

Influence of calcium acetate on rye bread volume

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Abstract

The positive accepted savoury taste of rye bread is dependent on acetate concentration in the dough of such breads. In order to study how calcium acetate influences rye bread properties, the pH of rye doughs fortified with calcium acetate and the resulting volume of the breads were measured. Furthermore, CO₂ formation of yeast with added calcium acetate and yeast with different pH levels (4, 7, 9) were measured. Thereby, it was determined that the addition of calcium acetate increased the pH of dough from 4.42 to 5.29 and significantly reduced the volume of the breads from 1235.19 mL to 885.52 mL. It could be proven that bread volume was affected by a 30.9% lower CO₂ amount production of yeast, although bread volume was not affected by changing pH levels. Due to reduced bread volume, high concentrations of calcium acetate additions are not recommended for improving rye bread taste.

Keywords: calcium acetate; volume; yeast; gas formation.

Practical Application: Calcium acetate is not appropriate for improving rye bread taste.

1 Introduction

Bread belongs to traditional food in Europe. Especially rye bread with its typical savoury taste is favoured in Northern, Central and Eastern Europe. This savoury taste is produced by adding sourdough to the dough, which contains yeast and lactic acid bacteria (Birch et al., 2013; Gobbetti, 1998). Sourdough is used to reduce the pH (Kunz, 1994; Stolz et al., 1995) as well as improving the sensory properties (Kunz, 1994; Thiele et al., 2002). The sourdough is produced by fermentation, whereby lactic acid bacteria produce acetate (Birch et al., 2013) and lactic acid as a function of ambient conditions (Ternes, 2008). Both acids are responsible for the sensory properties of rye bread with sourdough (Gobbetti, 1998; Katina et al., 2006). The typical savoury taste of rye bread is caused by acetic acid (Jensen et al., 2011; Onishi et al., 2011; Plessas et al., 2011; Poinot et al., 2010) and acetate esters (Paraskevopoulou et al., 2012), whereas lactic acid weakens that taste (Brandt, 2006; Lönner & Preve-Akesson 1989). This means that the ratio of lactic acid to acetic acid defines the flavour of the end product (Linko et al., 1997).

Given that the aroma of bread is very important for its acceptance by consumers (Paraskevopoulou et al., 2012), the ratio of acetate to lactate in rye dough should be improved. Therefore, acetate - as calcium acetate - was added to the dough of the bread in this study, as opposed to acetic acid, which was previously attempted (Blanco et al., 2011). By adding calcium acetate to the dough, the calcium concentration was also increased. However, the addition of calcium acetate resulted in a reduction of the volume of the rye breads. Therefore, the aim of this study is to ascertain which mechanism causes this reduction in the volume of rye breads with calcium acetate. For this purpose, the pH of

dough and gas formation of yeast in a rye flour and calcium acetate solution and a solution with different pH are measured.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Bread baking

Breads were baked under laboratory conditions following the formulation shown in Table 1. For breads with acetate, four concentrations of calcium acetate (C₄H₆CaO₄ x H₂O, 158.17 g/mol, Dr. Paul Lohmann GmbH KG, Emmerthal, Germany) were used (Table 2). Calcium acetate was dissolved in water before being added to other ingredients. The blending was performed for 30 s at speed level 2 with a hand-held blender (MSN 6260, Type CNHR8, Robert Bosch Hausgeräte GmbH, Munich, Germany).

The ingredients were kneaded with the dough kneader (Typ S20G3, DIOSNA, Osnabrück, Germany), first for 5 minutes at level 1 (60 strokes per minute) and subsequently for a further 5 minutes at level 2 (120 strokes per minute). Dough resting followed for 30 minutes at a temperature of 23 ± 0.5 °C, before the dough was covered with a moist cloth. The dough was divided into three separate 800 g portions. Each part was cylindrically kneaded and added to a fatted iron baking pan. Subsequently, the raw dough was incubated for one hour at 35 °C and 80% humidity in the proofing cabinet (Typ AEG5, Fa. MIWE, Arnstein, Germany) for the rising process. Breads were baked in a conventional oven (Type CE 416/77H, Winkler Wachtel, Hilden, Germany). The oven was heated to 200 °C and the baking process lasted for 50 minutes until the bread with a

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Table 1. Bread formulation for 3000 g of dough.

