in hardness.

At temperatures above 60 °C, carrageenans exist as random (disordered) ball structures because of the electrostatic repulsions between the polymer chains. Once cooled, the polymeric chains change conformation to a helix structure (ordered). Additional cooling and the presence of cations ( $K^+$ ,  $Ca^{+2}$ , and  $Na^+$ ) lead to the aggregation of helices and formation of a stable gel forming by intermolecular interactions between carrageenan chains (Rhein-Knudsen et al., 2015; Tavassoli-Kafrani et al., 2016). As carrageenan interacted with the calcium ions of the orange pulp in this study, there was an increase in the consistency index.

We observed largest values for the flow index (Figure 1b) in regions with concentrations above 0.75% of LMP, and the lowest values were in the regions that have between 0 and 0.75% of LMP and 0.25% and 1% of guar gum or between 0 and 0.75% of LMP and 0.25% and 1% of carrageenan.

According to the contour plot (Figure 1b) with increased LMP concentration, a reduction in the pseudoplasticity of the jellies occurred. Nevertheless, because the values were

$n < 1$  for all jelly formulations, it was concluded that all formulations exhibited pseudoplastic behavior.

### Physicochemical analysis

For the lightness ( $L^*$ ) (Table 4), there was positive significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in  $X_1$  (LMP),  $X_2$  (guar gum), and  $X_3$  (carrageenan) and between  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  (LMP and guar gum) because these effects were similar (similar coefficients). According to the contour plot (Figure 2), regions with a combination between 0.25% to 0.75% of LMP and 0.25% to 0.75% of guar gum presented the largest values for this parameter (clearer jellies). Contrary results (darker jellies) were obtained for regions that tended toward 1% of only one of the gelling agents.

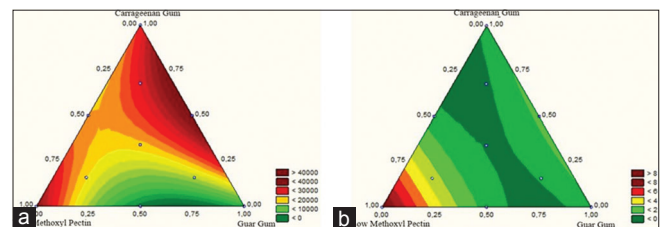
In the study of processing and physicochemical characterization of the diet jellies of umbu-cajá during storage under ambient conditions and using different LMP concentrations (0.5%, 1%, 1.5%) as the gelling agent, Oliveira et al. (2014) observed that all formulations

**Table 4: Predicted model for the lightness ( $L^*$ ) of mixed low caloric orange Jellies**

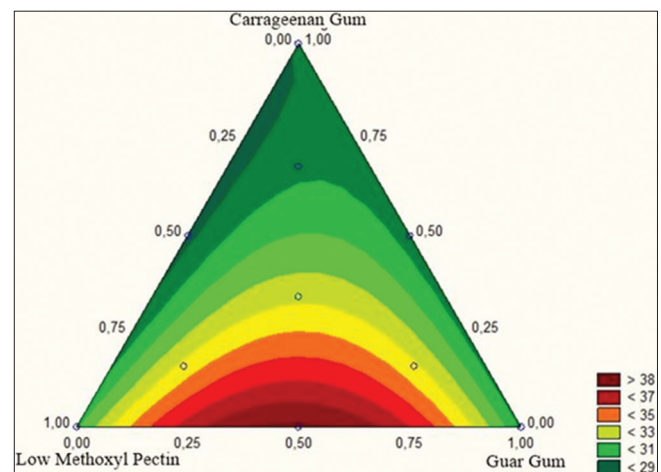
| Parameter | Predicted model  | R <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------|--|----------------|
| $L^*$     | $30.84X_1^{**} + 29.90X_2^{**} + 29.09X_3^{**} + 31.44X_1X_2^{**} - 5.31X_1X_3 - 0.02X_2X_3$ | 0.72           |

$X_1$ : low methoxyl pectin (LMP),  $X_2$ : guar gum,  $X_3$ : carrageenan gum.

\*\* Significance to level of 0.05.



