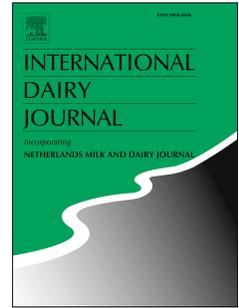


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Stability of powdered infant formula during secondary shelf-life and domestic practices

Concetta Condurso, Fabrizio Cincotta, Maria Merlino, Catherine Stanton, Antonella Verzera



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1 **Stability of powdered infant formula during secondary shelf-life and domestic practices**

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6 Concetta Condurso^a, Fabrizio Cincotta^{a,*}, Maria Merlino^a, Catherine Stanton^{b, c}, Antonella Verzera^a

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11 ^a *Department of Veterinary Sciences, University of Messina, Polo Universitario dell'Annunziata,*

12 *98168 Messina, Italy*

13 ^b *APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork, Western Road, T12 YN60 Cork, Ireland*

14 ^c *Teagasc Food Research Centre, Food Biosciences Department, Moorepark, Fermoy, Co Cork P61*

15 *C996, Ireland*

16

17

18

19

20 * Corresponding author. Tel.: +39 0906766828

21 *E-mail address: fabcincotta@unime.it (F. Cincotta)*

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23

24 ABSTRACT

25

26 Powdered infant formula (PIF) and lactose-free PIF during secondary shelf-life (SSL) and under
27 domestic practices was investigated to verify their stability up to the expiration date and under the
28 label instructions for milk reconstitution. Particular attention was given to variations in Maillard
29 reaction and lipid peroxidation products identified and quantified by HS-SPME-GC-MS. Two types
30 of PIF: Type A based on bovine milk and Type B a lactose-free product based on glucose syrup
31 were analysed. The PIF were analysed at regular time intervals beyond the labelled expiration date
32 after opening, and reconstituted using water at 70 °C, 80 °C and 90 °C. A large number of volatile
33 compounds were identified and significant statistically differences resulted during SSL and water
34 temperature used for reconstitution that were correlated to the PIF composition. The study showed
35 that water temperature for reconstitution of samples and the SSL has to be adapted to PIF
36 composition.

37

38 1. Introduction

39

40 According to European Union (EU) regulation (EU, 2016), powdered infant formula (PIF)
41 “is a food intended for use by infants during the first months of life; it satisfies by itself the
42 nutritional requirements of such infants until the introduction of appropriate complementary
43 feeding”. Following this Regulation, conventional bovine milk-based formula is generally
44 manufactured using specific combinations of carbohydrates, protein, fats (including polyunsaturated
45 fatty acids), vitamins, minerals and other minor components. Recently, lactose-free PIF has
46 appeared on the market, since intolerance to lactose is increasing globally. Lactose intolerance is
47 caused by the lack of β -galactosidase activity in the small intestine and more than 70% of the world
48 population suffers from the inability to use lactose-containing products (Messia, Candigliota, &
49 Marconi, 2007; Silanikove, Leitner, & Merin, 2015). For lactose-free infant formulas, the EU have
50 authorised alternative carbohydrates, like pre-cooked starch, gelatinised starch, maltodextrin and
51 glucose syrup; moreover, the statement “lactose-free” may be used for “infant formula and follow-
52 on formula provided that the lactose content in the product is not greater than 2.5 mg/100 kJ (10
53 mg/100 kcal)” (EU, 2016).

54 Ensuring the quality of PIF is a critical factor for the food industry in terms of both the
55 nutritional value and stability of the product. Instability can result during the production steps, such
56 as pasteurisation, spray-drying, and sterilisation, particularly on account of the high amount of
57 carbohydrates and proteins, the addition of lysine-rich proteins or polyunsaturated fatty acids. Lipid
58 oxidation and Maillard reactions are the main causes of deterioration during processing and storage
59 that can lead to loss of nutritional value and to the formation of furan and furan derivatives (Nunes,
60 Martins, Perrone, & de Carvalho, 2019; Sabater et al., 2018); these have been classified by the
61 International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC, 2019) as possibly carcinogenic for humans
62 (Group 2B); moreover, EFSA (2010) reported furan levels above 100 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ in coffee and baby
63 food (Condurso, Cincotta, & Verzera, 2018).

64 Aliphatic aldehydes, such as pentanal, hexanal (lipid peroxidation) (Cheng et al., 2017) and
65 furan derivatives (Maillard reactions) (Nunes et al., 2019) have been used as markers for PIF shelf-
66 life prediction (Chávez-Servín, de la Torre Carbot, García-Gasca, Castellote, & López-Sabater,
67 2015).

68 Considering the problems associated with milk powder stability, package opening also
69 causes variations due to changes of atmosphere composition, increases in oxygen and moisture,
70 temperature variations, loss of sterility, etc. For this reason, the secondary shelf-life (SSL), namely
71 the period in which a food product maintains an acceptable quality level after pack-opening, should
72 be considered. In the literature, there is limited research on variations in PIF composition during
73 SSL; only Chávez-Servín et al. (2015) studied the evolution of furfural compounds in commercial
74 milk-based formula after opening the package, while Aalaei, Sjöholm, Rayner, & Tareke (2017)
75 investigated the formation of carboxymethyl lysine (CLM) as an advanced glycation end product
76 (AGE).

77 During domestic practices, correct preparation and handling are fundamental for the
78 microbiological safety of PIF. For this purpose, the FAO/WHO published guidelines to avoid ideal
79 conditions for the growth of harmful bacteria, such as *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Salmonella* during
80 preparation, storage and handling (FAO/WHO, 2007). According to the risk assessment, it is
81 dramatically reduced when milk is reconstituted with water at a temperature which is no less than
82 70 °C, even if Losio et al. (2018) recently demonstrated the need to use higher temperatures to
83 reduce the biological risk. To the best of our knowledge, only the microbiological safety of PIF has
84 been considered during SSL (Amelia, Lubis, Rozi, & Nababan, 2018). In addition, in the case of
85 lactose-free PIF, there is limited literature on the stability of this product during SSL (Sabater et al.,
86 2018) and under domestic practices.

87 Thus, the aim of this study was to verify the stability of PIF and lactose-free PIF during the
88 SSL and under the domestic practices for milk reconstitution; the stability has been evaluated

89 following the Maillard reaction and lipid peroxidation volatile compounds that are connected with
90 the safety and sensory features, respectively.