Ingredients	Amount in g	Amount in %
Rye flour type 997	1245	41.5
Wheat flour type 550	405	13.5
Dried, non-fermented sourdough (Jung MS-Sauer)	50	1.7
Breadcrumbs	35	1.2
Yeast (<i>S. cerevisiae</i>)	23	0.8
Salt	35	1.2
Water (pre-warmed: 37 °C)	1207	40.2

Table 2. Addition of calcium acetate.

calcium acetate in percent of flour	calcium acetate in 3 kg dough
Standard	0.0 g
1.41%	23.68 g
2.79%	47.36 g
4.13%	71.04 g
5.11%	88.80 g

crust had the core temperature of 95 °C. For the first 5 minutes, the slide damper was open and steam was added for 5 seconds.

2.2 Volume measurements

The volume of the breads was measured using a volume scanner (Volume Scan Profiler VSP 600, Fa. Stable Micro Systems, Great Britain), which measures the volume of rotating bread (rotation velocity: 1 rps) with an optical laser (2 mm vertical step). Before every series of tests were measured, the volume scanner was calibrated. Three loaves of each bread type were measured on three days.

2.3 pH measurement

Dough pH was measured using a pH meter (Festo 230, Testo AG, Germany) with a puncture tip electrode inserted into the dough after resting time.

2.4 CO₂ measurements

For the measurement of CO₂ formation of the yeast, a test preparation according to Tillmanns-Rauscher was used (Rauscher, 1956; Tillmanns et al., 1919). Four concentrations of calcium acetate (according to concentrations in bread) were investigated (1.41%, 2.79%, 4.13%, 5.11% calcium acetate in relation to flour weight). For this purpose, a solution was made out of 1.0 g yeast, 13.8 g rye flour (Type 997) and 200 mL distilled water, into which calcium acetate was dissolved with the hand-held blender. pH was adjusted at 7 ± 0.03 for all tests with calcium acetate.

With the CO₂ formation measurement by Tillmanns-Rauscher, it was also analysed whether a pH of 4, 7 or 9 influences gas formation of yeast during 110 minutes. For this purpose, 1 g yeast was dissolved in 200 g distilled water with 10% sugar.

The desired pH of yeast solution was adjusted with 0.1 molar hydrochloric acid and 0.1 molar sodium hydroxide, respectively.

The temperature of the water bath was adjusted to 35 ± 0.6 °C (according to fermentation temperature) for all tests. The developed CO₂ of the yeast was measured with the displacement of solution of sodium chloride, which displaced volume accorded developed CO₂. The volume of displaced sodium chloride solution was measured after a duration of five minutes. The measurement of displaced solution of sodium chloride took 110 minutes, which corresponded to kneading, resting, forming and fermenting time and short intermediate steps in bread preparation.

2.5 Statistical analysis

All statistical analysis was calculated with SPSS® statistical software (Version 20.0, SPSS Inc., Chicago, USA). The pH, volume and gassing values were analysed for significance using a one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) with post-hoc testing by Tukey-B test with a significance level of $p = 0.05$. The mean values of pH, volume and CO₂ formation are shown with standard deviations. Normal distribution was determined with Kolmogorov-Smirnov ($p = 0.05$) and the test of homogeneity of variance was passed by a Levene Test ($p = 0.05$).

3 Results

3.1 pH and volume

pH and volume values are presented in Table 3. Standard bread without calcium acetate showed the lowest pH of 4.42 and the largest volume of 1235.19 mL. With increasing calcium acetate concentration in bread, the pH value increased and the volume decreased. Therefore, bread with 5.11% calcium acetate in bread held a pH of 5.29 and volume of 885.52 mL, marking a reduction of 28.3% (Table 3). Due to a clear rise in pH and decrease in volume, there were significant differences between standard bread and all calcium acetate concentrations, as well as between all calcium acetate concentrations.

3.2 CO₂ formation

The results of gas formation measurements are presented in Figure 1 and the significant differences are shown in Table 4. CO₂ formation of the yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) was measured as the corresponding displacement of sodium chloride solution, according to the method of Tillmanns-Rauscher. Standard yeast solution without calcium acetate built up the largest amount of CO₂. By contrast, yeast solution with the highest calcium acetate concentration (5.11%) developed the lowest CO₂ amount after 110 minutes.

