Physicochemical and microbiological stability of fermented dairy beverages added with red rice extract

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Abstract
Fermented dairy beverages added with red rice extract and whey were the developed, physicochemical and microbiological properties were evaluated. A central composite rotatable design was applied, using nine treatments with three replicates. The pH indicated that the beverages could be consumed without the addition of preservative for up to 28 days of storage. The beverages are characterized as partially skimmed, with high protein content, zinc, manganese and copper levels, similar potassium and iron levels and low sodium, magnesium and calcium levels, if compared to the recommended daily index. The absence of pathogens and numbers of viable lactic acid bacteria above the established minimum level were observed. The physicochemical parameters were evaluated by ANOVA and PCA, grouping the beverages into four groups according to their physicochemical properties and three groups according to mineral levels. It is suggested that the most adequate treatments contain between 20 and 34% of red rice extract and from 26 to 54% of whey because of their lower copper contents.

Keywords: nutritional quality; microbiology; shelf life; stability; whey.

Practical Application: Development of dairy beverages add red rice extract, without gluten and high protein.

1 Introduction
Whey is no longer a waste of cheese-making but a raw material for value-added products including probiotic beverages. According Pescuma et al. (2010) whey is composed of water, lactose, proteins, fat and minerals (93, 5, 0.85, 0.36 and 0.53 g per 100 g of milk, respectively) as well as lactic acid (0.5 g L⁻¹), and other compounds, and offers a suitable food matrix for the growth and viability of probiotic microorganisms. However, because of its high nutritional value, whey is an attractive by-product for use as a supplement in human food. Thus, whey constitutes a good raw material for the development of new dairy products.

Whey may be used directly or may be supplemented with dairy based powders (i.e. buttermilk powder, skim milk powder, etc.) or added to beverage formulations at varying ratios. (Turkmen et al., 2019). In addition, different technologies can be used in whey to aid in their use in the food industry, such as ohmic heating (Costa et al., 2018; Cappato et al., 2018) and ultrasound processing (Guimarães et al., 2018).

The whey based beverages are usually manufactured with at least 51% (mass/ mass) of the ingredients consisting of dairy compounds (fluid or powdered milk and whey). Despite the low cost of production, the whey has excellent nutritional and functional properties (Yadav, et al., 2015; Brandelli et al., 2015), and its nutritional and functional values could be further enhanced by incorporation of other ingredients such as fruit pulps, prebiotics and vegetable extracts (Granato et al., 2018a; Guimarães et al., 2019).

Although limited, probiotic beverage formulations including fruit juices or pulps are available in the global markets. These ingredients helps improving the sensory acceptability of the products (Turkmen et al., 2019) but the type of fruit affected the growth and viability of probiotic bacteria in the beverages (Arsic et al., 2018). According Granato et al. (2018a) herbal extracts not only improve the sensory and nutritional properties and color of yogurts but also improve the stability of microorganisms in the course of refrigerated storage. Still, the use of herbal preparations not only increases the bioactive compounds and antioxidant activity of yogurts and fermented milks but also increases considerably the sensory acceptance of these new foods.

The fermented dairy beverages have contents of lactic acid, galactose, free amino acids, fatty acids and vitamins (especially B complex), improvement of lactose tolerance, enhanced absorption of nutrients (including minerals) (Buttriss, 2010). The bioavailability of minerals such as calcium, zinc, iron, manganese, copper and phosphorus can be increased through the production of lactic acid, with consequent reduction of the gastric pH. Regarding vitamins, there is an increase in the concentration of folic acid, niacin and riboflavin (Tamime & Robinson, 2007).

Red rice, also known as Bhutanese red rice and weedy rice, and known in Brazil as “arroz vermelho”, “arroz-de-Veneza” and “arroz-da-terra” (Pereira et al., 2009), belongs to the same botanic species as white rice (Oryza sativa L.) and is rich in functional compounds, fibers and minerals (Ascheri et al., 2012). Red rice

Received 22 Jan., 2019
Accepted 04 Nov., 2019
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Food Sci. Technol., Campinas, Ahead of Print, 2020
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plant extract can be used for the preparation of new fermented dairy beverage products with different sensory characteristics such as color, odor, texture, taste and nutritional composition.