91

92 **2. Materials and methods**

93

94 *2.1. Infant formula powders*

95

96 Two types of PIF (0-6-month old infant), namely A and B, were purchased from a local
97 market. Attention was given to the most popular formula (Type A) and to a lactose-free product
98 (Type B) for which there is a growing interest. Type A was based on bovine milk and it contained
99 (per 100 g of powder): 9.7 g proteins, 24.5 g total fats, 54 g carbohydrates (reducing sugar 53.8 g of
100 which lactose constituted the 96.6 %); protein content was 3.9 g casein and 5.8 g whey protein; fatty
101 acid content was 10.9 g saturated, 9.5 g monounsaturated, and 4.3 g polyunsaturated of which
102 linoleic acid was 3.26 mg, linolenic acid was 0.604 g and arachidonic acid was 0.047 g; fibre 4.1 g
103 while Type B was a lactose-free product based on glucose syrup, vegetable oils and milk caseins
104 and it contained (per 100 g of powder): 10.3 g protein, 27.3 g total fat, 57.1 g carbohydrate (of
105 which the reducing sugars constituted the 14.7 %); protein content was 10.1 g of casein; fatty acids
106 content was 11.1 g saturated, 10.3 g monounsaturated and 4.6 g polyunsaturated of which linoleic
107 acid was 3.69 mg, linolenic acid was 0.681 mg and arachidonic acid 0.091 mg.

108 Both were packaged under protective atmosphere in aluminium foil/plastic laminated
109 flexible pouches. For each type, A and B, six packages from different batches were analysed. The
110 shelf-life of both products was indicated 18 months from production and packaging by the
111 producer. The two products, A and B, were analysed after 5 months from production and
112 packaging, each in triplicate.

113

114 *2.2. Sample preparation*

115

116 *2.2.1. Milk reconstitution*

117 The two PIFs, A and B, were reconstituted following the instructions on each package,
118 which are those indicated by the FAO/WHO (2007): a sufficient volume of safe water was boiled,
119 then 18 g of each PIF were dissolved in 120 mL of boiled water cooled to room temperature ($\cong 20$
120 $^{\circ}\text{C}$), and to 70°C , 80°C and 90°C . In addition, once the hot samples reached room temperature, 20
121 mL of each solution was placed in a 40 mL vial equipped with a mininert cup and submitted for the
122 extraction of volatile compounds as described below. The samples prepared with water cooled to
123 room temperature were used as control samples.

124

125 *2.2.2. Secondary shelf-life*

126 As labelled on the package, the two products have to be consumed within one month of
127 opening. The analyses were performed immediately after opening the package and at regular time
128 intervals beyond the labelled expiry date, namely 0, 7, 15, 30 and 37 days. During the SSL, the
129 packages were properly closed and stored in a cool, dry place at room temperature. Each PIF was
130 dissolved in boiled water cooled to room temperature ($\cong 20^{\circ}\text{C}$) and prepared for the extraction as
131 reported in section 2.2.1. The samples analysed at package opening were used as control samples.

132

133 *2.3. Volatiles extraction*

134

135 All the samples were employed for the extraction of the volatiles by the headspace solid-
136 phase microextraction (HS-SPME) technique. Specifically, extraction was performed in the
137 headspace vial kept at 40°C using a fibre housed in its manual holder (Supelco, Bellefonte, PA,
138 USA). All the extractions were carried out using a DVB/CAR/PDMS fibre, of $50/30\ \mu\text{m}$ film
139 thickness (Supelco, Bellefonte, PA, USA). Each sample was equilibrated for 20 min and then
140 extracted for 30 min. After the sampling, the SPME fibre was introduced onto the splitless injector

141 of the GC/MS. The fibre was kept in the injector for 3 min for thermal desorption of the analytes
142 onto the GC capillary GC. The split-splitless injector port was maintained at 260 °C. Each sample
143 was analysed in triplicate.

144

145 2.4. *Volatiles analysis*

146

147 A Shimadzu GC 2010 Plus gas chromatograph directly interfaced with a TQMS 8040 triple
148 quadrupole mass spectrometer (Shimadzu, Milan, Italy) was used. The conditions were: injector
149 temperature, 260 °C; injection mode, splitless; capillary column, VF-WAXms, 60 m × 0.25 mm i.d.
150 × 0.25- μ m film thickness (Agilent, S.p.a. Milan, Italy); oven temperature, 45 °C held for 5 min,
151 then increased to 80 °C at a rate of 10 °C min⁻¹ and to 240 °C at 2 °C min⁻¹ held for 5 min; carrier
152 gas, helium at a constant flow of 1 mL min⁻¹; transfer line temperature, 250 °C; acquisition range,
153 30 to 400 *m/z*; scan speed, 1250 amu s⁻¹. Each compound was identified using mass spectral data,
154 NIST' 18 (NIST/ EPA/NIH Mass Spectra Library, version 2.0, USA) and FFNSC 3.0 database,
155 linear retention indices (LRI), literature data and the injection of standards, were available. The LRI
156 were calculated according to Condurso et al. (2016) as previously reported.

157

158 2.5. *Quantitative analysis*

159

160 All the identified volatiles which belonged to the following class of substances, aldehydes,
161 ketones, furanic compounds, alcohols, acids, and sulphur compounds, were quantified using the
162 method of standard additions as previously reported by Condurso et al. (2018). Standards were
163 purchased from Merk (Milan, Italy). Mixtures of standard solutions containing nonanal, 1-octen-3-
164 one, furfural, octanol, octanoic acid and dimethyl disulphide in a ratio 0.6–1.4 times those of the
165 corresponding analytes were added to multiple aliquots of each sample. The sample alone was also
166 analysed. Quantitation was based on a five-point calibration curve generated by plotting detector

167 response versus the amount spiked of each standard. Each sample measurement was repeated three
168 times. Validation parameters as previously reported by Concurso et al. (2018) were determined.

169

170 2.6. *Statistical analysis*

171

172 Results were statistically analysed using the XLStat software, version 2014.5.03 (Addinsoft,
173 Damremont, Paris, France). ANOVA, Duncan's multiple range test and Principal Component
174 Analysis (PCA) were applied to the volatile data. The null data (< LOQ) were substituted by the
175 minimum non-null value of the VOC variable.

176

177 3. **Results and discussion**

178

179 3.1. *Milk reconstitution at different temperatures*

180

181 Tables 1 and 2 report the average concentrations of the identified volatiles in the PIF
182 samples, types A and B, reconstituted with water at the different temperatures ($\cong 20, 70, 80,$ and 90
183 $^{\circ}\text{C}$) representative of potential domestic practices.

