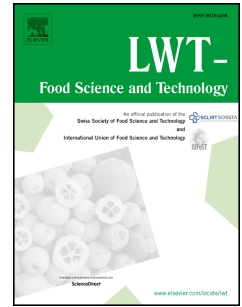


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# The effect of semolina replacement with protein powder from fish (*Pseudophycis bachus*) on the physicochemical characteristics of pasta

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## Abstract

This study replaced semolina with red cod (*Pseudophycis bachus*) fish powder in pasta at 5, 10, 15 and 20 g/100 g levels. The effects on the chemical composition, physical properties (optimal cooking time, cooking loss, water absorption index, swelling index and colour) and textural properties (firmness and extensibility) of the supplemented pasta samples were evaluated compared with a control sample. Fortification with fish powder increased protein, lipid and ash contents significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). Cooking loss increased ( $P < 0.05$ ) with increasing levels of fish powder. However, all pasta samples were in the acceptable range (8 g/100g) for cooking loss. Fish powder incorporation decreased optimal cooking time, swelling index and water absorption significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ), whilst increasing firmness and resistance to uniaxial extension of pasta. The addition of fish powder increased yellowness ( $b^*$ ) of the pasta significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) compared to control sample. Thus, pasta fortified with fish powder has the potential to be a technological alternative for the food industry to provide nutritional enriched pasta.

**Keywords** Pasta; semolina; fish powder; cooking quality; protein supplementation.

30

## 31 **1. Introduction**

32 Pasta is the second most consumed food item in the world, and consumption of pasta  
33 increased by 2 million tonne in 2014 in relation to 2013 (International Pasta Organisation Survey,  
34 2015). Pasta is a popular food product because of its' versatility, low cost, ease of preparation and  
35 nutritional quality (Foschia, Peressini, Sensidoni, Brennan, & Brennan, 2015). Pasta is a healthy  
36 food which contains protein, vitamins and is an important source of carbohydrates with virtually  
37 no fat (Malcolmson, 2003; Krishnan, Menon, Padmaja, Sajeev, & Moorthy, 2012; Foschia et al.,  
38 2015). Cooking quality is the most important consumer attribute of pasta, including parameters  
39 such as cooking time, cooking loss, water absorption index, swelling index, texture (Gelencser, Gal,  
40 Hodsagi, & Salgo, 2008; Sobota, Rzedzicki, Zarzycki, & Kuzawiriska, 2015; Ficco, De Simone, &  
41 De Leonardis, 2016). The quality of pasta, and cooking characteristics, are dependent upon the  
42 protein-starch network of the pasta product (El-Khayat, Samaan, Manthey, Fuller, & Brennan,  
43 2006). Pasta firmness, elasticity and cooking loss can be related to protein content as well as the  
44 starch composition (Samaan, El-Khayat, Manthey, Fuller, & Brennan, 2006). Raw material  
45 composition used for the preparation of pasta product affects the physical, chemical and textural  
46 properties of pasta (Brennan, Derbyshire, Tiwari, & Brennan, 2013; Lu, Brennan, Serventi, Mason,  
47 & Brennan, 2016). Currently, there are many studies focused on increasing nutritional value in  
48 terms of the protein content of pasta products (Fuad & Prabhasankar, 2012; Padalino,  
49 Mastromatteo, De Vita, Ficco, & Del Nobile, 2013; Pena & Manthey, 2014). Over the past few  
50 decades, wheat pasta has been prepared incorporating different ingredients including, bean flour  
51 (Gallegos-Infante et al., 2010), pea flour (Wojtowicz & Moscicki, 2014), shrimp meat (Ramya,  
52 Prabhasankar, Gowda, Modi, & Bhaskar, 2015), shrimp mince (Kadam & Prabhasankar, 2012), beef  
53 meat (Liu et al., 2016) and green mussel (Vijaykrishnaraj, Kumar, & Prabhasankar, 2015).