This type of colored rice has contents of carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, minerals and fibers of approximately 78, 7, 2, 1 and 3 g per 100 g of rice (dry basis), respectively, with a caloric value of approximately 361 kcal per 100 g of red rice (Ascheri et al., 2012). Red rice has antioxidant activity as a result of its high polyphenol content (Itani & Ogawa, 2004) and red rice is gluten-free.

Considering that whey with great nutritional and functional benefits and that alternative uses of these nutrients might increase the value of dairy production and reduce the environmental damage, differentiated fermented dairy beverages based on whey and red rice extract that could be consumed by celiac patients, because red rice is gluten-free, were developed in the present study. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the physicochemical and microbiological properties of fermented dairy beverages prepared with different proportions of whey as substitute for milk in the dairy base and with red rice extract.

2 Materials and methods

The whole milk used was within the normal standards for the preparation of dairy beverage. The whey obtained by production of Minas frescal cheese was characterized as being sweet with pH 6.6, acidity of 0.11 g/100 g of lactic acid and total solids content of 6.86%. According to these characteristics, the milk and whey were considered good raw materials for the preparation of fermented dairy beverages according NI N° 62 (Brasil, 2011) and N° 53 (Brasil, 2013a).

The whole, pasteurized, homogenized milk, the natural yogurt containing Streptococcus thermophilus and Lactobacillus bulgaricus (Nestlé, Brazil) sucrose and the stabilizer (GFG of brand RICANATA, Brazil) and red rice were obtained in the local market of Morrinhos (GO, Brazil). The whey was obtained by milk coagulation according Furtado & Neto (1994).

The red rice extract was produced by microwave cooking. Initially, the rice was grinded in an industrial blender at a ratio of five parts of water to one part of rice (5:1 v/w), followed by heating in a microwave (Eletrolux, MEF41, Brazil) at high power (1000 W) until the sample reached the temperature of 85 °C, recorded using a handheld thermometer. The cooked extract was mixed in a blender for two min until it reached a smooth consistency.

The fermented dairy beverages were prepared with red rice extract as the basis and the substitution of milk by whey. The experiment was performed using a 2² central composite rotatable design with four axial points and three replicates at the central point, for the microbiological analyses. For the remaining analyses, three replicates were performed not only at the central point but also in each of the nine treatments, to study the effects on the physicochemical properties of the beverages (Table 1). The whey levels varied from 26 to 54% [dairy base, which is 51% according Brasil (2005a), and red rice extract varied from 6 to 34%.

To prepare each treatment experimental in fermented dairy beverages was used 0.3% of stabilizer, 10% of sucrose and 2.5% of natural yogurt and the amount of red rice extract stipulated. The total dairy base was calculated by discounting 100% of all raw materials used. The regulation of identity and quality of dairy drinks (Brasil, 2005a), does not bring a definition of ‘dairy base’, but according to Masson et al. (2011) it corresponds to the sum of milk and whey. However, a maximum concentration of whey to be substituted for milk in the dairy base is not established, so the limit for this substitution is regulated by the protein content of the mixture, which for fermented beverages with 1.0% (Brasil, 2005a).

From then on, it was calculated with different proportions of milk-replacing whey as stipulated in each treatment, as shown in Table 1.

Except for the natural yogurt, the other ingredients were manually mixed in polyethylene containers with hermetic lids. The thermal treatment was performed in water bath (Quinis, Q334M-28, Brazil) at 65 °C for 30 min. After heating, the containers were chilled until 45 °C and treated with the natural yogurt.