184

185 A large number of volatiles have been identified belonging to the following classes of
186 substances: aliphatic aldehydes, ketones, alcohols, acids, furanoic and sulphurated compounds, and
187 terpenes. Further, benzaldehyde, toluene and carboxymethyl-lysine (CML) were also identified.
188 Most of these volatiles, present also in the control (milk reconstituted with water cooled to room
189 temperature), arise from lipid peroxidation and Maillard reactions. In fact, a large number of
190 thermal processes are needed in PIF manufacturing, thus the formulas are already subjected to a
191 series of degradation reactions during production. Exactly, the heating treatments during the
192 manufacturing processes favour the initiation of Maillard reaction and lipid peroxidation; the
193 Maillard reaction also leads to volatile compound formation from Strecker degradations (Nunes et

193 al., 2019); peroxidation of unsaturated fatty acids form a complex mixtures of secondary oxidation
194 products such as aldehydes, ketones, etc. (Romeu-Nadal, Castellote & Lopez-Sabater, 2004).

195 Almost all the identified volatiles were present in both types of reconstituted milk, except
196 for (*E*)-2-decenal, hydroxyacetone, (*E,E*)-3,5-octadien-2-one, 1,2-cyclopentanedione and 2-
197 pentylfuran which were only present in the lactose-free samples (type B). Interesting is the presence
198 of (*E,E*)-3,5-octadien-2-one that arises from arachidonic acid and was two times higher in type B
199 formula as reported in section 2.1. Aliphatic aldehydes were the main class of substances in all the
200 analysed samples, with hexanal, pentanal and nonanal being the main compounds. Interestingly,
201 different amounts of aldehydes were determined in the two PIF types: type B showed an amount
202 which was about five and eight times higher than type A when 70 °C and 80 °C water was used,
203 respectively. The amounts of aldehydes, in particular those of pentanal, hexanal and nonanal,
204 significantly increased as the water temperature for milk reconstitution increased; indeed, an
205 increase of about 20 % and 50 % occurred in both PIF types when the water temperatures were 70
206 °C (the temperature indicated by the FAO/WHO published guidelines) and 90 °C, respectively.
207 Aldehydes have been reported as the most abundant volatiles in PIF and mainly arise from
208 unsaturated fatty acid peroxidation (Fenaille, Visani, Fumeaux, Milo, & Guy, 2003) together with
209 other aliphatic compounds, namely ketones, alcohols, short chain fatty acids, etc., which were also
210 identified in this study. The different content of aldehydes in the two PIFs can be correlated to the
211 different concentration of polyunsaturated fatty acid as report in section 2.1. Pentanal and hexanal
212 have been proposed as markers for lipid peroxidation during PIF storage; in particular, Cheng et al.
213 (2017) affirmed that these volatiles increase significantly in lipid-rich powder as storage
214 temperature increases, while according to Romeu-Nadal, Chavez-Servin, Castellote, Rivero, and
215 Lopez-Sabater (2007) the concentration of polyunsaturated fatty acids is a determinant for oxidation
216 stability.

217 As previously mentioned, (*E*)-2-decenal, (*E,E*)-3,5-octadien-2-one, hydroxyacetone, 1,2-
218 cyclopentanedione and 2 pentyl furan were only identified in the lactose-free PIF (type B). 2-
219 Decenal arises from oleic acid and can contribute to fatty odours (Ullrich & Grosch, 1987).

220 Hydroxyacetone was not influenced by the water temperature; it arises from dicarbonyl
221 derivatives (Amadori products) and has been proven to have mutagenic activity. As above reported,
222 3,5-octadien-2-one is derived from the oxidation of arachidonic acid and can contribute to a
223 mushroom odour. Free fatty acids increased as the water temperature increased and were higher in
224 all type B samples compared with type A.

225 Also, benzaldehyde increased as the water temperature increased and was always higher in
226 type B samples. Benzaldehyde could arise from phenylalanine; in this regard Hidalgo and Zamora
227 (2019) demonstrated that the degradation of phenylalanine into benzaldehyde occurs in the presence
228 of lipid hydroperoxides, exactly 13-hydroperoxide of linoleic acid. In this case the higher
229 concentration of phenylalanine in type B formula can be justified by the higher content of linoleic
230 acid than in type A; moreover, type B formula only contains caseins which are proteins richer in
231 phenylalanine than whey proteins.

232 Furanoic compounds, such as furfural and furfuryl alcohol, were not influenced by water
233 temperature in both types of PIF. Furfuryl alcohol may be found in dairy products as a result of
234 Maillard reactions during heat treatment and it may be carcinogenic, for this reason it is crucial to
235 have low amounts in dairy products, especially in those for infants (Wherry, Jo, & Drake, 2019).

236 Pentylfuran, only present in the lactose-free PIF, is a typical oxidation compound arising
237 from linoleic acid, with fruity and caramel malt notes and a relatively low odour threshold (0.006
238 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) (Kumar, Choudhary, Garg, Swami & Seth, 2018; Song, Jia, Shi, Feng, & Song, 2019); its
239 amount increased as the water temperature increased.

240 CML was identified in all the samples: it was present in the PIF control samples and its
241 concentration was not affected by water temperature. It is considered to be an AGE arising from

242 lactulosyl-lysine, an early-stage glycation derivative (Arena, Renzone, D'Ambrosio, Salzano, &
243 Scaloni, 2017).

244 Toluene was identified in all the samples, potentially arising from the thermal degradation of
245 β -carotene but it did not show significant variation across each set of samples. Also, dimethyl-
246 disulphide was identified in all the samples. This compound is formed as a result of the Strecker
247 degradation of methionine. It was not influenced by water temperature and highest levels were
248 found in the type B PIF samples. In our samples, the dimethyl disulphide levels were in the range
249 reported by Al-Attabi, D'arcy, & Deeth (2008) ($32.8 \text{ ng kg}^{-1} - 5 \text{ } \mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) for UHT milk.

250 PCA performed on the volatile compounds of all the samples allowed us to separate them
251 according to type and water temperature. As shown in Fig. 1, type A samples occur in the negative
252 side of PC1 (75.88% of total variability) and type B in the positive side. As regards the effect of
253 water temperature, type B samples are distributed across the negative and positive sides of PC2
254 (12.91% of total variability), well separated from each other, whereas type A samples are quite
255 close to each other indicating that water temperature had less of an effect in this case. Fig. 1 also
256 demonstrates, by the loading plot, the volatile compounds which most influence the separation of
257 the samples. The qualitative and quantitative differences between the two types of PIF are
258 reasonable since type B PIF contains vegetable oils and has higher amounts of unsaturated fatty
259 acids. These are responsible for the higher amounts of aliphatic aldehydes, ketones, free fatty acids
260 and furanoic compounds in the lactose-free PIF, which also increased as water temperature
261 increased. For both types of PIFs, the use of hot water led to quantitative differences in volatile
262 composition especially for the lactose-free type.

