

1 **TEXTURE OF EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL-ENRICHED MASHED POTATOES:**
2 **SENSORY, INSTRUMENTAL AND STRUCTURAL RELATIONSHIPS**
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13 **Running title**

14 **OLIVE OIL EFFECT ON MASHED POTATO TEXTURE**

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32 **ABSTRACT**

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35 The aim of this work was to study the effect of the addition of extra virgin olive oil
36 (EVOO) on instrumental textural properties, sensory texture profile analysis (TPA) and
37 microstructure of fresh and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes formulated without and with
38 added cryoprotectants [kappa-carrageenan (κ -C) and xanthan gum (XG)]. EVOO behaves
39 as soft filler due to droplet aggregates, whereas addition of cryoprotectants led to more
40 structured mashed potatoes (MP) thanks to the gelling properties of κ -C. Both the
41 percentage of added EVOO and processing had a much less significant effect on the
42 texture of the MP containing κ -C and XG, evidencing the ability of this biopolymer blend
43 to impart freeze/thaw stability. All samples with added EVOO were perceived as
44 significantly softer and creamier than the samples without EVOO, whereas all MP samples
45 with added cryoprotectants were perceived as significantly thicker and creamier than those
46 without hydrocolloids.

47 **KEYWORDS**

48 Extra virgin olive oil, mashed potatoes, texture, microstructure, TPA sensory attributes,
49 freezing

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51 **PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS**

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53 Previous studies showed that the quality after freezing and thawing may be improved by
54 the addition of 1.5 g/kg of κ -C and 1.5 g/kg of XG, and/or incorporation of dietary fiber,
55 improvement of mashed potatoes texture by retarding starch retrogradation and increasing
56 water-holding capacity. Growing awareness of the link between diet and health is fast
57 changing consumer habits, so that there has been increasing demand for foods with health
58 enhancing properties. Extra virgin olive oil (EVOO) has important nutritional
59 characteristics linked to its biophenol content and has very important antioxidant
60 properties. The results have shown that although instrumental textural data were able to
61 explain differences in consistency perceived, structural information is needed to
62 understand differences in creaminess. Back extrusion test is recommended to industry as
63 practical quality control tool in the commercial production of mashed potatoes with added
64 EVOO.

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66 **INTRODUCTION**

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68 Various health organizations recommend a daily intake of around 600 g of fruit and
69 vegetables, but few people manage to consume this amount. Led by consumer demand, the
70 food industry has shown an increased interest in the manufacture of healthier and more
71 natural fruit and vegetable food products, such as soups, drinks and sauces (Whybrow *et al.*
72 *2006*). Mashed potatoes (MP) made from 100 % fresh potato tubers are in addition a
73 natural vegetable semisolid food, which may also be suitable for freezing as a ready-meal
74 component or as a product in itself such as potato gratin (Alvarez *et al.* 2009).

75 Olive oil is an important component of the diet of the countries surrounding the
76 Mediterranean Sea. Due to its composition, olive oil is a good source of biophenols
77 (Boskou and Visioli 2003) as well as lipid-soluble and water-soluble vitamins
78 (tocopherols, β -carotene, ascorbic acid). In addition, thanks to its balanced fatty acid
79 composition virgin olive oil has highly appreciated nutritional characteristics (Mildner-
80 Szkudlarz and Jeleń 2010), known for a long time to the people of the Mediterranean
81 region, who use it daily for a variety of culinary purposes. Biophenols with important
82 antioxidant properties and a role in atherogenesis and cancer have been found and
83 quantified in virgin and extra-virgin olive oils (Muniz 2007). However, consumption has
84 also increased in non-Mediterranean areas thanks to growing interest in the Mediterranean
85 diet and a belief that it prevents certain diseases (Boskou and Visioli 2003;
86 Paraskevopoulou *et al.* 2005). A classic white sauce usually contains flour, milk and butter,
87 but olive oil has been added to a white model-sauce to produce an innovative sauce
88 approximating “Mediterranean cooking” (Mandala *et al.* 2004).

