Characterisation of Nano-Calcium Lactate from Chicken Eggshells Synthesized by Precipitation Method as Food Supplement

Prayitno AH1,2, Siswoyo TA3, Erwanto Y4, Lindriati T5, Hartatik S6, Aji JMM7, Suryanto E4, Rusman4

1Department of Animal Science, Politeknik Negeri Jember, Jember, Indonesia
2Doctoral Study Program of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jember, Jember, Indonesia
3Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jember, Jember, Indonesia
4Faculty of Animal Science, Gadjah Mada University, Sleman, Indonesia
5Faculty of Agricultural Technology, University of Jember, Jember, Indonesia
E-mail: agushp@polije.ac.id

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ABSTRACT

Osteoporosis can be prevented by consuming calcium lactate. Calcium that is consumed is generally in a micro-size. Micro-sized calcium is only absorbed by the body by about 50% which can cause deficiency. Eggshells are poultry waste that is rich in calcium and can be used as a cheap source of dietary calcium through nanotechnology. Nanotechnology has been developed to increase calcium absorption. This study aimed to synthesize nano-calcium lactate from chicken eggshells, and commercial calcium oxide by precipitation method. Synthesis was carried out by reacting a solution of 1 mol/L eggshell calcium oxide and commercial calcium oxide (control) as much as 20 ml mixed with a solution of 6 mol/L lactic acids as much as 30 ml with a ratio of 1:1.5 (v/v) for 30 minutes at 50°C and diaduk menggunakan magnetic stirrer with an interval of 500 rpm/minute. Ethanol 50% was added as much as 20 ml (v/v), dried on a plate at 105°C for 72 hours then crushed to produce eggshell nano-calcium lactate (NCal) powder. Characterisation of NCal, using Transmission electron microscopy (TEM), X-ray diffraction (XRD), and Fourier transform infrared (FTIR). Result showed that NCal in the form of white crystals could be synthesized from chicken eggshells by precipitation method. Characterization with TEM showed that the diameter of NCal at 50% which can cause deficiency. Eggshells are poultry waste that is rich in calcium and can be used as a cheap source of dietary calcium through nanotechnology. Nanotechnology has been developed to increase calcium absorption. This study aimed to synthesize nano-calcium lactate from chicken eggshells, and commercial calcium oxide by precipitation method. Synthesis was carried out by reacting a solution of 1 mol/L eggshell calcium oxide and commercial calcium oxide (control) as much as 20 ml mixed with a solution of 6 mol/L lactic acids as much as 30 ml with a ratio of 1:1.5 (v/v) for 30 minutes at 50°C and at a speed of 500 rpm/minute using a magnetic stirrer. Ethanol 50% was added as much as 20 ml (v/v), oven-dried at 105°C for 72 hours then crushed to produce eggshell nano-calcium lactate (NCal) powder. Characterisation of NCal, using Transmission electron microscopy (TEM), X-ray diffraction (XRD), and Fourier transform infrared (FTIR). Result showed that NCal in the form of white crystals could be synthesized from chicken eggshells by precipitation method. Characterization with XRD showed that the diffraction angle was 20 with the peaks of NCal, namely 9.3800°, 10.3869°, and 22.9570°. Characterization with FTIR obtained a peak in the wavenumber from NCal, namely 1,589.34 cm⁻¹. Characterization using TEM showed that the crystal size of NCal, was 75 nm.

Key Words: Chicken eggshell, Food supplement, Nano-calcium lactate, Precipitation method
supplements (Lee et al. 2017; Paschalis et al. 2017). Osteoporosis can be prevented as early as possible by consuming foods rich in calcium such as milk and dairy products (Caroli et al. 2011).

However, people do not usually consume them in appropriate amounts according to clinical guidelines and on the other hand, calcium tablet supplements are expensive (Brun et al. 2013). Even though there are other sources of calcium that have the potential to contain higher calcium than milk, namely eggshells. The eggshell is rich in calcium carbonate which is about 96-97% (Intharapat et al. 2013). The economic value and properties of eggshells can be increased through the application of nanotechnology. The chemical precipitation method produced lactate nano-calcium with a particle size of 55 to 100 nm (Li et al. 2009; Wang et al. 2012).