The fermentation of the beverages occurred at the same temperature of 45 °C until reaching a pH of 4.5 (~5 h) as measured with a bench top pH meter (Tecnopon, MPA210, Piracicaba, Brazil). After fermentation, the containers were chilled in a refrigerator (Consul, Duplex CRD45, Brazil) at 8 °C for 12 h. The dairy beverages fermented as such were homogenized,

| Treatment | Coded variables | Real variables | Total Dairy Base (Milk:Whey) | Milk | Whey |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------|------|
|           | RRE | W | RRE (%) | W (%) | (%) | g/100g | g/100g |      |
| T1        | -1  | -1 | 10      | 30    | 77.2 | 70.30 | 54.0  | 23.2 |
| T2        | 1   | -1 | 30      | 30    | 57.2 | 70.30 | 40.0  | 17.2 |
| T3        | -1  | 1  | 10      | 50    | 77.2 | 50.50 | 38.6  | 38.6 |
| T4        | 1   | 1  | 30      | 50    | 57.2 | 50.50 | 28.6  | 28.6 |
| T5        | -1.41| 0  | 6       | 40    | 81.2 | 60.40 | 48.7  | 32.5 |
| T6        | 1.41| 0  | 34      | 40    | 53.2 | 60.40 | 31.9  | 21.3 |
| T7        | 0   | -1.41| 20     | 26    | 67.2 | 74.26 | 49.7  | 17.5 |
| T8        | 0   | 1.41| 20      | 54    | 67.2 | 46.54 | 30.9  | 36.3 |
| T9        | 0   | 0   | 20      | 40    | 67.2 | 60.40 | 40.3  | 26.9 |
individually, in a blender and placed again in the containers stored in a horizontal freezer (Consul, CHB53, Brazil) at 5 °C until the time of the analyses.

A second experiment was performed with completely randomized design and a 9 x 8 factorial arrangement (9 beverage formulations, 8 times) with three replicates. From the first day of preparation of the beverages and at 7-day intervals until the end of the storage period (56 days), the pH data were recorded, in triplicate, and used to create line plots. The physicochemical quality (titratable acidity, protein content (with conversion factor of 6.38), ashes, total solids, lipids, lactose, carbohydrates and energy value) and microbiological quality of the developed fermented dairy beverages were evaluated from the first day of preparation and at the 20th and 40th day of storage were determined according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists (2005).

The pH, titratable acidity, lipids, total solids and ashes were analyzed in the milk and whey according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists (2005). In red rice, the moisture and protein levels and the manganese (Mn), zinc (Zn) and iron (Fe) contents were determined according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists (2005).

Carbohydrates content was calculated by the percentage difference of the sum of proteins, lipids, ashes and moisture. The energy value of the beverages prepared was calculated using the following conversion factors: 4.0 kcal g⁻¹ for protein and carbohydrates and 9.0 kcal g⁻¹ for lipids (Brasil, 2003a).

The macro-elements sodium (Na), potassium (K), calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) and the micro-elements Fe, Mn, Zn and copper (Cu) were also analyzed in the fermented dairy beverages stored for 40 days, according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists (2005). The Ca, Mg, Fe, Mn, Zn and Cu values were measured in an atomic absorption spectrophotometer (Perkin Elmer, 5100 PC, Waltham, MA, USA), whereas a flame photometer was used for Na and K (Corning 400, Cambridge, United Kingdom). The concentration of the minerals was compared with the recommended daily intake (RDI) for adults, established by RDC 269 of 09/22/05 Brasil (2005b).

The hygienic-sanitary quality of the fermented dairy beverages was evaluated at 0, 20 and 40 days of storage under refrigeration at 5 °C, through the detection of the presence of total coliforms (at 35 °C) and thermotolerant coliforms (45 °C), according to the methodology recommended by the American Public Health Association (American Public Health Association, 2001), assessing its conformity with the Standards of Identity and Quality for Dairy Beverages (Brasil, 2005a) and Brasil (2001).

Qualitative analyses of Salmonella spp. and coagulase-positive staphylococci were performed according to (American Public Health Association, 2001). The lactic acid bacteria were analyzed according to the method described by International Organization for Standardization (1998), using MRS agar culture medium.

