Guidebook to Proximate Analysis



Introduction

A method for the quantitative analysis of the different macronutrients in food stuff is called proximate analysis. Nutritional analysis began in 1861 and since then it has have been continuously developed, modified and improved. The analysis uses combination of techniques to determine protein, fat, moisture, ash and carbohydrates that are well documented due to the need for legal declaration requirements.



Ms. Cheese







The proximate on a journey

As a leading Swiss milk processor, Emmi has strong ties to the Swiss population and agriculture industry. Some 6'500 milk producers supply the key raw material for Emmi's wide range of dairy products. Process control and evidence of compliance with the regulations are important components of these internationally established standards. Several important elements for Emmi are the efficient implementation of the HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) concept which is based on self-control and is well established in the food industry, and the ongoing review of all processes for continuous improvement.



external lab for fat and protein determination, which is an inherent element in the process chain. The amount of fat and protein per kg determines the value of the milk and results in profit for the farmer (Milchgeld). This money defines the farmer's investment.

Milk is sent for testing to an

At the farmer

External Lab

Milk load from a milk producer

sampling of an aliquot milk portion.

The milk with a pre-defined content for fat and protein

arrives at Emmi. Milk is sampled directly from the tank

to determine fat (fast screening with NIR) prior to the







cow's milk. In recent years, the demand for products made from goat's or sheep's milk has been constantly on the rise, and so we have improved our offering in this area too. As a result, alongside cow's milk, we also process an increasing amount of goat's milk (particularly into fresh cheese, but also cheese, yogurt and drinking milk) and to some extent also sheep's milk (into cheese, yogurt, butter and drinking milk) in Switzer land. Outside of Switzerland too (the Netherlands, Spain and the US), we have a number of sites that have specialised in processing goat's milk for decades already.



The milk is centrifuged to separate cream and skimmed milk. Standard milk with different fat concentration levels is produced by adjusting the fat content. Fat and dry mass are determined with **NIR** fast screening.

If the final product requires higher concentration levels, cream (fat) and skimmed milk powder (protein) are added.

Standardization of milk

The milk is processed into several standard milk types that wi used as the basic ingredients for final products such as pasteur milk, cheese and yoghurt. During production of the final product further nutritional content determination takes place.

At line

Prior to final freezing, the BUCHI NIRMaster[™] determines fat and dry matter in the pasty ice cream mixture.

Off-line

Quality control requires monitoring of the final product, such as yogurt determining the target value for fat with the reference methods.

Once the milk has been processed into final products, quality control along with the declaration confirmation of the labels, takes place in the laboratory or on the production line.

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Distribution to the end-user



Lab results confirm product conformity including:

- sterility approval
- control of physical, chemical and sensory parameters
- storage testing ٠

The final product is released to the consumer. All food safety aspects are vital; and so proximate analysis is of key commercial concern.



Very gentle process at low temperature

Protein determination by Kjeldahl



Find your perfect match







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Area of application	Fat «Extraction»	Protein «Kjeldahl»	Proximate «NIR»
R&D	+++	+++	+
Production	+	+	+++
Goods inspection	+	+	+++
Quality control / labeling	+++	+++	++
Characterictics			
Range of applications	+	++	+++
Variation in sample types	+++	+++	++
Automated throughput	++	+++	+
Speed of analysis	+	+	+++
Compliance 1)	+++	+++	+
Detection of adulterants	+	++ ^(NPN)	+++
Unattended operation	++	+++	+
No contact with chemicals	+	+	+++
Ingress protection rating	+ ^(IP 20)	+ ^(IP 20)	+++ ^(IP 65)
Low initial costs	+++	$+++ / ++ / + ^{2)}$	+
Low running costs	++	+	+++

Technical Data

Eco-friendly

Throughput in 9 h ³⁾	~ 36 samples	120 samples	400+ samples
Analysis time	~ 90 min/6 samples	200 min/20 samples	~ 15 s/sample
Max. sample amount	10 g	> 4 g/400 mL	395 cm
Limit of detection (LOD)	0.1 %	0.02 mg N	0.1 %

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¹⁾ With respect to application regulations such as AOAC, ISO, DIN etc.

²⁾ Initial costs of the Kjeldahl products are very much depending on the level of automation

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³⁾ Depending on sample composition, packaging material. No shift work assumed.

Customer Reference



Grobest Corporation Co. Ltd., Thailand Customer: leading aquatic feed producer

Application: protein, TVBN (Total Volatile Basic Nitrogen) and pepsin are determined for QC purposes in raw material and finished goods with the help of Kjeldahl Solutions.



CPF Food Products Co. Ltd., Thailand Customer: Premium sausage manufacture

Application: using the NIR Solution multiple components such as protein, fat, moisture and salt are analyzed for raw material inspection.



Mead Johnson Nutrition, USA Customer: global leader in pediatric nutrition, best known for their flagship Enfa family of brands, including Enfamil[®] infant formula.

Application: BUCHI NIRFlex N-500 is used for both qualitative and quantitative assessment of incoming raw materials. Formula-specific NIR calibrations have been developed on the customer site to quantify protein, moisture and fat of in-process and finished formulas.



Protein determination in wheat flour samples TS Flourmill Co. Ltd., Thailand Customer: TS Flour Mill Co., Ltd. (Thailand) was established in 2007 and focuses on quality control from raw material until finished product.

Application: Auto-distillation is used for protein determination in wheat flour samples in order to review raw material quality during the manufacturing process and in final products.

Determination of protein, TVBN and pepsin

NIRFlex[®] N-500 for sausage analysis

Quality control of infant formula