The different amount of developed CO₂ (measured as mL of a displaced sodium chloride solution) was influenced by different calcium acetate concentrations in the growing-medium for the yeasts (standard deviations are sometimes too small to be observed, e. g. for 1.41% calcium acetate). In the first 40 minutes, standard yeast solution and yeast solution with different concentrations of calcium acetate developed similar amounts of CO₂, whereby there were no significant differences in the first 40 minutes. After 50 minutes, there were significant differences in gas formation

Table 3. pH and volume values of standard bread and calcium acetate breads, their significant differences and volume reduction relating to standard bread.

Addition of calcium acetate	pH	Volume in mL	Volume reduction relating to standard bread
Standard bread	4.42 ± 0.03 a	1235.19 ± 13.16 a	-
Bread with 1.41% calcium acetate	4.84 ± 0.11 b	1075.22 ± 6.51 b	13.0%
Bread with 2.79% calcium acetate	5.08 ± 0.10 c	985.85 ± 11.92 c	20.2%
Bread with 4.13% calcium acetate	5.20 ± 0.12 d	908.85 ± 12.23 d	26.4%
Bread with 5.11% calcium acetate	5.29 ± 0.15 e	885.52 ± 10.52 e	28.3%

Note: Values in the same column and sub-table not sharing the same subscript are significantly different at p < 0.05.

Table 4. Significant differences of displaced solution of sodium chloride in mL of different calcium acetate concentrations as a function of time.

Time in minutes	Standard	1.41% calcium acetate	2.79% calcium acetate	4.13% calcium acetate	5.11% calcium acetate
5	7.3 ± 1.7 a	5.3 ± 0.5 a	5.0 ± 0.0 a	4.7 ± 0.5 a	5.3 ± 0.5 a
10	11.0 ± 2.9 a	11.7 ± 0.9 a	11.3 ± 0.5 a	10.7 ± 0.5 a	11.3 ± 0.5 a
20	21.7 ± 2.4 a	19.7 ± 0.5 a	20.7 ± 1.9 a	17.7 ± 0.5 a	19.3 ± 0.9 a
30	29.3 ± 0.5 a	26.3 ± 1.7 a	28.0 ± 1.4 a	24.7 ± 1.7 a	24.3 ± 1.7 a
40	35.7 ± 0.5 a	32.0 ± 2.9 a	33.0 ± 0.8 a	30.3 ± 1.7 a	30.0 ± 1.4 a
50	42.0 ± 0.8 a	37.7 ± 2.1 ab	38.3 ± 0.9 ab	35.0 ± 1.6 b	34.5 ± 1.9 bc
60	49.3 ± 0.5 a	43.3 ± 1.7 ab	43.5 ± 0.7 ab	40.0 ± 2.9 b	38.3 ± 2.5 bc
70	55.7 ± 0.9 a	49.3 ± 1.2 ab	48.8 ± 1.0 abc	45.0 ± 3.3 bc	42.0 ± 2.4 c
80	64.0 ± 1.6 a	56.7 ± 0.5 b	54.7 ± 0.5 bc	49.3 ± 2.9 cd	46.7 ± 2.5 d
90	72.0 ± 2.2 a	64.3 ± 0.5 b	60.0 ± 0.8 bc	54.3 ± 2.9 cd	51.3 ± 2.9 d
100	80.3 ± 2.1 a	71.7 ± 0.5 b	66.7 ± 0.5 bc	60.0 ± 3.7 cd	56.0 ± 2.9 d
110	89.3 ± 2.6 a	79.7 ± 0.5 b	72.0 ± 0.0 bc	66.0 ± 3.3 cd	61.7 ± 2.5 d

Note: Values in the same row and sub-table not sharing the same subscript are significantly different at p < 0.05.