The results from physicochemical, macro- and micro-element characterization experiments were analyzed using One-way ANOVA test, and the differences of averages were compared by Tukey test at 5% of significance level. And then the experimental results were organized into an array of treatments (in columns) and responses (in rows), and it was submitted to Principal Component Analysis (PCA) as was applied as pattern recognition unsupervised classification method. PCA transforms the original, measured variables into new uncorrelated variables called principal components. The first principal component covers as much of the variation in the data as possible. The second principal component is orthogonal to the first and covers as much of the remaining variation as possible, and so on. The number of dimensions to keep for data analysis was evaluated by the respective eigenvalues (which should be greater than one), by the Cronbach’s alpha parameter (that must be positive) and also by the total percentage of variance (that should be as higher as possible) explained by the number of components selected. The number of dimensions considered for PCA was chosen in order to allow meaningful interpretations, to ensure their reliability Granato et al. (2018b). The results of the microbiological analysis were evaluated descriptively. Statistica software version 6.0 (Statsoft, 2007) was used for the statistical analysis of the data.

3 Results and discussion

The protein content (6.37%) of red rice was close to the range reported by Rohman et al. (2014) for varieties of rice (6.02-7.94%) and the range reported for the red rice genotypes (6.9 to 7.8%) studied by Ascheri et al. (2012), but below the value (10.49%) reported for the red rice by Raghuvanshi et al. (2017). Red rice provided one or more times the amount of Zn, Fe, and Mn (4.6, 0.68, and 1.88 mg/100 g, respectively) compared to white rice and red rice described by Sharma et al. (2012) and Raghuvanshi et al. (2017). These results demonstrate that red rice has the nutritional potential to enrich fermented dairy beverages.

At the beginning of the refrigeration of the dairy beverages prepared in the present study, the pH oscillated between 4.3-4.5 (Figure 1). At the 56th day of storage, the pH decreased, remaining between 4.0 and 4.2. This is due to a post-acidification, which affects the metabolism of microorganisms, where acidity occurs due to the continued production of lactic acid by dairy bacteria present in these products (Lourens-Hattingh & Viljoen, 2001).

The analysis of pH variation is important because it is related to the sensitivity to sensory changes during storage. According to Zacarcheno & Massaguer-Roig (2004), pH variations between 0.14 and 0.32 correspond to sensorially imperceptible decreases, whereas pH variations lower than 0.12 are imperceptible decreases. Figure 1 indicates that treatments T5 to T7 and T9 to T11 showed perceptible decreases at 28 days of refrigeration, whereas treatments T3, T4 and T8 showed this decrease at 42 days, and T1 and T2 showed it at 49 and 21 days, respectively. These observations suggest that to guarantee the shelf life of beverages developed with no addition of preservatives, the pH variations should maintain an acceptable value during the refrigeration period, and beverages must be kept under optimal temperature, transportation and storage conditions. Then according to studies by Zacarchenco & Massaguer-Roig (2004) developed beverages in this study should be consumed up to 28 days after their preparation so that their pH changes with the refrigeration time are not perceived by the consumers.
The developed beverages should be consumed up to 28 days after their preparation so that their pH changes with the refrigeration time are not perceived by the consumers.

The fermented dairy drinks, in general, showed significant differences about to the physical-chemical characteristics, macro and micro-elements (Table 2). With the exception of the protein and magnesium contents, all of the other constituents show significant differences in at least one comparison between treatments according to the Tukey's test.

The titratable acidity values comply with the Brazilian legislation (Brasil, 2007) that establishes values between 0.6-2.0 g per 100 g of lactic acid and are similar to the values determined in yogurt fortified with carrot powder (0.94 g per 100 g of lactic acid) by Madora et al. (2016). The ash content varied between 0.47 and 0.59% and was lower than the values determined by Bakr et al. (2017) in rice-based strawberry yogurt (0.26%). The total solids varied between 20.7 and 22.7%, and the values were higher than those found by Cunha et al. (2008) in fermented dairy beverages (18.08 and 19.44%). The protein content varied between 1.98 and 2.06% similar to those found by Tarantola & Wujastyk (2009) in rice-based commercial beverages.

The carbohydrate contents were between 16 and 19%, which is similar to the values obtained by Tarantola & Wujastyk (2009) in commercial, rice-based dairy beverages (10 and 35%).

The prepared beverages showed lactose contents between 3.97 and 6.19%, indicating that these beverages cannot be consumed by individuals with lactose malabsorption and by lactose-intolerant consumers because, according to Ferronato et al. (2004), fermented yogurt and milk can be consumed by such individuals if the products have on average 30% less lactose than milk.