263 With regards the nutritional quality, we deduce it to be acceptable regardless of water
264 temperature since the observed changes did not result from the breakdown of the Amadori products
265 but mainly as a result of lipid peroxidation; in fact, the content of furfural and CML were not
266 influenced by water temperature, and other Maillard products, such as 5-hydroxymethylfurfural
267 (HMF), were not detected. Presumably, the use of hot water, even at the temperature of $90 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, is

268 not conducive to Maillard reactions; even if the analyses performed here were not capable of
269 verifying the early Maillard products such as lactulosyl-lysine, a protein-bound Amadori product,
270 which is responsible for nutritive value loss due to the blockage of lysine residues (Henle, Walter,
271 & Klostermeyer, 1991). Otherwise, the differences observed in the volatile fractions of both PIF
272 types, attributable to water temperature, are acceptable from a product safety point of view. Indeed,
273 no volatile substances belonging to Group 1 (carcinogenic for humans) by the IARC have been
274 detected; only furfural and toluene, belonging to Group 3 (sufficient evidence in experimental
275 animals), and furfuryl alcohol, belonging to Group 2B (possibly carcinogenic for humans) (IARC,
276 2019), were present in the PIF samples. As regards furfuryl alcohol, its amount never exceeded 10
277 ppb in all the samples with the highest value in the type B PIF reconstituted with 90 °C water.

278 For the sensory aspects, such as aroma and flavour, the amounts of most of the aldehydes
279 and ketones were higher than their odour thresholds. For example, pentanal was about ten times
280 higher in lactose-free PIF and three times higher in type A PIF when 70 °C water was used. In
281 contrast, free fatty acids and furanoic compounds were lower than their odour thresholds. Aliphatic
282 aldehydes are associated with oxidized off-flavour or oxidative rancidity in milk; pentanal, in
283 particular has an acrid-pungent-like odour (Garrido et al., 2015).

284 In terms of microbiological safety, Losio et al. (2018) recently reported that low levels of
285 *Salmonella* and *C. sakazakii* can survive infant formula preparation using water at 70 °C. The
286 Authors propose the use of hot water at about 85 °C to achieve lethal temperatures for the
287 pathogens, thus reducing the biological risks. From our results, this suggested temperature could be
288 used for PIF type based on bovine milk but it is not suitable for lactose-free PIF based on glucose
289 syrup and vegetable oils, since it results in an increase of peroxidation products that could influence
290 the sensory properties of the product.

291

292 3.2. *Secondary shelf-life*

293

294 Tables 3 and 4 report the average concentrations of the identified volatiles in types A and B
295 PIF during the SSL. All the volatiles identified in the samples at package opening were present
296 during the SSL even if significant variations were observed. Moreover, the following compounds
297 were identified in the period between 7 and 37 days after package opening in the two PIF types: free
298 fatty acids from C₁₁ to C₁₂, linear aliphatic aldehydes from C₁₂ to C₁₅, dimethyl trisulphide, HMF,
299 4-hydroxy-2,5-dimethyl-3(2H)-furanone (furaneol) and 3-hydroxy-2(3H)-dihydrofuranone. In
300 addition, hydroxyacetone, 1,2 cyclopentanedione, 2-pentylfuran were also identified in type A
301 samples during the SSL.

302 The free fatty acids and aldehydes, indicated above, probably arose from triglyceride
303 hydrolysis and subsequent oxidation. Their concentrations continuously increased during the SSL in
304 both PIF types; however, the amounts of aldehydes and free fatty acids were higher in type B PIF.
305 As reported in section 3.1 it could be associated to the different PIF composition, higher in
306 polyunsaturated fatty acids. After 37 days from package opening, HMF and furanone derivatives
307 were detected in the head space volatiles. These volatiles, which were absent in the control and also
308 in the milk reconstituted with hot water (up to 90 °C), arise from Maillard reactions. Chávez-Servín
309 et al. (2015) studied the content and evolution of potential furfural compounds in commercial milk-
310 based infant formula powder; they reported that potential furfural compound content increased over
311 an extended storage time and with high storage temperatures that favour the Maillard reaction; in
312 particular, HMF was more marked 30 days after the packet was opened. In our samples, the highest
313 amounts of HMF and furanones were detected in type A PIF. It is well known that HMF arises from
314 lactulosyllysine (Maillard reaction); type A contained 3.9 g of casein and 5.8 g of whey protein,
315 whereas type B contained 10.1 g of protein only constituted by casein. It is thus reasonable that a
316 higher amount of HMF should be recorded in type A PIF, not only for the protein composition but
317 due to the absence of lactose in type B. Furaneol is a product of the Maillard reaction also, and it is
318 considered a key flavour compound in many fruits including strawberries. Dimethyl trisulphide
319 appeared in the type A PIF after 7 days of SSL and increased up to 37 days, while in type B PIF it

320 was detected starting from 30 days. It is formed during the Maillard reaction from methionine and
321 the trend observed here probably correlates to the higher amounts of essential amino acids in type A
322 PIF. Hydroxyacetone, 1,2 cyclopentanedione and 2-pentylfuran, which were absent in type A
323 samples at package opening, significantly increased in both PIF types during the SSL; as reported in
324 section 3.1 they arise from the Maillard reactions.

325 CML, which arises from lactulosyl-lysine, has been identified in all the samples and its
326 amount significantly increased after 7 days in type A and after 15 days in type B PIF samples. In all
327 the samples, toluene significantly increased during the SSL in the two PIF types; as reported in
328 section 3.1 it results from the thermal degradation of β -carotene.