54 Fish powder is a by-product of fish processing and represents a cheap source of high quality  
55 nutrients that can be utilised in the human diet, this is mainly due to high levels of essential amino  
56 acids and polyunsaturated fatty acids especially eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic  
57 acid (DHA) (Oliveira, Lourenço, Sousa, Joele, & Ribeiro, 2015; Stevanato et al., 2010). Fish protein  
58 has the potential to have beneficial health effects such as manipulation of obesity, hypertension  
59 and cardiovascular disease in human beings (Kadam & Prabhasankar, 2010). Fish powder is also a  
60 good source of various vitamins (A, D, B6 and B12) and minerals (iron, zinc, iodine, selenium,  
61 potassium and sodium) (Anbudhasan, Asvini, Surendraraj, Ramasamy, & Sivakumar, 2014).  
62 Previous studies evaluated the nutritional and physicochemical characteristics of pasta  
63 manufactured with fish powder of *Peneus monodon* (Kadam & prabhasankar, 2012), *Nemipterus*  
64 *Japonicus* (Chin, Huda, & Yang, 2012), green mussel (*Perna canaliculus*) powder (Vijaykrishnaraj et  
65 al., 2015), *Oreochromis niloticus* (Monteiro et al., 2016) and pasta enriched with mince of *Catala*  
66 *Catla* mince (Devi, Aparana, & Kalpana, 2013). However, as nutritional composition and chemical  
67 stability varies depend on the fish species that is utilised and the processing parameters  
68 subsequently employed (Schneedorferova, Tomcala, & Valterova, 2015), the physicochemical  
69 properties of pasta enriched with partial replacement of semolina wheat flour by red cod powder  
70 (*Pseudophycis bachus*) are still unknown. Therefore, the aim of this project was to develop pasta  
71 with improved nutrition by substituting semolina flour with cod powder at various concentrations  
72 and study the changes in nutritional, cooking, colour and textural characteristics of the pasta.

73

## 74 **2. Materials and methods**

### 75 *2.1 Raw materials*

76 Semolina (Sun Valley Foods, New Zealand) was obtained from local New World supermarket  
77 (Foodstuffs, New Zealand), and red cod (*Pseudophycis bachus*) fish were bought in ice condition  
78 from Christchurch Wholesale Seafood (Christchurch, New Zealand).

79

## 80 2.2 Fish powder preparation

81 The fish was de-scaled, beheaded, eviscerated and washed with potable water. The dressed fish  
82 material was cooked by boiling in water for 10 min. The cooked fish was deskinning and deboned  
83 manually before drying in a cabinet dryer (Moffat, E32M, Christchurch, New Zealand) at 45 °C for  
84 16 h. The dried fish muscle was used to produce a powder in a domestic mixer (Fig.1) and sieved  
85 to pass through the appropriate 0.5 mm mesh screen (Majumdar & Ratankumar Singh, 2014).  
86 Dried powder was put in a sealed polythene bag and stored at (-20 °C) temperature until required.

87

Raw material



88

Washing

89



90

Fish dressing (descaling, beheading, eviscerating)

91



92

Washing

93



94

Cooking in boiling water for 10 min.

95



96

Separation of cooked meat from bones

97



98

Drying of boiled meat (45 °C, 16 h)

99



100

Pulverising in grinder

101

102

## 103 2.3 Pasta production

104 Fresh pasta was prepared using a machine with 2.25 mm diameter die with 20 holes (Model:  
105 MPF15N235M; Firmer, Ravenna, Italy). Tap water was used for the experiment at 32.5 g/100 g  
106 water (41 °C), mixed for 20 min according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Extruded fresh pasta

107 samples (20 g) were put into a resealable polythene bag and frozen at -18 °C until required. Prior  
108 to analysis, the pasta was defrosted for 10 min at room temperature.

109 Five pasta formulations were prepared in the ratios (semolina/ fish powder) of 100:0; 90:5:  
110 90:10; 85:15 and 80:20.

#### 111 *2.4 Proximate chemical composition analysis of pasta and constituents*

112 Crude protein was demined using the Micro-Kjeldahl method according to AACC method  
113 976.05 (2000) and using a nitrogen to protein conversion factor of 6.25. Total fat content of raw  
114 and cooked pasta was assessed using the Soxhlet extraction method AACC (2000). The ash content  
115 of raw and cooked pasta samples was measured according to AACC (2000). The proximate  
116 carbohydrate content was estimated by subtracting the total fat content, protein content, ash and  
117 moisture content from 100 %.

118 The energy value was calculated using the formula described by Merrill & Watt (1973).

119 
$$\text{Energy value (kcal/100 g)} = 4 \times \text{protein (\%)} + 9 \times \text{lipid (\%)} + 4 \times \text{carbohydrate (\%)}$$

120

#### 121 *2.5 Physical properties*

##### 122 *2.5.1 Optimal cooking time*

123 Pasta strands (20 g) were cut into equal lengths of 40 mm and cooked in 300 mL of boiling water.  
124 During cooking the optimal cooking time was evaluated by taking a sample strand of pasta every  
125 30 s and observing the time of disappearance of the core of pasta, by squeezing it between two  
126 transparent glass side, according to the AACC approved method 66-50 AACC (2000). The time at  
127 which the core completely disappeared was taken as the optimal cooking time.