According to the lipid content, the prepared beverages are considered partially skimmed beverages for containing values lower than 2.9%. The energy values of the beverages were close to the range reported by Lima et al. (2016) for fermented dairy beverages prepared with different concentrations of whey and araticum pulp (between 85-93 kcal 100 g).

The addition of red rice extract to the produced beverages provided considerable Zn (2.5 to 6.83%), Mn (2.13 to 6.33%) and Cu (44.3 to 162%). Contain lower among of Na less than 70 mg of Na per 100 g of sample. According to Ordinance SVS/MS N° 27/1998 (Brasil, 1998), the beverages elaborated in the

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**Table 2.** Mean values for the physicochemical, macro and micro-element characterization of the fermented dairy beverages augmented with red rice extracts after different storage periods.

| Analyses                | T1          | T2          | T3          | T4          | T5          | T6          | T7          | T8          | T9          |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Titratable Acidity      | 0.62ab      | 0.58bc      | 0.54c       | 0.54c       | 0.55c       | 0.56c       | 0.64c       | 0.56c       | 0.56c       |
| Ashes                   | 0.58b       | 0.51c       | 0.55c       | 0.474       | 0.59c       | 0.47c       | 0.55c       | 0.52c       | 0.53c       |
| Total Sol.              | 21.524      | 22.654      | 20.574      | 22.404      | 20.664      | 22.354      | 22.084      | 21.104      | 21.364      |
| Protein                 | 2.064       | 2.054       | 2.024       | 1.984       | 2.054       | 2.04c       | 2.054       | 2.06c       | 2.024       |
| Carbohydrate            | 17.104      | 18.544      | 16.544      | 18.774      | 16.374      | 18.564      | 17.744      | 17.242      | 17.324      |
| Lactose                 | 6.194       | 4.574       | 5.474       | 4.574       | 6.094       | 3.974       | 4.544       | 5.114       | 5.274       |
| Lipids                  | 1.774       | 1.554       | 1.464       | 1.184       | 1.654       | 1.314       | 1.744       | 1.324       | 1.484       |
| Energy Value            | 92.614      | 96.274      | 87.394      | 93.574      | 88.544      | 94.14c      | 94.864      | 89.004      | 90.724      |
| Na                      | 68.314      | 56.714      | 61.174      | 52.544      | 60.444      | 58.304      | 49.944      | 54.744      | 51.764      |
| K                       | 78.254      | 80.854      | 89.924      | 76.044      | 64.724      | 87.424      | 80.754      | 76.204      | 83.054      |
| Ca                      | 3.554       | 3.424       | 3.764       | 3.154       | 3.754       | 3.294       | 3.864       | 2.864       | 2.784       |
| Cu                      | 0.624       | 1.464       | 0.954       | 0.594       | 0.434       | 0.404       | 0.534       | 0.404       | 0.524       |
| Fe                      | 0.023       | 0.034       | 0.034       | 0.004       | 0.004       | 0.004       | 0.004       | 0.004       | 0.004       |
| Zn                      | 0.194       | 0.484       | 0.414       | 0.254       | 0.374       | 0.284       | 0.244       | 0.174       | 0.354       |
| Mn                      | 0.054       | 0.114       | 0.066       | 0.124       | 0.084       | 0.154       | 0.084       | 0.084       | 0.114       |
| Mg                      | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       | 0.014       |

*g (100 g) - (wet basis); mg (100 g) - (wet basis); kcal (100 g) - kcal (100 g); T1: 10% of RRE and 30% of W; T2: 10% of RRE and 50% of W; T3: 30% of RRE and 30% of W; T4: 30% of RRE and 50% of W; T5: 6% of RRE and 40% of W; T6: 34% of RRE and 40% of W; T7: 20% of RRE and 26% of W; T8: 20% of RRE and 54% of W; T9: 20% of RRE and 40% of W. a-i Means in same row not sharing a common superscript are different (p < 0.05).
present study can be considered as low Na content, because they have a composition lower than 120 mg (100 g)⁻¹ or (100 mL)⁻¹. This result is in line with the global recommendations made by the World Health Organization to reduce sodium intake (World Health Organization, 2012) and also with the voluntary agreement to reduce the sodium content of processed products, made between the Ministry of Health and associations that represent the food industry companies in Brazil that foresees the reduction of the ingredient in dairy products, sausages and ready meals (Brasil, 2013b).