89 The oil volume fraction exerts profound effects on the physicochemical and
90 viscoelastic properties of emulsions, such as droplet size distribution, creaming, oxidative

91 stability, and rheology (Dickinson and Chen 1999). Fat droplets influence the overall
92 physicochemical and sensory properties of foods in a variety of different ways
93 (Chantrapornchai *et al.* 1999). A great deal of research has been done on the influence of
94 fat droplets on the rheology, stability and flavour of food emulsions, but less is known
95 about their influence on emulsion appearance. Color is one of the major attributes affecting
96 consumer perception of the quality of virgin olive oil (Criado *et al.* 2008), and chloroplast
97 pigments (chlorophyll and carotenoids) are mainly responsible for the color of virgin olive
98 oil, ranging from yellow–green to greenish gold (Ayuso *et al.* 2004).

99 Texture is by far the most important quality criterion for consumer sensory acceptance
100 of freshly prepared and processed potato products, and particularly of frozen/thawed and
101 dehydrated mashed potatoes. A fluffy and medium-consistency texture is desirable,
102 whereas pastiness, gumminess and stickiness are negative attributes (Lamberti *et al.* 2004).
103 Texture instability remains the most significant challenge for frozen food products,
104 especially with inevitable post-production temperature fluctuations. Loss of moisture and
105 changes in textural attributes often result in significant reduction of product quality.

106 Previous studies showed that the addition of κ -C and XG to MP at a low concentration
107 (each cryoprotectant at 1.5 g/kg) is recommendable on the basis of overall acceptability,
108 especially when the product is going to be frozen (Alvarez *et al.* 2009; Fernández *et al.*
109 2009). κ -C provides the appropriate texture, while XG imparts creaminess and mouthfeel
110 to the product.

111 No research has been done on the addition of olive oil in fresh and frozen/thawed
112 mashed potatoes (designated FMP and F/TMP respectively), particularly with EVOO. The
113 use of EVOO rather than commercial olive oil is preferable because of its high
114 concentrations of both unsaturated fatty acids and antioxidant compounds such as
115 polyphenols and tocopherols (Severini *et al.* 2003). The purpose of the present research

116 was to evaluate the effects of adding EVOO on the textural, physical, structural and
117 sensory characteristics of fresh and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes formulated without and
118 with added cryoprotectants.

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120 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

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122 **Materials**

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124 The potatoes used were fresh tubers (cv Kennebec) from Aguilar de Campoo (**Burgos**,
125 Spain) grown in 2008. κ -C (GENULACTA carrageenan type LP-60) and XG (Keltrol F
126 [E]) were donated by Premium Ingredients, S.L. (Girona, Spain). EVOO (Carbonell,
127 Spain) was chosen for addition to the MP. Following range-finding experiments, the lower
128 and upper levels of EVOO to be used were set at 10 and 50 g/kg, respectively. A sample
129 without EVOO was also prepared for each type of MP and processing conditions.

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131 **Preparation of MP Samples**

132

133 Tubers were manually washed, peeled and diced. MP were prepared in ~ 2000-g batches
134 from 607.7 g/kg of potatoes, 230.8 g/kg of semi-skimmed in-bottle sterilized milk (fat
135 content, 15.5 g/kg), 153.8 g/kg of water, 7.7 g/kg of salt (NaCl) and the corresponding
136 EVOO concentration (0, 10, 25, and 50 g/kg) using a TM 31 food processor (Vorwerk
137 España, M.S.L., S.C., Madrid, Spain). **MP were prepared without and with added κ -C and**
138 **XG (MPA and MPB samples, respectively).** In the latter case, hydrocolloids (each at 1.5
139 g/kg) were also added to the rest of the ingredients in the form of a dry powder. All the
140 ingredients were cooked for 35 min at 90C (blade speed: 40 rpm) (Alvarez *et al.* 2009;

141 Fernández *et al.* 2009). The mash was ground for 40 s (1200 rpm) and for 20 s (2600 rpm).
142 The product was at once homogenized through a stainless steel sieve (diameter: 1.5 mm).
143 The highest EVOO concentration was added twice to the MP to evaluate the effect of order
144 of addition and EVOO thermal treatment on MP quality. First, 50 g/kg of EVOO was
145 added along with the rest of the ingredients as indicated above, whereas in the second case
146 the same EVOO concentration (designated “50b” g/kg) was added to the MP before final
147 homogenization. Half of each fresh blend (FMP samples) was analysed immediately and
148 the other half was frozen and thawed (F/TMP samples). Two repetitions of each
149 composition were prepared in different weeks.