329 PCA performed on the volatile data from Tables 3 and 4, allowed us to separate the samples
330 analysed according to the type and the SSL. PC1 accounts for 68.98 % of the total variability, while
331 PC2 accounts for 16.64 %. As shown in Fig. 2, type A samples are in the negative side of PC2 and
332 type B are in the positive side. For each PIF type, the samples are separated along PC1 in relation to
333 the elapsed time after package opening. In particular, all the samples at 30 and 37 days are in the
334 positive side of PC1, while all the others are in the negative side and close to each other. The
335 loading plot shows the volatile compounds which most influence the separation of the samples
336 during the SSL. In the case of type A PIF, the samples after 30 and 37 days are well separated from
337 the others by volatile compounds mainly arising from Maillard reactions whereas in the case of type
338 B PIF, at the same time points, samples are separated mainly by volatiles from lipid peroxidation. In
339 particular, 37 days PIF samples (at which time the remaining product should be discarded) are well
340 separated from the others evidencing important changes in their composition. As described above, a
341 loss of nutritional quality is reasonable especially after 15 days of SSL for both PIF types. As
342 regards the safety of the product, furan derivatives have been recognised as toxic for animals and
343 humans (EFSA, 2011; Okaru & Lachenmeier, 2017; Ravindranath, McMenamin, Dees, & Boyd
344 1986; Sujatha, 2008). Although there is limited information available on the tolerable intake of
345 furan and furan derivatives for humans, EFSA proposed a tolerable intake of up to $0.64 \mu\text{g kg}^{-1} \text{ bw}$

346 day⁻¹ (Kettlitz, et al., 2019) for the non-neoplastic effects. In this regard, the differences observed
347 are acceptable for the safety of the product up to 30 days; however, after this period these
348 substances dramatically increased especially in type A PIF samples.

349 For the sensory aspects, again the amounts of most of the aldehydes and ketones were higher
350 than their odour thresholds, whereas free fatty acids and furanoic compounds were lower than their
351 odour thresholds.

352

353 **4. Conclusions**

354

355 In conclusion, this study has shown that the water temperature for infant formula
356 reconstitution have to be adapted to the PIF composition; moreover, the SSL, the time after package
357 opening at which the remaining product should be discarded, also has to be adapted. In particular,
358 for the PIF types, here analysed, the use of hot water for the milk reconstitution led to lipid
359 peroxidation in relation with the amount and type of lipids present in the powder. Thus, if a higher
360 water temperature is required for the microbiological safety of the product this is not suitable for
361 type B PIF. Moreover, during the SSL, lipid peroxidation was also accompanied by the Maillard
362 reaction depending on the polyunsaturated fatty acid content and amount and type of protein. In this
363 regard, to assure the safety and quality of products, (both nutritional and sensory), a SSL of no more
364 than 15 days should be indicated, at least for the PIF types analysed here. Further research will be
365 performed to study early Maillard reaction products during both milk reconstitution and SSL.

366

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368

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373

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1 **Figure legends**

2

3 **Fig. 1.** Two dimensional PCA centroid (average scores) and loading plot performed on volatile data
4 of type A and Type B PIF samples reconstituted with water at different temperatures.

5

6 **Fig. 2.** Two dimensional PCA centroid (average scores) and loading plot performed on volatile data
7 of type A and Type B PIF samples during the SSL.

8

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Table 1

Average volatile concentration (mg kg⁻¹) in the type A PIF samples reconstituted with water at different temperatures. ^a

Compound	Water temperature			
	≅ 20 °C	70 °C	80 °C	90 °C
Aldehydes				
Pentanal	0.037 ^{B,b}	0.045 ^{A,B}	0.058 ^A	0.060 ^A
Hexanal	0.096 ^B	0.107 ^B	0.122 ^B	0.199 ^A
5-Methyl hexanal	0.016 ^B	0.020 ^B	0.028 ^A	0.026 ^A
Octanal	0.020 ^B	0.025 ^{A,B}	0.030 ^A	0.032 ^A
(Z)-2-Heptenal	0.011 ^B	0.016 ^A	0.019 ^A	0.021 ^A
Nonanal	0.026 ^C	0.045 ^B	0.067 ^A	0.060 ^A
(E)-2-Octenal	0.003 ^A	0.004 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.005 ^A
Decanal	0.005 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.005 ^A
Benzaldehyde	0.014 ^C	0.022 ^B	0.039 ^A	0.046 ^A
All	0.229 ^D	0.290 ^C	0.373 ^B	0.461 ^A
Ketones				
1-Octen-3-one	0.002 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.002 ^A	0.002 ^A
6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one	0.004 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.003 ^A
3-Nonen-2-one	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.002 ^A	0.004 ^A
All	0.014 ^A	0.013 ^A	0.009 ^B	0.009 ^B
Furanoic compounds				
Furfural	0.005 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.006 ^A
Furfuryl alcohol	0.005 ^A	0.004 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.006 ^A
All	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.012
Alcohols				
1-Octen-3-ol	0.003 ^A	0.004 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A
1-Octanol	0.007 ^A	0.007 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.006 ^A
All	0.013 ^A	0.011 ^A	0.008 ^A	0.009 ^A
Acids				
Acetic	0.005 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.013 ^A	0.016 ^A
Hexanoic	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A
Octanoic	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A
Decanoic	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.003 ^A
Tetradecanoic	0.008 ^B	0.008 ^B	0.008 ^B	0.016 ^A
All	0.022 ^C	0.023 ^C	0.030 ^B	0.041 ^A
Sulphur compounds				
Dimethyl disulphide	0.025 ^A	0.025 ^A	0.025 ^A	0.023 ^A
Terpenes				
Limonene	0.009 ^A	0.008 ^A	0.010 ^A	0.010 ^A
Hydrocarbons				
Toluene	0.008 ^A	0.007 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.007 ^A
Glycooxidation products				
CML	0.019 ^A	0.017 ^A	0.017 ^A	0.018 ^A

^a Six samples from different batches; eighteen samples for each temperature; different uppercase superscript letters in the same row indicate statistically significant differences from Duncan test ($P < 0.05$).