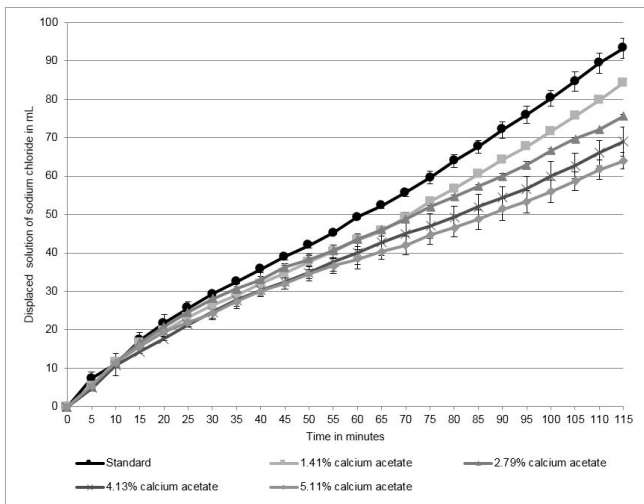


Figure 1. Displaced solution of sodium chloride (in mL) according to Tillmanns-Rauscher measurements of CO₂ development by yeasts as a function of time. Note: Percent of calcium acetate is in relation to flour weight.

between the standard solution and the solutions with 4.13% and 5.11% calcium acetate. Furthermore, the solutions with the two lowest calcium acetate concentrations (1.41%, 2.79%) significantly differed from the highest concentration of calcium acetate (5.11%) after 50 minutes. After 80 minutes, the standard solution significantly differed from all solutions of calcium acetate concentrations in CO₂ formation. This shows that yeast

in standard solution produced significantly more CO₂ than yeast in all other solution with calcium acetate after 80 minutes. There was also a significant difference between the solution of lowest calcium acetate concentration (1.41%) and those of the two highest calcium acetate concentrations (4.13%, 5.11%) after 80 minutes. Moreover, after 90, 100 and 110 minutes, the yeast of the standard solution formed significantly more CO₂ than those of the solutions with calcium acetate. Summing up, with increasing calcium acetate concentration, yeast produces a lower amount of CO₂, which becomes significant after 50 minutes.

Different concentrations of added calcium acetate not only changed the volume of the bread but also the pH values of the dough. Therefore, examinations were performed concerning the influence of different pH values of the yeast's medium on its CO₂ production. The results of these experiments are shown in Figure 2 and the significant differences are shown in Table 5.

During the first 20 minutes of the test, running the three different yeast solutions produced similar gas amounts, whereby there were no significant differences. After 30, 40 and 50 minutes, the yeast solution with pH 7 produced significantly more CO₂ than the yeast solution with pH 4. Moreover, after 40 minutes, there was also a significant difference between the yeast solutions with pH 7 and 9. However, after 60 minutes, there were no longer significant differences between the gas formation of yeast solutions with pH 4, 7 and 9. While the yeast solution with pH 9 produced the most gas after 110 minutes, it did not significantly differ from the yeast solutions with pH 7 and 4.

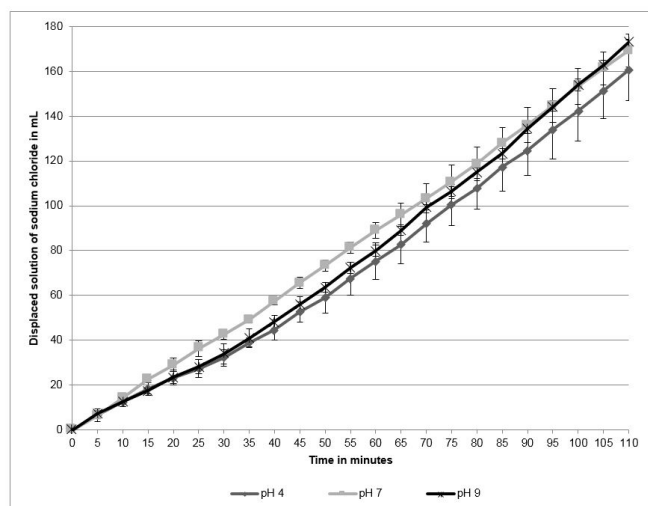


Figure 2. Displaced solution of sodium chloride of yeast solutions with different pH as a function of time according to Tillmanns-Rauscher measurements of CO₂.

Table 5. Significant differences of displaced solution of sodium chloride in mL of yeast solution with different pH as a function of time.