**Fig 1.** Contour Plot to the Consistency Index (a) and Flow Index (b) of Mixed Low Caloric Orange Jellies.



**Fig 2.** Contour Plot to the Lightness ( $L^*$ ) of Mixed Low Caloric Orange Jellies.

exhibited a tendency to darken. Regarding carrageenan, Pietrasik (2003) studied the binding and texture properties of gels in processed meat with carrageenan, egg albumin, and microbial transglutaminase, and they observed that the nonmeat ingredients influenced the color parameters; however, the addition of carrageenan resulted in darker products compared with those without any addition. Additionally, the gel luminosities were affected by the interactive effects of carrageenan and egg albumin with microbial transglutaminase.

The mean values for red/green ( $a^*$ ) and blue/yellow ( $b^*$ ) coordinates of the jellies are shown in Table 5. Formulation 4 (0.5% LMP and 0.5% guar gum) obtained higher values of  $a^*$  and  $b^*$ , differing statistically from the other formulations ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). This means that the combination of LMP and guar gum (1:1) causes the jellies to have a reddish yellow color. In contrast to the results obtained in this study, several authors observed that the addition of LMP or HMP diminishes the intensity of color (parameters  $a^*$  and  $b^*$ ) of the jellies (Dervisi et al., 2001; Nachtigall et al., 2004).

Moisture values for the formulations varied between 42.49% and 68.37% (Table 5). The formulations that presented the highest rates were F1 (1% LMP), F5 (0.5% LMP and 0.5% carrageenan), F6 (0.5% guar gum and 0.5% carrageenan), and F9 (0.16% LMP, 0.16% guar gum, and 0.68% carrageenan), therefore indicating the occurrence

**Table 5: Evaluation of red/greenness ( $a^*$ ), blue/yellowness ( $b^*$ ) and moisture of mixed low caloric orange Jellies**

| Formulations | $a^*$      | $b^*$       | Moisture (%) |
|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| F1           | 4.01±0.12b | 9.50±1.58c  | 62.20±3.02a  |
| F2           | 3.62±0.07c | 12.12±0.27c | 59.61±1.72b  |
| F3           | 3.62±0.08c | 9.21±1.73c  | 44.04±6.07c  |
| F4           | 4.84±0.53a | 21.36±4.35a | 42.49±6.84c  |
| F5           | 3.66±0.06c | 11.20±0.73c | 68.37±6.10a  |
| F6           | 4.21±0.22b | 10.70±0.98c | 64.29±4.05a  |
| F7           | 3.22±0.28c | 13.44±0.38c | 47.25±4.47c  |
| F8           | 2.63±0.57d | 9.82±1.42c  | 56.50±0.17b  |
| F9           | 3.76±0.01c | 16.88±2.11b | 61.89±2.85a  |
| F10          | 4.16±0.19b | 12.44±0.11c | 55.13±0.52b  |

Mean values with common letters in the same column indicate that there is no significant difference among samples ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) from Scott-Knott's mean test. F1, 1% LMP pectin; F2, 1% guar gum; F3, 1% carrageenan gum; F4, 0.5% LMP pectin and 0.5% guar gum; F5, 0.5% LMP pectin and 0.5% carrageenan gum; F6, 0.5% guar gum and 0.5% carrageenan gum; F7, 0.68% LMP pectin, 0.16% guar gum and 0.16% carrageenan gum; F8, 0.16% LMP pectin, 0.68% guar gum and 0.16% carrageenan gum; F9, 0.16% LMP pectin, 0.16% guar gum and 0.68% carrageenan gum; F10, 0.33% LMP pectin, 0.33% guar gum and 0.34% carrageenan gum. Formulation 10: mean values obtained by formulations 10, 11 and 12.