Table 2

Average volatile concentration (mg kg⁻¹) in the type B (lactose free) PIF samples reconstituted with water at different temperatures. ^a

Compound	Water temperature			
	≈ 20 °C	70 °C	80 °C	90 °C
Aldehydes				
Pentanal	0.110 ^B	0.130 ^B	0.188 ^A	0.194 ^A
Hexanal	0.872 ^B	0.938 ^B	1.239 ^A	1.107 ^{A,B}
5-Methyl hexanal	0.046 ^B	0.058 ^B	0.101 ^A	0.099 ^A
Octanal	0.046 ^D	0.140 ^C	0.196 ^B	0.280 ^A
(Z)-2-Heptenal	0.043 ^B	0.057 ^B	0.106 ^A	0.120 ^A
Nonanal	0.098 ^D	0.227 ^C	0.376 ^B	0.552 ^A
(E)-2-Octenal	0.013 ^D	0.025 ^C	0.046 ^B	0.058 ^A
Decanal	tr ^A	tr ^A	tr ^A	tr ^A
Benzaldehyde	0.040 ^B	0.048 ^B	0.094 ^A	0.091 ^A
(E)-2-Decenal	0.004 ^B	0.009 ^B	0.022 ^A	0.014 ^A
All	1.272 ^C	1.632 ^B	2.368 ^A	2.515 ^A
Ketones				
Octen-3-one	0.019 ^B	0.026 ^A	0.027 ^A	0.031 ^A
Hydroxyacetone	0.004 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.003 ^A	0.002 ^A
6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one	0.006 ^A	0.008 ^A	0.018 ^A	0.009 ^A
3-Nonen-2-one	0.013 ^B	0.020 ^B	0.033 ^A	0.029 ^A
(E,E)-3,5 Octadien-2-one	0.006 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.007 ^A	0.011 ^A
1,2 Cyclopentanedione	0.002 ^A	0.002 ^A	0.002 ^A	0.002 ^A
All	0.050 ^C	0.068 ^B	0.089 ^A	0.085 ^A
Furanoic compounds				
2 Pentyl furan	0.009 ^C	0.018 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.027 ^A
Furfural	0.005 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.006 ^A	0.009 ^A
Furfuryl alcohol	0.004 ^A	0.005 ^A	0.009 ^A	0.010 ^A
All	0.018 ^C	0.028 ^B	0.034 ^B	0.046 ^A
Alcohols				
1-Octen-3-ol	0.007 ^B	0.012 ^B	0.019 ^A	0.018 ^A
1-Octanol	0.010 ^B	0.017 ^B	0.031 ^A	0.034 ^A
All	0.017 ^C	0.029 ^B	0.050 ^A	0.053 ^A
Acids				
Acetic	0.002 ^C	0.004 ^C	0.010 ^B	0.017 ^A
Hexanoic	0.004 ^B	0.005 ^B	0.005 ^B	0.010 ^A
Octanoic	0.002 ^B	0.004 ^{AB}	0.006 ^A	0.007 ^A
Decanoic	0.002 ^B	0.006 ^A	0.007 ^A	0.007 ^A
Tetradecanoic	0.011 ^B	0.013 ^B	0.014 ^B	0.020 ^A
All	0.021 ^D	0.032 ^C	0.047 ^B	0.057 ^A
Sulphur compounds				
Dimethyl disulphide	0.046 ^A	0.044 ^A	0.042 ^A	0.042 ^A
Terpenes				
Limonene	0.029 ^A	0.021 ^A	0.026 ^A	0.027 ^A
Hydrocarbon				
Toluene	0.015 ^A	0.011 ^A	0.012 ^A	0.011 ^A
Glycooxidation product				
CML	0.024 ^A	0.027 ^A	0.022 ^A	0.025 ^A

^a Six samples from different batches; eighteen samples for each temperature; tr = < LOQ; different uppercase superscript letters in the same row indicate statistically significant differences from Duncan test ($P < 0.05$).

Table 3Average volatile concentration (mg kg⁻¹) in the type A PIF samples during the SSL. ^a