128 Additionally, 10 g of pasta were cooked in 600mL of boiling water at optimal cooking time,  
129 rinsed with 100 mL of cold water, strained for 30 s to determine the cooking loss and swelling  
130 index of the pasta samples. The samples were made in triplicate (Foschia, Peressini, Sensidoni,  
131 Brennan, & Brennan, 2014)

132

133 *2.5.2 Cooking loss*

134 The amount of solid substance lost in the cooking water, was evaluated by Approved Methods 66-  
135 50 AACC (2000). An aluminium vessel was used to collect the cooking water. The vessel placed in  
136 an air oven at 105 °C and evaporated until a constant weight was reached. The residue was  
137 weighed and reported as a percentage of starting material.

138

139 *2.5.3 Swelling index and water absorption index*

140 The swelling index (SI) of cooked pasta (g water/ g dry pasta) was determined according to the  
141 procedure described by Cleary & Brennan (2006). Pasta (100 g) was weighed after cooking and  
142 dried at 105 °C until constant weight was reached.

143 Swelling index (SI) =  $(\text{Weight of cooked pasta (g)}) / (\text{Weight of pasta after drying (g)})$

144 The water absorption index was determined as

145 Water absorption index (WAI) =  $\frac{\text{Weight of cooked pasta} - \text{weight of uncooked pasta}}{\text{weight of uncooked pasta}} \times 100$

146

147 *2.5.4 Moisture content*

148 The moisture content of the cooked pasta was determined by the oven-drying method, and the  
149 general operation procedures for this method described by Lu et al. (2016). Samples were  
150 weighed using an analytical balance (ARCI20; OHAUS Corp., Parsippany, NJ, USA) into a pre-  
151 weighed dish. The dish was placed in an oven at 105 ± 2 °C overnight. The dish was placed in the  
152 desiccator for 1 h to cool to room temperature before reweighing.

153 Moisture (%) =  $\frac{\text{weight of fresh sample} - \text{weight of dried sample}}{\text{Sample of weight}} \times 100$

154

155

### 156 2.5.5 Colour measurements

157 Colour readings were taken from nine separate points on the surface of the cooked (after pasta  
158 was cooked to optimal cooking time, drained and allowed to stand for 5 min at room  
159 temperature) and uncooked pasta using a tristimulus colour analyser (Minolta Chroma Meter CR  
160 210, Minolta Camera Co., Japan). The illuminant C (CIF, standard, 6774 K) was used. Results were  
161 expressed as L\* (brightness), a\* (redness) and b\* (yellowness). The instrument was calibrated  
162 using a standard white tile (L\*=98.03, a\*=-0.23, b\*=0.25). The change in colour due to fish powder  
163 addition was determined by calculating the colour differential index ( $\Delta E$ ) using following equation

$$164 \quad \Delta E = \sqrt{(\Delta L)^2 + (\Delta a)^2 + (\Delta b)^2}$$

165 Where,  $\Delta L$ :  $L^*_{sample} - L^*_{control}$ ;  $\Delta a$ :  $a^*_{sample} - a^*_{control}$ ; and  $\Delta b$ :  $b^*_{sample} - b^*_{control}$

166

### 167 2.6 Textural characteristics

168 The firmness and tensile strength of pasta were evaluated by Texture Analyser (TA.XT2; Stable  
169 Micro Systems, Godalming, UK) equipped with a 5 kg load cell. Prior to the testing of firmness and  
170 tensile strength pasta samples were cooked for the optimum cooking time and kept at room  
171 temperature for 10 min. Firmness and resistance to uniaxial extension of the cooked pasta were  
172 determined according to the method described by Foschia et al. (2015). Data are mean of twelve  
173 measurements from three different cooking replications.

174

### 175 2.7 Statistical analysis

176 All experiments were performed in triplicate unless otherwise stated. Data obtained during the  
177 study were subjected to one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and significance difference in the  
178 response and sample were evaluated by Tukey's comparison test ( $P < 0.05$ ). Statistical software  
179 version 16 (Minitab, Australia) was used to perform the statistical analysis of the data.