**Table 6: Predicted model of total acidity and total sugar of mixed low caloric orange Jellies**

| Parameter                           | Predicted model  | R <sup>2</sup> |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Total acidity (g citric acid/100 g) | $0.45X_1^* + 0.41X_2^* + 0.40X_3^* - 0.21X_1X_2 - 0.10X_1X_3 - 0.18X_2X_3$       | 0.71           |
| Total sugars (%)                    | $8.68X_1^* + 11.96X_2^* + 9.03X_3^* + 22.45X_1X_2^* - 14.02X_1X_3 - 14.26X_2X_3$ | 0.78           |

$X_1$ : low methoxyl pectin (LMP),  $X_2$ : guar gum,  $X_3$ : carrageenan gum. \*\* Significance to level of 0.05.

of high quantities of water in these formulations. Then, the formulations that presented the lowest rates were F3 (1% carrageenan), F4 (0.5% LMP and 0.5% guar gum), and F7 (0.68% LMP, 0.16% guar gum and 0.16% carrageenan), resulting in jellies with a lower probability of microorganism proliferation once they exhibited less moisture ( $p \geq 0.05$ ). According to Santos (2012), moisture is a quality parameter for processed food. Excess moisture promotes the deterioration of the food, directly influencing its conservation. Moreover, according to Damiani et al. (2009), a high level of moisture diminishes the shelf life of jellies, by facilitating fungi and yeast growth.

The variations in moisture of the jellies likely occurred due to the differences in the chemical links that occurred during gel formation, which is influenced by different anions and the ionic ability to connect with the water in the gel due to the presence of calcium and/or sugar (Santos, 2012). The addition of LMP alone resulted in higher moisture values because of the chemical structure of the molecule, which involved a larger number of ramifications; it caused a larger interaction with water molecules and consequently caused an increase in water retention. However, LMP in combination with guar gum resulted in low moisture values, which may be attributed to the tendency toward intermolecular association of those gums.

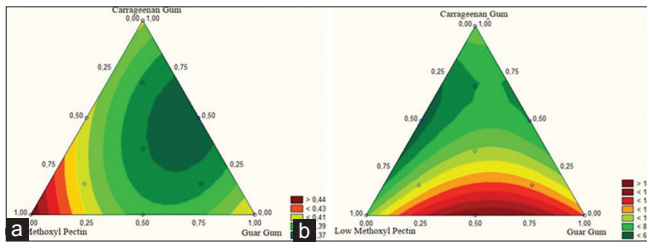
For the total acidity, there was a significant positive effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) between isolated hydrocolloids of  $X_1$  (LMP),  $X_2$  (guar gum), and  $X_3$  (carrageenan) (Table 6), and these hydrocolloids affected the parameters in a similar way (similar coefficients). For the total sugar values (Table 6), there was a significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) among  $X_1$  (LMP),  $X_2$  (guar gum), and  $X_3$  (carrageenan) and between  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  (LMP and guar gum), and this interaction between  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  produced a higher effect on the total sugar values.

It was observed (Figure 3a) that the jellies that presented the largest acidity values were obtained in regions with LMP concentrations that were higher than 0.75% because the lowest acidity values were obtained from regions with a combination of from 0.25% to 0.75% of guar gum and from 0.25% to 0.75% of carrageenan. Therefore, addition of high concentrations of LMP made the jellies more acidic. The chemical structure of pectin includes a main linear chain of repeated units of D-galacturonic acid linked to  $\alpha$ -(1,4) links, where the carboxylic groups may be methyl esterified in different extensions (Yapo and Koffi,