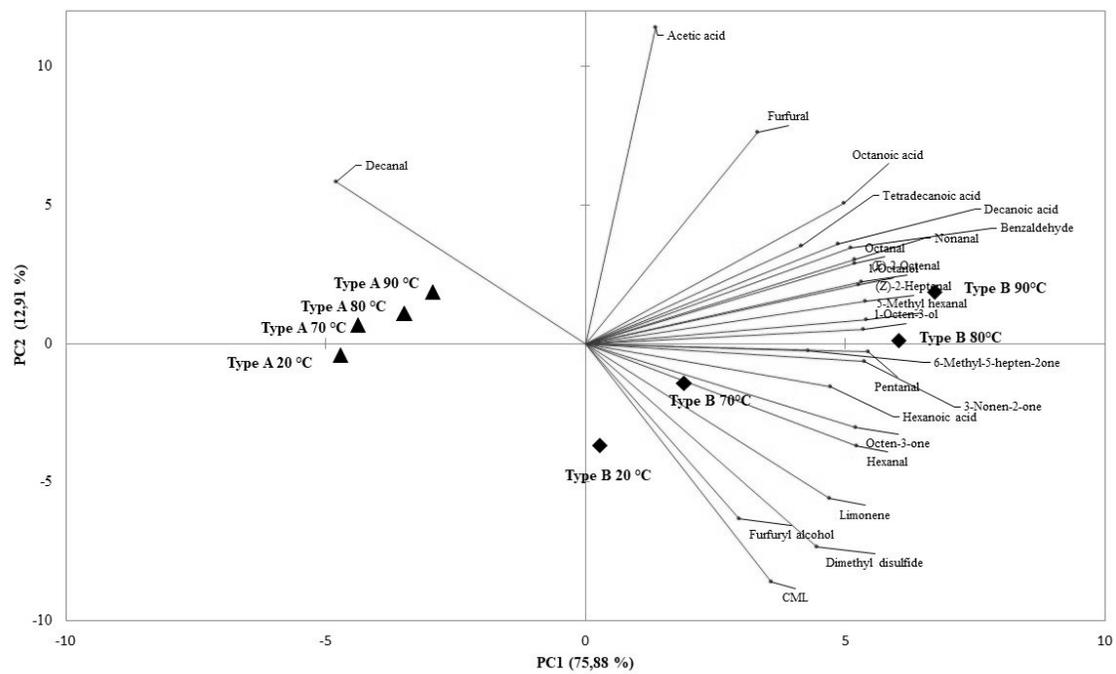
Compound	Days after opening				
	0	7	15	30	37
Aldehydes					
Pentanal	0.037 ^E	0.045 ^D	0.072 ^C	0.088 ^B	0.171 ^A
Hexanal	0.096 ^E	0.160 ^D	0.284 ^C	0.761 ^B	0.897 ^A
5-Methyl hexanal	0.016 ^D	0.028 ^C	0.063 ^B	0.071 ^B	0.133 ^A
Octanal	0.020 ^E	0.032 ^D	0.049 ^C	0.138 ^B	0.340 ^A
(Z)-2-Heptenal	0.011 ^D	0.020 ^D	0.041 ^C	0.139 ^B	0.228 ^A
Nonanal	0.026 ^E	0.125 ^D	0.266 ^C	0.519 ^B	1.085 ^A
(E)-2-Octenal	0.003 ^D	0.006 ^D	0.015 ^C	0.033 ^B	0.055 ^A
Decanal	0.005 ^D	0.007 ^D	0.021 ^C	0.034 ^B	0.154 ^A
Benzaldehyde	0.014 ^D	0.038 ^C	0.104 ^B	0.182 ^A	0.221 ^A
(E)-2-Decenal	0.013 ^C	0.013 ^C	0.013 ^C	0.028 ^B	0.051 ^A
Dodecanal	0.015 ^D	0.015 ^D	0.027 ^C	0.062 ^B	0.132 ^A
Tetradecanal	0.010 ^C	0.010 ^C	0.015 ^C	0.035 ^B	0.077 ^A
Pentadecanal	0.004 ^B	0.004 ^B	0.004 ^B	0.004 ^B	0.036 ^A
All	0.270 ^E	0.503 ^D	0.972 ^C	2.093 ^B	3.579 ^A
Ketones					
1-Octen-3-one	0.003 ^C	0.004 ^C	0.008 ^C	0.031 ^B	0.058 ^A
Hydroxyacetone	0.004 ^D	0.004 ^D	0.034 ^C	0.058 ^B	0.335 ^A
6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one	0.004 ^C	0.004 ^C	0.011 ^{BC}	0.020 ^B	0.039 ^A
3-Nonen-2-one	0.003 ^C	0.002 ^C	0.007 ^C	0.023 ^B	0.031 ^A
1,2 Cyclopentanedione	0.018 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.180 ^A
All	0.032 ^D	0.032 ^D	0.078 ^C	0.149 ^B	0.644 ^A
Furanic compounds					
2-pentyl Furan	0.027 ^B	0.027 ^B	0.028 ^B	0.027 ^B	0.065 ^A
Furfural	0.005 ^C	0.001 ^C	0.012 ^B	0.017 ^B	0.101 ^A
Furfuryl alcohol	– _B	– _B	– _B	– _B	1.036 ^A
4-Hydroxy-2,5-dimethyl-3(2H)-furanone	– _B	– _B	– _B	– _B	0.022 ^A
(furanol)					
3-Hydroxydihydro-2(3H)-furanone	– _B	– _B	– _B	– _B	0.020 ^A
5-Hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF)	– _B	– _B	– _B	– _B	1.121 ^A
All	0.032 ^C	0.028 ^C	0.040 ^B	0.044 ^B	2.366 ^A
Alcohols					
1-Octen-3-ol	0.003 ^D	0.009 ^{C,D}	0.018 ^C	0.042 ^B	0.064 ^A
1-Octanol	0.007 ^C	0.010 ^C	0.016 ^{B,C}	0.030 ^B	0.065 ^A
All	0.010 ^D	0.019 ^D	0.034 ^C	0.072 ^B	0.129 ^A
Acids					
Acetic acid	0.005 ^D	0.019 ^C	0.061 ^B	0.086 ^B	0.689 ^A
Hexanoic acid	0.005 ^C	0.005 ^C	0.005 ^C	0.019 ^B	0.043 ^A
Octanoic acid	0.004 ^C	0.004 ^C	0.009 ^C	0.025 ^B	0.089 ^A
Decanoic acid	0.013 ^C	0.013 ^C	0.023 ^{B,C}	0.037 ^B	0.217 ^A
Undecanoic acid	– _B	– _B	– _B	– _B	0.028 ^A
Dodecanoic acid	– _C	– _C	0.067 ^B	0.111 ^B	0.930 ^A
Tetradecanoic acid	0.029 ^C	0.029 ^C	0.065 ^B	0.082 ^B	0.514 ^A
All	0.056 ^D	0.070 ^D	0.230 ^C	0.359 ^B	2.509 ^A
Sulphur compounds					
Dimethyl disulphide	0.025 ^B	0.026 ^B	0.086 ^B	0.226 ^A	0.338 ^A
Dimethyl trisulphide	0.008 ^C	0.008 ^C	0.020 ^B	0.081 ^A	0.093 ^A
All	0.033 ^D	0.034 ^D	0.106 ^C	0.306 ^B	0.432 ^A
Terpenes					
Limonene	0.009 ^B	0.015 ^B	0.260 ^A	0.165 ^A	0.178 ^A
Hydrocarbons					
Toluene	0.008 ^C	0.018 ^B	0.025 ^B	0.134 ^A	0.167 ^A
Glycooxidation product					
CML	0.019 ^D	0.060 ^C	0.351 ^B	0.640 ^A	0.488 ^A

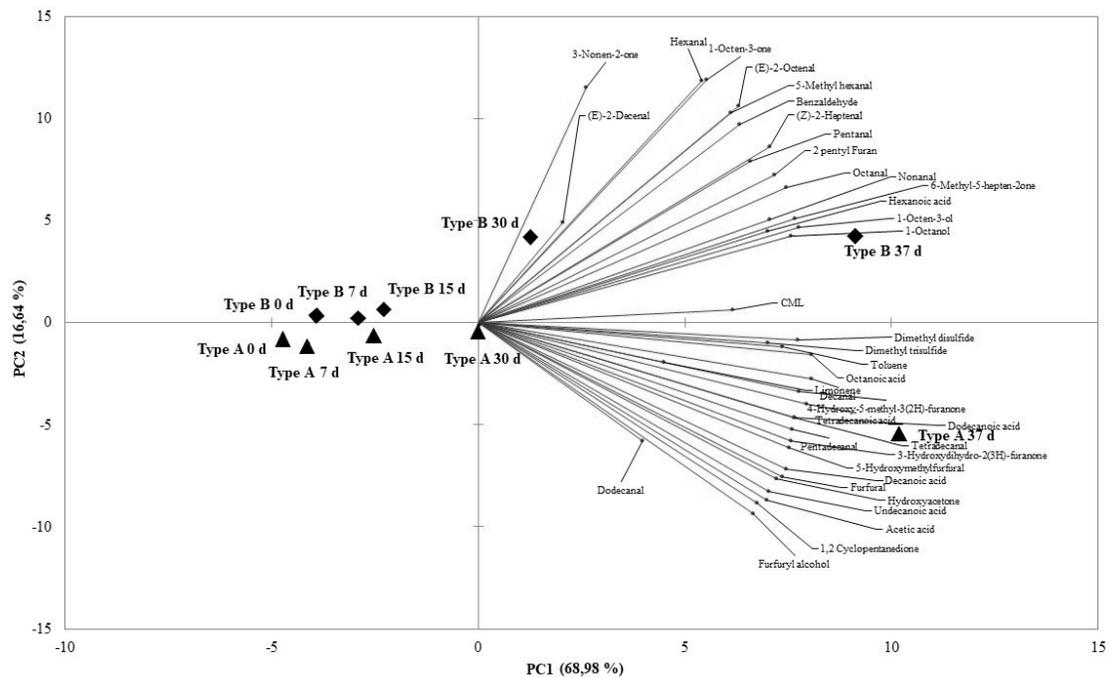
^a Six samples from different batches; eighteen samples for each time; – = < LOD; different uppercase capital letters in the same row indicate statistically significant differences from Duncan test ($P < 0.05$).