180



181 **3. Results and discussion**182 *3.1 Chemical composition*

183 The proximate composition of the fish powder enriched cooked and uncooked pasta is  
184 presented in Table 1. The fish powder incorporation decreased ( $P < 0.05$ ) carbohydrate and  
185 moisture content whereas increased ( $P < 0.05$ ) the lipid, protein, and ash; potentially due to the  
186 fish powder composition. The decrease in the moisture content can be attributed to a greater  
187 protein-polysaccharides interaction when compared to control (Gomez-Guillen, Borderias, &  
188 Montera, 1997; Zhang, Li, Wang, Xue, & Xue, 2016). Previous research has also shown an increase  
189 in protein, ash and lipid contents when *Catla catla* mince, *Sardinella longiceps* mince and oil,  
190 tilapia protein concentrate and tilapia flour were added to pasta formulations, respectively (Devi  
191 et al., 2013; Anbudhasan et al., 2014; Goes et al., 2016; Monteiro et al., 2016). Pasta  
192 incorporation with 20 g/100g of fish powder showed the greatest ( $P < 0.05$ ) energy value,  
193 however no difference ( $p > 0.05$ ) was observed between FP 5 g/100g, FP10 g/100g and FP 15  
194 g/100g in the energy value. The lowest energy ( $P < 0.05$ ) value was observed in the control  
195 sample as compared to the enriched pasta with fish powder. This increase in energy value in pasta  
196 enriched with fish powder could be due to the inclusion of nutrients such as polyunsaturated fatty  
197 acids and essential amino acids present in the fish powder (Oliveira et al., 2015) but absent from  
198 the durum wheat semolina (Zhang et al., 2016).

199  
200 *3.2 Effect of fish powder inclusion on cooking loss, swelling index and water absorption index of*  
201 *pasta*

202 The cooking quality of pasta is an important feature and is assessed using optimal cooking time,  
203 cooking loss (solid material leaching during cooking), water absorption index, and swelling index  
204 which represents the uptake of water content during cooking. Several authors have reported that  
205 the quality and content of protein used in food processing as well as protein interaction in the

206 continuous network, are very important to form the optimum carbohydrates - protein network in  
207 order to obtain pasta of good cooking quality (Cleary & Brennan, 2006; De Noni & Pagani, 2010;  
208 Chillo, Monro, Mishra, & Henry, 2010). Table 2 shows that increasing levels of fish powder in  
209 pasta resulted in increased cooking loss compared with the control pasta. The cooking loss of the  
210 samples ranged from 3.99 to 5.85 g/100 g. The highest cooking loss values were for the 20 g/100g  
211 enriched pasta samples (5.85 g/100 g), while the sample with no fish powder had significantly ( $P <$   
212 0.05) lower cooking loss (3.99 g/100 g). However, all pasta samples presented cooking losses  
213 below 8 g/100 g, the value above which pasta quality is considered unacceptable according to  
214 industry guidelines (Foschia et al., 2015; Dick & Young, 1988). The higher cooking loss in pasta  
215 enriched with fish powder might be attributed to a weakening and disruption of the protein  
216 gluten network. Similar results have been observed by Ramya et al. (2015) who studied the effect  
217 of shrimp meat powder on the leaching of solids from pasta and reported that the solids that  
218 leached into the cooking water increased as the inclusion level of shrimp meat powder was  
219 increased. Also, Chin, et al. (2012) who worked on the effect of inclusion of threadfin bream  
220 (*Nemipterus sp.*) powder on leaching of solids, found that as the inclusion levels increased in pasta  
221 (5-20 g/100g), the cooking loss increased from 13.51-19.45 %. These results were in agreement  
222 with those from Vijaykrishnaraj et al. (2015) and Kadam & Prabhasankar (2012), who reported an  
223 increase in cooking loss of pasta containing 2.5-10 g/100g green mussel powder and 10-30 g/100g  
224 shrimp meat.

225 The optimum cooking time decreased with the addition of fish powder to pasta samples  
226 (Table 2). The reduction in cooking time was due to a lower water absorption (98.91 % for control  
227 and 87.84 % to 74.11 % for pasta enriched fish powder) and higher cooking loss (3.99 % for control  
228 vs 3.54 % to 5.85 % for enriched pasta). These results are in agreement with Petitot et al., (2010)  
229 and Pena & Manthey (2014) who also reported that pasta fortified with bean flour and soybean  
230 flour had a shorter cooking time than control pasta. In contrast to this study, other authors have

231 reported that pasta containing shrimp meat had minimal or longer cooking time than the control  
232 pasta (Ramya et al., 2015; Kadam & Prabhasankar, 2012; Devi et al., 2013).