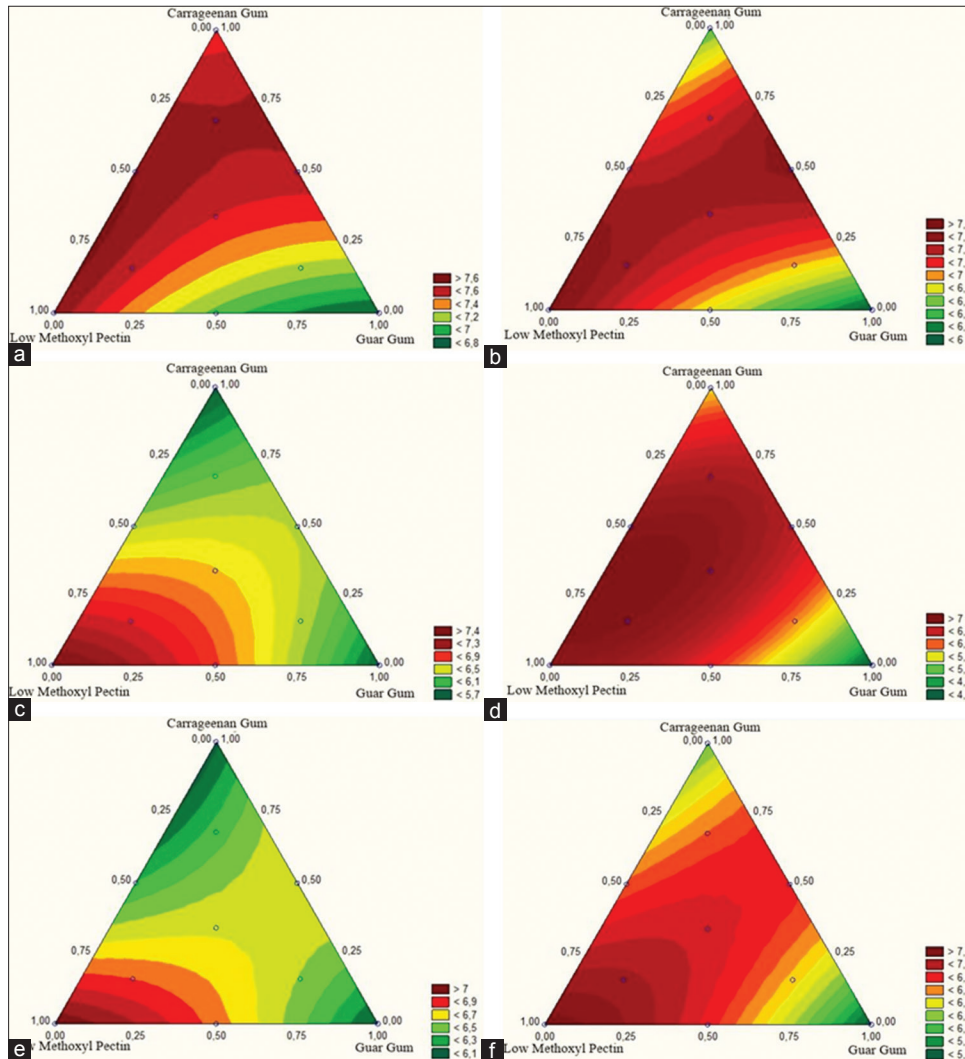
2006; Yapo et al., 2007). At temperatures above 10 °C in an acidic environment, the mechanism of depolymerization (decrease in the size of the polymeric chain) occurs via hydrolysis (acid or enzymatic) of the  $\alpha(1-4)$  link-releasing units of galacturonic acids (Canteri et al. 2012). During the processing of the orange jelly formulations, with a high LMP concentration (above 0.75%), the ingredients were exposed to temperatures above 10 °C; consequently, the high temperature contributed to the degradation of pectin,

causing a break in the  $\alpha(1-4)$  links and releasing galacturonic acid and therefore increasing the acidity of the jellies.

Regarding the total sugars values, higher concentrations in the formulations between 0.25% and 1% for guar gum and between 0.25% and 0.75% for LMP (Figure 3b) were observed. Then, the lowest values were between 0.25% and 1% for carrageenan, below 0.25% for LMP, and between 0 and 0.25% for guar gum, demonstrating that the use of gelling agents influenced the total sugar values. The combination of LMP and guar gum tended to increase the total sugar values. Some sugars, such as galactose, glucose, rhamnose, arabinose, and xylose, are also present in the pectin structures with typically between 5% and 10% (in mass) of galacturonic acid inserted as side chains or as isolated contaminants (Yapo and Koffi, 2006; Yapo et al., 2007). At high temperatures, depolymerization of LMP by hydrolysis of the  $\alpha(1-4)$ - releasing links occurs; therefore, galacturonic acid units are released (Canteri et al., 2012).



**Fig 3.** Contour Plot to the Total Acidity (a) and Total Sugar (b) of Mixed Low Caloric Orange Jellies.



**Fig 4.** Contour Plot to the Sensory Attributes: Color (a), Appearance (b), Flavor (c), Consistency (d), Sweetness (e) and Overall Liking (f) of Mixed Low Caloric Orange Jellie.