The Ca contents were lower than the values found by Tarantola & Wujastyk (2009) in rice-based commercial beverages, between 20 and 350 mg (100 g)⁻¹. Because of the low Ca content, the present study showed that the produced beverages cannot be consumed as a Ca source or a substitute for milk and that Ca should be obtained from other food sources or the beverages should be augmented with Ca.

According to the evaluations of the applied physicochemical properties, it was verified that the fermented milk drinks enriched with red rice extract and whey have a great nutritional and functional benefits, and maybe another alternative for the consumer. Given the variability of the beverages developed there is a need for future studies considering the sensory quality through the application of projective techniques as the studies of Pinto et al. (2018) and other innovative methods based on consumer perception as the work of Esmerino et al. (2017).

According to the principal component analyses for the physicochemical properties of the fermented dairy beverages added with red rice extract observed in Figure 2, the treatments were divided into four groups with different attributes.

Group I is formed by T1 that contains the highest ash (0.58%), lipid (1.77%), protein (2.06%), lactose (6.19%) and acidity contents (0.62 g per 100 g of lactic acid). The pH was 4.33, the carbohydrates and total solids were 17.1 and 21.52%, respectively, and every 100 g of this beverage provides an energy value of 92.61 kcal. The characteristics of T1 most likely result from its higher content of milk, with 45% more milk than treatment T8, which is the formulation with the lowest milk content in the composition. This difference leads to higher values of the nutrients in T1 compared to the other groups because milk is rich in these nutrients.

Treatments T3, T5, T8 and T9, which form Group II, are characterized by the highest mean pH values (4.34) and lowest carbohydrate contents (17%) and, accordingly, the lowest titratable acidity values (0.55 g per 100 g of acid acid), providing the lowest total solid values (21%) and energy value of 89 kcal per 100 g of beverage. The mean ash, lipid, protein and lactose contents were 0.6%, 1.5%, 2.0% and 5.5%, respectively.

Treatments T4 and T6 formed Group III and had the lowest ash (0.5%), lipid (1.3%), protein (2.0%) and lactose contents (4.27 g per 100 g of beverage), and the highest carbohydrate (18.7%) and total solid (22.4%) contents, with an energy value of 93.84 kcal per 100 g of beverage. The pH and titratable acidity were 4.3 and 0.6 g per 100 g of lactic acid, respectively. This pattern is justified by the fact that such treatments contain higher red rice extract contents in their composition, i.e., higher carbohydrate contents, and also contain lower dairy base contents in their formulation, thus decreasing the ash, lipid, protein and lactose contents, which are the main components of the dairy base.

Group IV was formed by treatments T2 and T7. This group had the highest energy value of approximately 96 kcal per 100 g of beverage as well as high carbohydrate (18%) and total solids contents (23%). The ash, lipid, protein and lactose contents were 0.53, 1.65, 2.05 and 4.56%, respectively. The pH and titratable acidity were 4.28 and 0.61 g per 100 g of lactic acid.

Regarding the physicochemical properties of the identified groups, any of them could be considered adequate because they meet the identity and quality requirements for fermented dairy beverages (Brasil, 1998).

The beverages prepared contained between 16.37 and 18.77 g (100 g)⁻¹ of carbohydrates, of which 3.98 to 6.19 g (100 g)⁻¹ were lactose. The beverages had protein contents between 1.98 and 2.06 g (100 g)⁻¹ and lipid contents between 1.18 and 1.77 g (100 g)⁻¹ and were considered to have higher protein content than the value established by law, in addition to being partially skimmed beverages. Regarding their nutritional composition, any of the four groups formed by PCA could be considered adequate for consumption because they met the identity and quality requirements of fermented dairy beverages.

According to the principal component analyses for minerals in the fermented dairy beverages added with red rice extract observed in Figure 3, the treatments were divided into three groups with different attributes.