233 The swelling index of pasta samples are reported in Table 2. Pasta prepared with 5–20  
234 g/100g fish powder showed significantly lower swelling index (1.91-1.81 g water/g dry pasta  
235 respectively) than the control pasta (2.95 g water/g dry pasta). The reduced swelling index could  
236 be due to the formation of a protein network in the pasta enriched with fish powder resulting in  
237 the limited supply of water for starch granule for swelling and gelatinisation. Similar results were  
238 observed by Liu, et al (2016) who reported that swelling index decreased significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) as  
239 the levels of beef (15-45 g/100 g) increased in fortified pasta. However, some research has shown  
240 a significant increase in the swelling index at increasing concentration of dietary fiber and  
241 legumes in pasta (Brennan et al., 2004; Cleary & Brennan, 2006; Brennan & Tudorica, 2007;  
242 Arvind, Sissons, Egan, & Fellows, 2012; Wojtowicz & Moscicki, 2014; Foschia, et al, 2015) The  
243 difference in optimal cooking time and swelling index results obtained in the present study and  
244 reported in literature could be due to different type and content of ingredient used and different  
245 processes used (Brennan et al., 2013; De Noni & Pagani, 2010).

246 Water absorption index is a measure of the amount of water absorbed by the pasta  
247 (Oikonomou & Krokida, 2011). Table 2 illustrates that the substitution of semolina flour with fish  
248 powder caused a significant decrease in water absorption index. Water absorption value ranged  
249 from 87.84 g/100g -74.11 g/100 g for pasta containing 5-20 g/100g fish powder respectively and  
250 was 98.91 g/100g for control. This may be due to the substitution of semolina flour with fish  
251 powder in pasta samples, which reduces starch swelling and pasta water absorption by competing  
252 with the starch for water during pasta formation. The decrease in water absorption index could be  
253 partly explained by a decrease in swelling index. During pasta formation, fish powder is competing  
254 with the starch and this would reduce starch swelling and consequently water absorption of pasta.  
255 Similarly, Ramya et al. (2015) and Vijaykrishnaraj et al. (2015) reported addition shrimp meat and

256 green mussel powder in pasta significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) decreased water absorption index as the  
257 level of shrimp meat and green mussel powder increased in the blend respectively. More recently,  
258 found that pasta water absorption was affected by inclusion with 2.5 -10 g/100g of green mussel  
259 powder. In contrast to this study, Devi et al. (2013) reported an increase in water absorption value  
260 of pasta containing 15 g/100g fish mince. The higher water absorption index values obtained for  
261 pasta containing fish mince may be explained by the higher capacity of the fish mince to absorb  
262 and retain water within a very well developed starch-protein network. Recently, Foschia et al.  
263 (2015) reported that inclusion of different dietary fiber into pasta cause a significant increase in  
264 water absorption index than control semolina sample. Brennan et al. (2004) reported that the  
265 water absorption index of pasta increased due to the increased degree of starch gelatinisation and  
266 disruption of the protein-starch matrix within the product. In this study, the results of the water  
267 absorption indicated that starch in the pasta enriched with fish powder may be less gelatinised  
268 during pasta cooking compare to the control sample.

269 The colour parameter of pasta is an important factor responsible for consumer acceptance  
270 (Petitot et al., 2010). Table 3 shows the  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  values for all pasta samples before and after  
271 cooking. Raw and cooked pasta samples enriched with fish powder showed lower lightness ( $L^*$ )  
272 value than control pasta. The lightness of pasta samples decreased as the amount of fish powder  
273 in the recipe increased. This observation was more evident for cooked pasta with addition of 15  
274 and 20 g/100g fish powder ( $P < 0.05$ ). Similarly, Kadam & Prabhasankar (2012) studied the effect  
275 of shrimp meat on the colour characteristics of pasta and reported that the addition of 10-30  
276 g/100g shrimp meat into pasta decreased the lightness ( $L^*$ ) value compared to control samples. In  
277 addition, Vijaykrishnaraj et al. (2015) and Liu et al. (2016) found that increased levels of green  
278 mussel powder and beef meat in pasta showed decreased lightness parameters. The increase  
279 redness parameter ( $a^*$ ) in pasta enriched with fish powder showed a significant increase ( $P <$   
280 0.05) compared to control samples while in cooked pasta samples redness ( $a^*$ ) is not affected by

281 the treatments. These results were in agreement with those from Kadam and Prabhasankar (2012)  
282 and Vijaykrishnaraj et al. (2015), who reported an increase in the red colour of pasta associated  
283 with the inclusion level of shrimp meat and green mussel powder. The yellowness  $b$  value was  
284 compared to understand the acceptability of product; the  $b^*$  values for uncooked and cooked  
285 pasta samples were 29 to 31 and 26 to 29, respectively. Changes in colour among different pasta  
286 samples were due to various incorporation levels. The results obtained by Ramya et al. (2015)  
287 supports the above mentioned observation of low  $L^*$  and  $b^*$  values. They reported that yellowness  
288 value of pasta samples increased as the level of shrimp meat (2.5 to 10 g/100g) powder increased  
289 in pasta. Also, Santana, Huda, & Yang (2015) demonstrated that incorporation of 50 and 100  
290 g/100g surimi powder in sausages were significantly different yellowness ( $b^*$ ) characteristics to  
291 those of control. This difference may be due to the higher concentration of surimi powder used.