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151 **Freezing, Thawing and Heating Procedures**

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153 MP samples were placed on flat freezing and microwave thawing trays, and then frozen by
154 forced convection with liquid nitrogen vapour in an Instron programmable chamber (model
155 3119-05, -70/+250C) at -60C until their thermal centres reached -24C (Fernández *et al.*
156 2009). After freezing, the samples were packed in polyethylene plastic bags, sealed under
157 light vacuum (-0.05 MPa) on a Multivac packing machine (Sepp Haggemüller KG,
158 Wolfertschwenden, Germany), and placed in a domestic freezer for storage at -24C.
159 Packed frozen samples were thawed in a Samsung M1712N microwave oven (Samsung
160 Electronics S.A., Madrid, Spain). Samples were heated for 20 min at an output power
161 rating of 600 W. Samples were brought up to 55C by placing them in a Hetofrig CB60VS
162 water bath (Heto Lab Equipment A/S, Birkerød, Denmark). Sample testing was 55C,
163 where water and product temperatures were monitored by T-type thermocouples as
164 described elsewhere (Alvarez *et al.* 2005, 2008, 2009; Fernández *et al.* 2008).

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166 **Instrumental Texture Measurements**

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168 Back extrusion (BE) and cone penetration (CP) mechanical tests were performed in order
169 to study the empirical rheological behavior of “semisolid like” samples. Both experiments
170 were performed using a TA.HDPlus Texture Analyser (Stable Micro Systems Ltd,
171 Godalming, UK) equipped with a 300 N load cell. During tests, MP samples were kept at
172 55C by means of a Temperature Controlled Peltier Cabinet (XT/PC) coupled to a separate
173 heat exchanger and proportional-integral-derivative control unit. For performance of BE
174 tests, a rig (model A/BE, Stable Micro Systems) was used consisting of a flat 45 mm
175 diameter perspex disc plunger that was driven into a larger perspex cylinder sample holder
176 (50 mm diameter) to force down into the MP samples and flow it upward through the
177 concentric annular space between plunger and the container. The measuring cup was filled
178 with 50 ± 1 g of MP. Product was extruded to a distance of 20 mm at 2 mm/s compression
179 rate. At this point (most likely to be the maximum force), the probe returns to its original
180 position. From the recorded force time curves, texture parameters with physical meaning
181 are calculated, which vary from simple consistency indices to a derived flow behavior
182 index, which is obtained according to the mathematical model suggested by Osorio and
183 Steffe (1987). In this study, maximum positive force of extrusion (firmness (N)) and the
184 negative area of extrusion (viscosity index (N s)) have been taken into account in order to
185 describe texture changing in MP samples. For performing the CP tests, a TTC spreadability
186 rig (HDP/SR, Stable Micro Systems) was used, consisting of a 45 degree conical perspex
187 probe (P/45 C) that penetrated a conical sample holder containing 7 ± 0.1 g of MP product.
188 Product was penetrated to a distance of 17.5 mm at 3 mm/s compression rate. CP work per
189 displaced volume (J/m^3) required to accomplish penetration was calculated from the area
190 under the curve up to the “peak” or maximum penetration force, and the average force of

191 the complete curve (N) was also recorded. Texture measurements were performed in
192 quadruplicate and results averaged.

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194 **Other Quality Parameters**

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196 The color of the MP in the pots was measured with a HunterLab model D25 (Reston, VA,
197 USA) color difference meter fitted with a 5 cm diameter aperture. Results were expressed
198 in accordance with the CIELAB system with reference to illuminant D65 and a visual
199 angle of 10°. The parameters determined were L^* , a^* and b^* . A higher L^* value indicated
200 a brighter or whiter sample and values of a^* and b^* indicated red-green and yellow-blue
201 colors. Yellowness index (YI) was calculated as $142.86b^*/L^*$ (Fernández *et al.* 2008).