Group I, containing only T2, had the highest mean contents of Zn (0.48 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Cu (1.46 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Fe (0.027 mg (100 g)⁻¹), K (80.85 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and Mg (0.010 mg (100 g)⁻¹). The Mn, Ca and Na values for the treatments of Group I were intermediary,
with the following results: 0.106, 3.42 and 56.71 mg (100 g)⁻¹, respectively.

Treatments T1, T3 and T5 formed Group II, characterized by the highest mean values of Na (63.31 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and Ca (3.69 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and the lowest mean values of Mn (0.064 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Mg (0.0077 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and K (77.63 (100 g)⁻¹). This pattern most likely occurred because these treatments have the lowest contents of red rice extract. The values of Zn, Cu and Fe for the treatments in Group II were 0.32, 0.67 and 0.015 mg (100 g)⁻¹, respectively.

Group III, formed by treatments T4, T6, T7, T8 and T9, contained, in general, the lowest contents of Na (53.44 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Ca (3.19 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Fe (0.0057 mg (100 g)⁻¹), Zn (0.26 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and Cu (0.49 (100 g)⁻¹) and the highest contents of Mn (0.11 mg (100 g)⁻¹) and Mg (0.009 mg (100 g)⁻¹). The K content for the treatments of Group III was 80.68 mg (100 g)⁻¹.

Considering the RDI of minerals for beverages, group I would not be considered adequate because it surpasses the recommended Cu contents. Group III could be considered the most adequate group for having the lowest Cu values in its composition.

The addition of red rice extract to the fermented dairy beverages provided considerable Zn, Mn and Cu values, i.e., 2.5 to 6.83% of the RDI of Zn, 2.13 to 6.33% of the RDI for Mn and 44.3 to 162% of the RDI for Cu for the human diet. The other studied minerals, such as K and Fe, showed values similar to other dairy beverages, with up to 0.21% of the RDI for Fe. With regards to Na, Mg and Ca, the beverages provided low values, i.e., between 2.08 and 2.85% of the RDI for Na, between 0.003 and 0.004% of the RDI for Mg and between 0.28 and 0.38% for Ca, and in this case, the beverages can be enriched with these minerals. Considering the RDI of minerals in this beverage, the treatments that contain between 20 and 34% of red rice extract and 26% to 54% of whey could be considered the most adequate because they contain the lowest Cu values in their composition.

In the analysis of the total viable count (TVC) of bacteria from the Coliform group, the estimated result for coliforms was <3.0 MPN mL⁻¹ in the recently processed dairy beverage and during the (40 days of storage) under refrigeration. The absence of total and thermotolerant coliforms, *Staphylococcus* spp. and *Salmonella* in the final product and during the entire shelf life of the experimental dairy beverages is also an indication of the good hygienic-sanitary conditions during the beverage-preparation process.

The total count of viable cells of lactic bacteria for all the studied treatments and during the entire storage time, i.e., 40 days, was higher than 10⁹ CFU mL⁻¹, a result higher than the minimum limit of 10⁶ CFU mL⁻¹ established by the Brazilian legislation, indicating that these specific microorganisms are viable, active and abundant in the final product and during its entire shelf life (Brasil, 2005a).

4 Conclusion

According to the evaluations of the applied physicochemical and microbiological properties, it was verified that the fermented milk drinks enriched with 20% to 34% of red rice extract and 26% to 54% of whey are considered more suitable for consumption because have a great nutritional and functional benefits, and may be another alternative for the consumer. Increasingly demanding, since this drink has the differential of not using colorings, flavorings, preservatives, use of an exotic product, such as red rice. It was possible to make feasible the use of co-products that can minimize waste production, prevent nutrient loss, reduce waste treatment costs, increase revenue.

Moreover, with the results obtained in the study, it is possible to say that the developed drink can be consumed up to 28 days under refrigeration, has an absence of pathogenic microorganisms and a high number of viable dairy bacteria, an advantage for the consumer. Developed beverages are also partially skimmed, with considerable protein, zinc, manganese, and low sodium content. These drinks could also be consumed by celiac patients because red rice is gluten-free.

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