292 The  $\Delta E$  values was also determined to evaluate the colour differences between the control  
293 and the fish powder containing formulations. The  $\Delta E$  values of fish powder containing pasta  
294 increased with increasing levels of fish powder in both cooked and uncooked forms. In addition,  
295 cooked pasta exhibited higher  $\Delta E$  compared to the uncooked pasta, indicative of the colour  
296 compounds released after cooking of pasta. The  $\Delta E$  values were more than 3.0 for cooked pasta,  
297 and below 3.0 for uncooked pasta. According to handbook of colour science (Yamauchi, 1989)  
298 these values fall in the “appreciable, detectable by ordinary people” and “noticeable, detectable  
299 by trained people” respectively. Imran, Yousif, Johnson, & Gamath (2014) reported that sorghum  
300 flour enriched pasta showed higher  $\Delta E$  with increasing level 20 % to 40 %.

### 301 3.3 Texture measurements

302 For pasta cooking, quality texture parameters are important characteristics. From the  
303 consumer point of view, the development of texture parameters is a critical point to ensure the  
304 acceptance of products. The textural properties of pasta are mainly controlled by a gluten  
305 network, which is a structural network of starches, protein additions, and other ingredients

306 (Chang & Wu, 2008). Firmness is a reflection of the bond strength and the integrity of the protein  
307 matrix present in the pasta after the cooking process (Dexter & Matsuo, 1979). The firmness and  
308 tension properties of the pasta enriched with fish powder and control sample are shown in Table  
309 4. There was a significant increase in firmness when the amount of fish powder was increased ( $P <$   
310  $0.05$ ). The firmness increased from 2.79 N in control sample to 3.81- 4.51 N in the 5-20 % fish  
311 powder sample respectively. The above results appeared to be related to values obtained for  
312 cooking losses, indicating that high cooking loss in 20 g/100g fish powder (5.85 %) had the highest  
313 firmness value (4.51 N). This could be due to the incorporation of fish powder in pasta, with low  
314 swelling index and water absorption index value being related to hardness. In the present study,  
315 fish protein interacts with the insoluble network of pasta, forming a matrix structure, and leading  
316 to the high firmness and extensibility as observed from results. The textural properties of pasta in  
317 the present study correspond to results from studies carried out on the addition of shrimp meat  
318 powder and green mussel powder into pasta (Ramya et al., 2015; Vijaykrishnaraj et al., 2015), and  
319 the incorporation of fish meat, shrimp meat and beef meat into pasta (Devi et al., 2013 ; Kadam &  
320 Prabhasankar, 2012; Liu et al., 2016). Foschia et al. (2015) reported that higher moisture content  
321 and swelling index are responsible for lower firmness value of pasta like products. Extensibility  
322 was examined as maximum force applied before breaking pasta (Chang & Wu, 2008). The  
323 extensibility of pasta increased significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) as the levels of fish powder increased (Table  
324 4). This may be attributed to the higher amount of polypeptide chain associated with higher  
325 protein content, which increases the ability of proteins to form an insoluble network. This  
326 insoluble protein network can entrap swollen and gelatinised starch granules, which prevents  
327 pasta from disruption (Chillo et al., 2010). The extensibility value in the present study ranged from  
328 0.42 N to 0.56 N.

#### 329 **4. Conclusions**

330 The results illustrated that the fish powder can be incorporated into pasta to enhance the product  
331 with high protein and other bioactive ingredients. The addition of fish powder affected cooking,  
332 textural and colour parameters. The fortification of pasta with fish powder improved the protein,  
333 fat and ash contents. The cooking loss increased and cooking time decreased with the addition of  
334 fish powder to pasta. In addition, increased firmness and extensibility were observed in a higher  
335 fish powder containing pasta.

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**Table 1.**

Chemical composition (%) and energy value (kcal/100g) of cooked and uncooked pasta fortified with different fish powder levels.