Time in minutes	pH 4	pH 7	pH 9
5	6.7 ± 1.5 a	6.3 ± 2.5 a	7.3 ± 2.1 a
10	12.5 ± 2.2 a	14.3 ± 1.5 a	12.7 ± 2.3 a
20	23.2 ± 2.9 a	29.0 ± 3.0 a	23.7 ± 3.1 a
30	32.2 ± 3.8 a	42.7 ± 2.1 b	34.0 ± 4.6 ab
40	44.7 ± 4.5 a	57.3 ± 1.5 b	48.3 ± 2.9 a
50	58.8 ± 6.8 a	73.3 ± 2.5 b	63.7 ± 2.3 ab
60	75.3 ± 8.1 a	89.0 ± 3.6 a	80.0 ± 2.6 a
70	92.2 ± 8.4 a	103.3 ± 6.4 a	99.3 ± 1.2 a
80	107.7 ± 9.2 a	118.7 ± 7.6 a	115.0 ± 2.6 a
90	124.8 ± 11.1 a	136.0 ± 7.8 a	134.3 ± 2.1 a
100	142.3 ± 13.3 a	153.3 ± 8.1 a	154.0 ± 2.6 a
110	160.7 ± 13.6 a	169.3 ± 7.2 a	173.0 ± 1.0 a

Note: Values in the same row and sub-table not sharing the same subscript are significantly different at $p < 0.05$.

4 Discussion

It became evident that the addition of calcium acetate significantly influenced dough pH and bread volume. The pH of standard dough was 4.41 ± 0.04 , which lies in a typical pH range from 4.1 to 4.5 for rye dough bread (Spicher & Stephan, 1999). By contrast, the pH of dough with calcium acetate varied from a lowest concentration of 4.84 ± 0.11 to a highest of 5.29 ± 0.15 , which is beyond the typical rye dough pH range (Spicher & Stephan, 1999). The addition of calcium acetate reduced bread volume from the lowest to highest concentration from 13.0% to 28.3% in comparison to standard rye bread. Seguchi et al. (1997) also stated a bread volume reduction owing to using flour processed with gaseous acetic acid.

Gas formation of yeast showed that in the first 40 minutes, there were no significant differences between standard solution without calcium acetate and the four yeast solutions with calcium acetate. However, after 50 minutes, it had emerged that yeast

solution with higher calcium acetate concentrations (4.13%, 5.11%) produced significantly less CO₂. Indeed, after 80 minutes, yeast solution with the lowest calcium acetate concentration (1.41%) also formed a significantly lower amount of CO₂. Moreover, after 110 minutes - which corresponded to kneading, resting, forming and fermenting time in bread making - there were significant differences in CO₂ formation between the standard solution and yeast solution with calcium acetate. Therefore, the reduction in the volume of the rye bread by calcium acetate could be explained by a reduction of the CO₂ production of the yeast along with increasing concentrations of calcium acetate. These results are in line with the findings of Suihko & Mäkinen (1984), who also found that concentration of 0.5% acetate reduces fermentation process of yeast to 44%. Moreover, Moon (1983) detected that with an increasing concentration of acetate, yeast was inhibited. Hence, it is assumed that rye bread volume decreases with increasing calcium acetate addition due to lower CO₂ formation of the yeast used in dough during the kneading, resting, forming and fermenting time of bread making. Due to a lesser CO₂ production of the yeast, the volume of breads decreased, because fewer cavities and/or cavities with a smaller diameter were formed during bread preparation.

However, the observed reduction in CO₂ formation could also be caused by increasing the pH of the dough along with increasing concentration of calcium acetate. Nonetheless, CO₂ formation of yeast solution with different pH showed that after 110 minutes - which corresponded to baking preparation time - there were no significant differences between yeast solutions with a pH of 4, 7 or 9. However, it could be shown with the tests that increasing pH values in rye breads tends to increase the CO₂ production, which would result in an increasing volume of the breads rather than the observed decreasing volume. Furthermore, Holmes & Hosoney (1987) and van Dam (1988) ascertained that yeast is tolerant towards a pH range from 3.7 to 8.0m while Holmes & Hosoney (1987) described that pH has only a minor effect on bread volume.

Therefore, it could be shown here that calcium acetate alone (or only acetate, as stated by Suihko & Mäkinen (1984) and Moon (1983) diminishes the volume of rye bread by reducing the CO₂ production of the baker's yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. This means that increasing the savoury taste of rye bread by increasing amounts of acetate has to be paid by an increasing volume of those breads.

5 Conclusion

The addition of the concentrations of calcium acetate used strongly influenced bread volume because calcium acetate reduced gas formation of the yeast. Thus, it is difficult to add such calcium acetate concentrations to improve the taste of rye breads with sourdough. Lower concentrations of calcium acetate may slightly affect the bread volume and gas formation of yeast.

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