202 Expressible water (E_w) was measured by centrifugal force. Centrifuge tubes containing
203 approximately 10 g of MP were centrifuged at 15,000×g for 30 min in a Sorvall®, RC-5B
204 apparatus (Global Medical Instrumentation, Inc, Clearwater, Minnesota, USA). E_w was
205 expressed as the percentage of liquid separated per total weight of sample in the centrifuge
206 tube (Eliasson and Kim 1992). Measurements of color and E_w were performed in
207 quadruplicate and the results averaged.

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209 **Sensory Analyses**

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211 MP samples were subjected to texture profile analysis (TPA) modified to evaluate
212 vegetables purees according to UNE 87025 (1996), which was used to select and define the
213 sensory attributes included in the profile. A panel of 4 assessors, previously trained
214 according to the ISO guidelines (ISO 8586-1:1993) and with specific exercise in MP for 8
215 years (Alvarez *et al.* 2005, 2008; Fernández *et al.* 2008), evaluated the textural attributes of

216 the samples. Profile attributes were classified into four groups (Alvarez *et al.* 2008).
217 Attributes are listed in the order of the perception according to ISO guidelines (ISO 13299:
218 2003): attributes perceived before putting the sample in mouth (granularity and moisture
219 (1)); attributes perceived at the time of putting the sample in the mouth (stickiness,
220 denseness, homogeneity, moisture (2) and firmness); attributes perceived at the time of
221 preparing the sample in the mouth for swallowing (cohesiveness, adhesiveness and
222 fibrousness (1)); attributes perceived during final and residual phases of mastication (ease
223 of swallowing, palate coating and fibrousness (2)). A description of the sensory attributes
224 evaluated during the TPA can be found elsewhere (Alvarez *et al.* 2008).

225 Samples were evaluated, in **duplicate**, in morning sessions (11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.).
226 **Daily for 40 days** assessors were given **four** samples (about 20 g each), for scoring
227 attributes of each group in the texture profile. All the samples were served **at 55 ± 1C** on
228 Petri dishes. **This sample temperature was reached and kept constant by placing the**
229 **product in the Hetofrig CB60VS water bath prior to testing.** For each sample, panelists
230 evaluated the perceived intensity of the 13 attributes on 8 cm descriptive linear scales
231 labelled at each anchor: (left anchor: 1 = “not detectable; right anchor: 9 = “extremely
232 intense”). **To reduce fatigue a rest period of 5 min was taken after scoring each sample.**

233 MP samples were also subjected to an overall acceptability (OA) test based on all
234 sensory attributes (texture, color, taste) on a 9-point hedonic scale (with 8 cm) labelled at
235 each anchor: (left anchor: 1 = “dislike extremely”; right anchor: 9 = “like extremely”). In
236 this case, sensory assessment was conducted by a 14-member untrained panel. **Every day,**
237 **one sample (about 20 g each) was served under the same conditions as indicated above.**

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239 **Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)**

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241 MP microstructure was examined by SEM using a Hitachi model S-2.100 microscope
242 (CENIM-CSIC). MP samples were air-dried, then mounted and sputter-coated with Au
243 (200 Å approx.) in a SPI diode sputtering system metallizer. Photomicrographs were taken
244 with a digital system Scanvision 1.2 of RONTEC (800x1.200 pixel).

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246 **Statistical Analysis**

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248 A three-way ANOVA with interactions was applied to evaluate how the three factors
249 studied—EVOO concentration, presence or absence of hydrocolloids and performance or
250 not of processing —affected the texture, color, sensory attributes and the OA of the MP.
251 *E_w was always zero for the MPB samples;* a two-way ANOVA with interactions was
252 applied to evaluate how EVOO concentration and processing affected the E_w of the
253 products. Minimum significant differences were calculated using Fisher's least significant
254 difference test (LSD, 99% for comparison of instrumental parameters and 95% for
255 comparison of sensory attributes and OA). Analyses were performed with Statgraphics®
256 software version 5.0 (STSC Inc., Rockville, MD, USA).