According to Mudgil et al. (2014), guar gum is a glycosidic polysaccharide constituted with units of  $\beta$ -1,4 glycosidic mannose and includes a  $\alpha$ -1,6 galactose unit in every two units of mannose, causing ramifications. In the present study, the increase in the total sugars in the orange jellies by the use of the combination LMP/guar gum likely occurred as a consequence of degradation of these gelling agents due to high temperature, therefore, the hydrolysis of the LMP molecule and the guar gum, which provokes the release of sugars from the molecule, increases the total sugar value of the jelly.

### Sensory evaluation

In general, for all attributes assessed, the highest scores were obtained in regions above 0.75% LMP (Figure 4). The lowest scores were obtained in regions with more than 0.75% guar gum.

Regarding the color attribute (Figure 4a), it has been reported in the literature that the addition of LMP or HMP decreases the intensity of color (parameters  $a^*$  and  $b^*$ ) of jellies (Dervisi et al., 2001; Nachtigall et al., 2004). Nevertheless, in this study, the negative influence of LMP on the formulation colors regarding the acceptability was not verified.

For the appearance attribute (Figure 4b), the lowest scores for jellies with high guar gum concentrations were obtained because guar gum produces viscous solutions and is used in applications in which thickening, stabilization, rheological and viscosity control, suspension and formation of the body, modification of the texture, and retention of water are required; however, it does not form gels (Dziedzic, 1991; Sanderson, 1996). Probably, the lower scores obtained for concentrations of approximately 1% were due to the non-formation of gels.

For the flavor attribute (Figure 4c), in the study by Kostyra and Barylko-Pikielna (2007) on the effect of fat levels and the addition of guar gum in emulsions, such as mayonnaise, on the sensory perception of flavor, the authors observed that the addition of guar gum decreased the perception of flavor in the product. These authors reported that this result is associated with the structure of the guar gum, which forms a high viscosity system. In the study by Pereira (2012) on the effect of additives on the rheological and sensory properties of sugar-free guava preserves, the effects of three gelling agents (locust bean gum, carrageenan and LMP) were evaluated, and it was verified that an increase in the addition of carrageenan resulted in lower scores for the flavor attribute. According to Bayarri et al. (2004) and Bayarri et al. (2006), the concentration of gelling agents modifies the mechanical properties (diffusion) of gels, influencing the perception of flavor,

corroborating with the results obtained in this study. In a study on sweet aromatized gels prepared with alginate, carrageenan, or agar, Chai et al. (1991) observed that the sensory perceptions depend not only on the force of the gel but also on the concentration of the gelling agent.

Regarding the attribute of consistency (Figure 4d), possibly, the low acceptability related to guar gum occurred because of the characteristic of not forming a gel (Nikaedo et al., 2004).

Regarding the sweetness attribute (Figure 4e), as previously stated, LMP can undergo degradation at elevated temperature and thus release sugars, making the product sweeter.

## CONCLUSION

For the rheological and colorimetric characteristics of the jellies, formulations with high LMP concentration increased the flow index and consistency index, resulting in low caloric orange jellies with a texture that was rigid structure and light color. Regarding the acidity, the jellies with LMP concentration above 0.75% were more acidic. The jelly formulations with carrageenan concentration above 0.25% had lower total sugar values. Regarding acceptability, the formulations added only with LMP presented the best results. Also, the formulations containing high guar gum concentration obtained less acceptance. Therefore, it is concluded that for the preparation of low caloric orange jellies, it is necessary to use LMP concentration between 0.75% and 1%, carrageenan concentration of 0%–0.25% and to exclude guar gum.

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### Authors' contributions

Michelle Barbosa Lima, Flávia Mappa Domingos and Jerusa Josiane Francisca de Jesus Lima conducted the experiments and collected the data; Reginaldo de Souza Monteiro and Orlando David Henrique dos Santos performed the rheological measurements; Patrícia Aparecida Pimenta Pereira was involved in manuscript preparation and supervised the research project.

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