Sample	Parameters					
	Protein (g/100g)	Fat (g/100g)	Ash (g/100g)	Moisture (g/100g)	Carbohydrate (g/100g)	Energy (kcal/100g)
Fish powder	88.75 ± 0.00	1.37 ± 0.02	5.94 ± 0.08	7.92 ± 0.07	-	367 ± 1
Semolina	12.70 ± 0.05	1.0 ± 0.01	1.1 ± 0.02	10.0 ± 0.10	72.8 ± 0.24	351 ± 2
Cooked pasta						
CO	12.63 ± 0.17 <sup>a</sup>	nd	0.46 ± 0.02 <sup>a</sup>	67.90 ± 0.91 <sup>a</sup>	19.01 ± 1.06 <sup>a</sup>	127 ± 3 <sup>a</sup>
FP5	16.52 ± 0.29 <sup>b</sup>	nd	0.65 ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	65.70 ± 0.98 <sup>ab</sup>	17.13 ± 1.24 <sup>a</sup>	135 ± 4 <sup>ab</sup>
FP10	20.69 ± 0.11 <sup>c</sup>	nd	0.76 ± 0.00 <sup>c</sup>	65.91 ± 0.62 <sup>ab</sup>	12.64 ± 0.52 <sup>b</sup>	133 ± 2 <sup>ab</sup>
FP15	25.15 ± 0.25 <sup>d</sup>	nd	0.89 ± 0.04 <sup>d</sup>	65.74 ± 0.74 <sup>ab</sup>	8.22 ± 0.83 <sup>c</sup>	133 ± 3 <sup>ab</sup>
FP20	29.82 ± 0.29 <sup>e</sup>	nd	1.09 ± 0.04 <sup>e</sup>	64.46 ± 1.61 <sup>b</sup>	4.64 ± 1.62 <sup>d</sup>	138 ± 6 <sup>b</sup>
Uncooked pasta						
CO	12.21 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>	0.24 ± 0.02 <sup>c</sup>	0.76 ± 0.1 <sup>a</sup>	32.23 ± 0.16 <sup>ab</sup>	54.48 ± 0.24 <sup>a</sup>	269 ± 1 <sup>a</sup>
FP5	16.67 ± 0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.36 ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	1.04 ± 0.07 <sup>b</sup>	32.74 ± 0.11 <sup>ab</sup>	49.08 ± 0.31 <sup>b</sup>	267 ± 1 <sup>ab</sup>
FP10	20.08 ± 0.26 <sup>c</sup>	0.39 ± 0.02 <sup>b</sup>	1.28 ± 0.06 <sup>c</sup>	33.02 ± 0.16 <sup>a</sup>	45.13 ± 0.35 <sup>c</sup>	265 ± 1 <sup>ab</sup>
FP15	25.29 ± 0.14 <sup>d</sup>	0.53 ± 0.04 <sup>a</sup>	1.53 ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	33.24 ± 0.44 <sup>a</sup>	39.32 ± 0.43 <sup>d</sup>	264 ± 2 <sup>ab</sup>
FP20	30.12 ± 0.06 <sup>e</sup>	0.55 ± 0.01 <sup>a</sup>	1.69 ± 0.05 <sup>e</sup>	31.98 ± 1.04 <sup>b</sup>	35.63 ± 0.99 <sup>e</sup>	268 ± 4 <sup>b</sup>

FP5, FP10, FP15, and FP20: pasta prepared with 5, 10, 15, and 20 g of fish powder /100 g of semolina flour.  
CO: control sample.

Results in the table represent the mean of triplicate measurements. Mean ± standard deviation.

Values within a column followed by the same superscript letter are not significantly different from each other ( $p > 0.05$ ), according to Tukey's test.

nd: not detected

**Table 2**

Physical properties of cooked pasta products enriched with fish powder.

Sample	Optimal Cooking Time (min)	Cooking Loss (g/100g)	Swelling Index (g water/ g dry pasta)	Water absorption Index (g/100g)
CO	6.30	3.99 ± 0.27 <sup>bc</sup>	2.95 ± 0.09 <sup>a</sup>	98.9 ± 6.2 <sup>a</sup>
FP5	5.30	3.54 ± 0.12 <sup>c</sup>	1.91 ± 0.09 <sup>b</sup>	87.8 ± 4.2 <sup>ab</sup>
FP10	5.30	3.97 ± 0.11 <sup>bc</sup>	1.93 ± 0.05 <sup>b</sup>	85.4 ± 3.2 <sup>b</sup>
FP15	5.00	4.55 ± 0.42 <sup>b</sup>	1.92 ± 0.06 <sup>b</sup>	83.9 ± 3.0 <sup>b</sup>
FP20	5.00	5.85 ± 0.40 <sup>a</sup>	1.81 ± 0.14 <sup>b</sup>	74.1 ± 6.2 <sup>c</sup>

FP5, FP10, FP15, and FP20: pasta prepared with 5, 10, 15, and 20 g of fish powder /100 g of semolina flour.  
CO: control sample.