Materials synthesized in nano size have better performance with increasing surface area (Habte et al. 2019). The calcium lactate is widely used as fortification of calcium with a high absorption rate for the food and pharmaceutical industry (Cheong 2016) which is recognized as safe for use as a texturizer and thickener (Catherina et al. 2016), antibacterial (Yuk et al. 2008), and to preserve and prolong the shelf life of processed meat products (Baston & Barna 2013). Nano-sized materials can cause the extract to dissolve easily and have a high absorption efficiency in the intestine (Gunasekaran et al. 2014).

The formation of nanomaterials by precipitation method is considered cheap, easy, environmentally friendly (Habte et al. 2019), and time-saving (You & Xu 2021). Nanotechnology has been developed to increase the absorption rate of calcium in the body (Mosaddegh & Hassankhani 2014; Ferraz et al. 2018; Jirimali et al. 2018). Eggshells can be purified as a source of calcium which can be used as a food supplement (Laohavisuti et al. 2021). The eggshell particle size can be optimized through nanotechnology applications. Nano-calcium lactate from chicken eggshells as novelty can be used as a food supplement. However, there is no scientific supporting data on this matter. Therefore, this study aimed to determine the synthesis of nano-calcium lactate from chicken eggshell by precipitation method.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Fourier transform infrared**

There are three types of physical characterization methods of nanoparticles, namely crystallography, microscopy, and spectroscopy methods. Crystallography using X-rays is very useful for identifying isomorphic crystals, namely crystals that have the same structure but differ in their geometric patterns. Characterization by spectroscopy can use emission photos, magnetic resonance spectroscopy, Fourier transform infrared (FTIR), and X-ray diffraction (XRD) (Nasrollahzadeh et al. 2019).

FTIR is used to identify complex groups in compounds but cannot determine the constituent elements of them. In FTIR, infrared radiation is passed through the sample. Some of the infrared radiation is absorbed by the sample and some are transmitted. If the frequency of a specific vibration is equal to the frequency of infrared radiation directing the molecule, the molecule will absorb that radiation. The result on spectrum describes molecular absorption and transmission. This transmission forms a molecular fingerprint of a sample and because it is a fingerprint there are no two unique molecular structures that
produce the same infrared spectrum (Delmifiana & Astuti 2013).

Results of the FTIR test presented in Figure 1 (a) was result of infrared spectroscopy of eggshells that was calcined at 1,000°C. The most mineral content in eggshells is calcium carbonate (CaCO\(_3\)). Calcium carbonate that was calcined at 1000°C will undergo the decomposition of organic compounds so that the form changes from calcium carbonate to calcium oxide (CaO) (Rivera et al. 1999; Adak & Purohit 2011). This can be seen by the suitability of the location of the wavenumbers between the groups contained in the eggshell which has been heated at 1000°C with the FTIR spectra of commercial calcium oxide as shown in Figure 1 (b). FTIR spectra of eggshells heated at 1000°C are found at wave number 1489.05 cm\(^{-1}\) as shown in Figure 1 (a) and approach the FTIR spectra of commercial calcium oxide, namely at wave number 1427.32 cm\(^{-1}\) as presented in Figure 2 (b).

The reaction process of calcium lactate from eggshell and commercial calcium oxide with lactic acid has been formed. This can be seen by the suitability of the location of the wavenumbers between the groups contained in calcium lactate based on SDBS as shown in Figure 2 (a), Figure 2 (b), and Figure 3. Figure 3 shows the wavenumber of 1,582 cm\(^{-1}\) corresponds to the FTIR spectra of the eggshell calcium oxide which has been reacted with lactic acid, which is found in the wavenumber of 1,589.34 cm\(^{-1}\) as shown in Figure 2 (a) and is almost the same as the FTIR spectra of calcium oxide. The commercial calcium oxide that has been reacted with lactic acid has the wavenumber 1,589.34 cm\(^{-1}\).