Table 4Average volatile concentration (mg kg⁻¹) in the type B (lactose-free) PIF samples during the SSL. ^a

Compound	Days after opening				
	0	7	15	30	37
Aldehydes					
Pentanal	0.110 ^C	0.123 ^{B,C}	0.150 ^B	0.181 ^B	0.266 ^A
Hexanal	0.870 ^C	0.920 ^C	1.203 ^C	1.921 ^B	2.831 ^A
5-Methyl hexanal	0.046 ^C	0.071 ^B	0.073 ^B	0.250 ^A	0.256 ^A
Octanal	0.046 ^C	0.062 ^C	0.082 ^C	0.275 ^B	0.668 ^A
(Z)-2-Heptenal	0.043 ^C	0.060 ^C	0.068 ^C	0.299 ^B	0.474 ^A
Nonanal	0.098 ^C	0.120 ^C	0.218 ^B	0.311 ^B	2.598 ^A
(E)-2-Octenal	0.013 ^C	0.021 ^C	0.021 ^C	0.106 ^B	0.191 ^A
Decanal	0.034 ^B	0.034 ^B	0.034 ^B	0.034 ^B	0.122 ^A
Benzaldehyde	0.040 ^E	0.141 ^D	0.231 ^C	0.335 ^B	0.440 ^A
(E)-2-decenal	0.004 ^C	0.008 ^C	0.007 ^C	0.039 ^B	0.140 ^A
Dodecanal	0.038 ^B	0.038 ^B	0.040 ^B	0.034 ^B	0.096 ^A
2- Undecenal	– ^C	– ^C	– ^C	0.003 ^B	0.097 ^A
Tetradecanal	– ^D	0.010 ^C	0.020 ^B	0.023 ^B	0.044 ^A
Pentadecanal	– ^C	0.006 ^B	0.007 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.019 ^A
All	1.382 ^E	1.614 ^D	2.154 ^C	3.817 ^B	8.240 ^A
Ketones					
Octen-3-one	0.019 ^C	0.023 ^C	0.023 ^C	0.093 ^B	0.217 ^A
Hydroxyacetone	0.014 ^C	0.019 ^C	0.026 ^C	0.056 ^B	0.119 ^A
6-Methyl-5-hepten-2one	0.006 ^C	0.010 ^C	0.023 ^B	0.033 ^{A,B}	0.049 ^A
3-Nonen-2-one	0.013 ^C	0.016 ^C	0.016 ^C	0.080 ^B	0.170 ^A
(E,E)-3,5-Octadien-2one	0.006 ^C	0.004 ^C	0.010 ^{B,C}	0.017 ^B	0.034 ^A
1,2 Cyclopentanedione	0.002 ^C	0.006 ^C	0.008 ^C	0.022 ^B	0.042 ^A
All	0.060 ^E	0.078 ^D	0.105 ^C	0.301 ^B	0.633 ^A
Furanic compounds					
2 Pentyl furan	0.009 ^D	0.013 ^D	0.023 ^C	0.054 ^B	0.148 ^A
Furfural	0.005 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.047 ^A
Furfuryl alcohol	0.014 ^B	0.016 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.018 ^B	0.264 ^A
4-Hydroxy-5-methyl-3(2H)-furanone	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	0.019 ^A
3-Hydroxydihydro-2(3H)-furanone	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	0.012 ^A
5-Hydroxymethyl furfural	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	0.633 ^A
All	0.028 ^D	0.035 ^D	0.047 ^C	0.078 ^B	1.123 ^A
Alcohols					
1-Octen-3-ol	0.007 ^C	0.008 ^C	0.016 ^B	0.050 ^A	0.086 ^A
1-Octanol	0.010 ^C	0.016 ^C	0.009 ^C	0.030 ^B	0.114 ^A
All	0.017 ^C	0.024 ^C	0.025 ^C	0.079 ^B	0.199 ^A
Acids					
Acetic acid	0.002 ^D	0.036 ^C	0.046 ^{B,C}	0.062 ^B	0.216 ^A
Hexanoic acid	0.004 ^B	0.009 ^B	0.006 ^B	0.007 ^B	0.101 ^A
Octanoic acid	0.002 ^C	0.012 ^B	0.026 ^B	0.017 ^B	0.082 ^A
Decanoic acid	0.002 ^C	0.021 ^B	0.019 ^B	0.014 ^B	0.105 ^A
Undecanoic acid	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	0.010 ^A
Dodecanoic acid	– ^C	– ^C	0.098 ^B	0.140 ^B	0.628 ^A
Tetradecanoic acid	0.011 ^C	0.054 ^B	0.078 ^B	0.073 ^B	0.372 ^A
All	0.021 ^D	0.131 ^C	0.272 ^B	0.313 ^B	1.514 ^A
Sulphur compounds					
Dimethyl disulphide	0.046 ^C	0.055 ^C	0.054 ^C	0.181 ^B	0.261 ^A
Dimethyl trisulphide	– ^B	– ^B	– ^B	0.051 ^A	0.066 ^A
All	0.046 ^C	0.055 ^C	0.054 ^C	0.233 ^B	0.327 ^A
Terpenes					
Limonene	0.029 ^C	0.022 ^C	0.042 ^B	0.062 ^B	0.165 ^A
Hydrocarbon					
Toluene	0.005 ^C	0.010 ^C	0.015 ^C	0.078 ^B	0.129 ^A
Glycoxidation product					
CML	0.024 ^C	0.036 ^B	0.049 ^B	0.067 ^B	0.738 ^A

^a Six samples from different batches; eighteen samples for each time; – = < LOD; different uppercase superscript letters in the same row indicate statistically significant differences from Duncan test ($P < 0.05$).





Author contributions

CC, research design, supervision; FC, MM, research design, methodology, formal analyses, data analysis; AV, conceptualisation, writing - original draft; CS, research design, supervision, writing - review & editing.

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