Results in the table represent the mean of triplicate measurements. Mean ± standard deviation.

Values within a column followed by the same superscript letter are not significantly different from each other ( $p > 0.05$ ), according to Tukey's test.

**Table 3.**

Colour characteristics of cooked and uncooked pasta enriched with fish powder.

Sample	Measurements			$\Delta E$
	$L^*$	$a^*$	$b^*$	
Uncooked pasta				
CO	90.24 ± 0.76 <sup>a</sup>	-8.08 ± 0.24 <sup>a</sup>	29.35 ± 0.35 <sup>b</sup>	
FP5	89.97 ± 0.92 <sup>a</sup>	-9.48 ± 0.72 <sup>b</sup>	31.02 ± 0.61 <sup>ab</sup>	2.55 ± 0.66 <sup>a</sup>
FP10	89.88 ± 0.97 <sup>a</sup>	-9.17 ± 0.20 <sup>b</sup>	31.24 ± 0.30 <sup>a</sup>	2.50 ± 0.47 <sup>a</sup>
FP15	90.75 ± 0.51 <sup>a</sup>	-9.50 ± 0.05 <sup>b</sup>	31.31 ± 0.02 <sup>a</sup>	2.66 ± 0.48 <sup>a</sup>
FP20	89.94 ± 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	-9.54 ± 0.15 <sup>b</sup>	30.26 ± 1.21 <sup>ab</sup>	2.93 ± 0.69 <sup>a</sup>
Cooked pasta				
CO	91.24 ± 0.23 <sup>a</sup>	-9.59 ± 0.09 <sup>a</sup>	26.81 ± 0.77 <sup>b</sup>	
FP5	90.52 ± 0.61 <sup>ab</sup>	-10.79 ± 0.56 <sup>a</sup>	28.81 ± 0.28 <sup>a</sup>	2.49 ± 1.01 <sup>a</sup>
FP10	89.49 ± 1.52 <sup>abc</sup>	-10.26 ± 0.42 <sup>a</sup>	29.01 ± 0.87 <sup>a</sup>	2.99 ± 1.63 <sup>a</sup>
FP15	87.84 ± 0.51 <sup>c</sup>	-10.06 ± 0.15 <sup>a</sup>	28.08 ± 0.47 <sup>ab</sup>	3.82 ± 0.40 <sup>a</sup>
FP20	88.63 ± 1.15 <sup>bc</sup>	-10.13 ± 0.85 <sup>a</sup>	27.86 ± 0.68 <sup>ab</sup>	3.29 ± 0.63 <sup>a</sup>

FP5, FP10, FP15, and FP20: pasta prepared with 5, 10, 15, and 20 g of fish powder /100 g of semolina flour.  
CO: control sample.

Results in the table represent the mean of triplicate measurements. Mean ± standard deviation.

Values within a column followed by the same superscript letter are not significantly different from each other ( $p > 0.05$ ), according to Tukey's test.

**Table 4.**

Textural properties of enriched pasta with fish powder.

Sample	Measurements	
	Firmness Peak force (N)	Maximum breaking strength (N)
CO	2.79 ± 0.05 <sup>c</sup>	0.42 ± 0.01 <sup>c</sup>
FP5	3.81 ± 0.02 <sup>b</sup>	0.46 ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>
FP10	4.45 ± 0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.54 ± 0.01 <sup>a</sup>
FP15	4.39 ± 0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.53 ± 0.01 <sup>a</sup>
FP20	4.51 ± 0.13 <sup>a</sup>	0.56 ± 0.02 <sup>a</sup>

FP5, FP10, FP15, and FP20: pasta prepared with 5, 10, 15, and 20 g of fish powder /100 g of semolina flour.  
CO: control sample.

Results in the table represent the mean of triplicate measurements. Mean ± standard deviation.

Values within a column followed by the same superscript letter are not significantly different from each other ( $p > 0.05$ ), according to Tukey's test.

- Nutricious pasta was produced by adding fish powder to semolina.
- Replacing semolina with fish powder showed high protein contents of pasta.
- Optimal cooking time, swelling index and water absorption index were affected by inclusion of fish powder.
- Addition of fish powder increases firmness and tensile strength of pasta.