![Figure 1](image1.png)  
**Figure 1.** The location of the wavenumber of calcined eggshells at 1,000°C (a) and commercial CaO (b) measured by FTIR spectra

![Figure 2](image2.png)  
**Figure 2.** The location of the wavenumber of calcium lactate with eggshell CaO (a) and calcium lactate with commercial CaO (b) measured by FTIR spectra

![Figure 3](image3.png)  
**Figure 3.** Spectral database (SDBS) calcium lactate
as shown in Figure 2 (b). This indicates that both commercial and eggshell calcium oxide which has been reacted with lactic acid has produced calcium lactate.

**X-ray diffraction**

X-ray diffraction (XRD) is used to determine the value of lattice parameters, crystal structure, and degree of crystallinity. The degree of crystallization is a quantity that states the amount of crystal content in a material by comparing the area of the peak curve with the total area of amorphous and crystalline (Fitri et al. 2017). Analysis using the principle of X-ray emission produced by the collision of electrons and atoms of Cr, Fe, Co, Cu, Mo, or W. XRD analysis provide information about the sample structure such as lattice parameters, orientation, and the crystal system. XRD analysis is also useful for identifying semi-quantitative sample phases, by calculating the volume fraction of a sample and the ratio of the crystalline area fraction to the total area fraction (Nasrollahzadeh et al. 2019).

![Figure 4. The diffraction angle of calcined eggshells at 1,000°C (a) and commercial CaO (b).](image)

![Figure 5. The diffraction angle of calcined eggshells at 1,000°C (a) and commercial CaO (b).](image)

![Figure 6. The morphology and ultrastructures of calcined eggshell at 1,000°C with a magnification of 10,000 x (a) and eggshell calcium lactate with a magnification of 40,000 x (b).](image)
XRD results of eggshells heated at a temperature of 1,000°C showed a diffraction angle of 2θ with peaks of 18.0379°, 34.1438°, and 50.8647° as shown in Figure 4 (a) there was a similarity with the peaks of commercial CaO with the diffraction angle of 2θ with peaks 18.0205°, 34.1210°, and 50.8473° as shown in Figure 4 (b). Therefore, the eggshell calcined at 1,000°C has produced calcium oxide. Pongtonglor et al. (2011) reported that CaCO₃ from eggshells heated at high temperatures 1,300°C turned into CaO. Calcium carbonate from the eggshell turns into CaO by releasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) as it decomposed (Rivera et al. 1999; Adak & Purohit 2011) as shown in the equation as follow:

\[
\text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2
\]

XRD results of eggshell calcium oxide reacted with lactic acid showed a diffraction angle of 2θ with peaks of 9.3800°, 10.3869°, and 22.9570° as shown in Figure 5 (a). XRD results of commercial calcium oxide reacted with lactic acid showed a diffraction angle of 2θ with peaks of 10.2805°, 20.5447°, and 22.8323° as shown in Figure 5 (b). The morphology and ultrastructures of eggshell calcium and eggshell calcium lactate are presented in Figures 6 (a) and (b). The uniformity of shape and size of eggshell calcium and eggshell calcium lactate looks the same. The TEM test results showed that the eggshell calcium particle size was known to be about 300 nm as shown in Figure 6 (a).

The TEM test results obtained that the eggshell calcium lactate particle size was 75 nm as shown in Figure 6 (b). Li et al. (2009) and Wang et al. (2012) reported that through the chemical precipitation method, calcium lactate nanoparticles were produced with a particle size of 55 to 100 nm. Abdullah et al. (2008) stated that nanoparticle synthesis means the manufacture of particles with a size of less than 100 nm and at the same time changing their properties or functions.

**CONCLUSION**

Nano-calcium lactate could be synthesized by the precipitation method form chicken eggshells resulted in white crystals. Characterization with XRD showed that the diffraction angle was 20 with the peaks of NCaL, namely 9.3800°, 10.3869°, and 22.9570°. FTIR obtained a peak in the wavenumber from NCaL, namely 1,589.34 cm⁻¹. TEM showed that the crystal size of NCaL was 75 nm. The eggshell nano-calcium lactate can be used as a food supplement with a high absorption rate.

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