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258 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

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Instrumental Texture Measurements

265 Table 1 shows the effects of EVOO concentration, cryoprotectant addition and processing
266 on the values of the textural properties derived from the BE and CP tests. Samples with
267 added κ -C and XG, as well as those subjected to freezing/thawing, presented significantly
268 higher and lower textural properties than their respective counterparts. Previous studies
269 showed that when κ -C/XG blends were added to FMP and F/TMP samples, κ -C provided
270 the appropriate texture whereas XG imparted creaminess to the product (Alvarez *et al.*
271 2009; Fernández *et al.* 2009; Alvarez *et al.* in press). Analogously, in starch/XG blends, it
272 was observed that XG does not interfere in potato starch network building (Mandala and
273 Palogou (2003); Mandala *et al.* 2004). Therefore, addition of both hydrocolloids to MP
274 produces a more structured system which is associated with the gelling properties of κ -C.
275 In natural MP, the product was softer than the fresh control after freezing and thawing
276 (Alvarez *et al.* 2005). MP is a starchy food, and as such may present quality problems such
277 as syneresis and organoleptic and textural changes. These problems have been ascribed to
278 phase separation caused by retrogradation of the starch (Eliasson and Kim 1992; Kim and
279 Eliasson 1993).

280 With respect to the effect of EVOO addition, the maximum textural property values
281 were registered in the samples without EVOO, although differences between textural
282 properties of samples with 10 g/kg added EVOO and those without EVOO were non-
283 significant (Table 1). However, increasing EVOO concentration produced softer, liquid-
284 like systems, indicating that EVOO behave as soft filler. This result is to be expected as
285 increasing concentrations of liquid oil are added to the product, increasing the oil-phase

286 volume fraction. In oil-in-water emulsions, the extent of the linear region decreased with
287 increasing oil-phase volume fraction from 20% to 40% v/v (Sun and Gunasekaran 2009).
288 For their part Dickinson and Chen (1999) suggested that oil/water emulsions may undergo
289 a behaviour transition from predominantly entropic behaviour to predominantly enthalpic
290 behaviour with increasing oil-phase volume fraction.

291 The analysis of variance also showed that the three binary interactions had a significant
292 effect on instrumental firmness, work per displaced volume and average force (Table 1).
293 This means that the effect of EVOO concentration on the texture depended on the presence
294 of κ -C and XG and on the freezing/thawing of the systems. Besides, AB and BC
295 interactions also significantly affected the viscosity index from the BE tests.

296 From the variation in the firmness value based on EVOO concentration for both MPA
297 and MPB samples shown in Fig. 1a, one can observe that firmness was lower in the MPA
298 than in the MPB samples; moreover, the variation in sample firmness was much greater
299 when EVOO content increased from 10 to 50 g/kg in the MPA samples than in the MPB
300 ones. Also, when the concentration of added EVOO was increased, the firmness value
301 behaved similarly in the FMP and F/TMP samples (Fig. 1b); in both cases, the increase in
302 EVOO content led to reduced firmness, without important differences between 50 and 50b
303 g/kg. As droplet concentration increases, the droplets are polydispersed and the samples
304 present a less close packing structure. In mayonnaise, increasing walnut oil content
305 increases the diameter of oil droplets and consequently reduces viscoelastic properties
306 (Cavella *et al.* 2009). From the variation in the firmness based on processing, the firmness
307 value developed differently for the MPA and MPB samples (Fig. 1c). Processing
308 significantly reduced sample firmness in the MPA samples but significantly increased it in
309 MPB samples. This behaviour can be explained taking account that much stronger and
310 more cohesive networks are formed when solutions of XG are frozen and thawed

311 (Giannouli and Morris 2003). The effect of XG may be explained by amylose/XG
312 interactions, which compete against amylose/amylose interactions, retarding or even
313 preventing retrogradation. Also, the addition of small amounts of XG to white sauces made
314 with starches from different sources significantly improves freeze/thaw stability (Arocas *et*
315 *al.* 2009).

316 In turn, the variation in average force with EVOO concentration for both MPA and
317 MPB samples (Fig. 1d) was similar to that observed in firmness. In this case, of the MPB
318 samples, the ones with 25 g/kg EVOO added had poorer consistency, whereas in the MPA
319 systems, the ones with 50 g/kg had poorer consistency. When the EVOO concentration was
320 increased the average force decreased in both FMP and F/TMP samples (Fig. 1e), although
321 in the latter case adding 10 g/kg EVOO slightly increased the average force as compared
322 with the control without EVOO. Both the BE firmness and the CP average force values
323 were greater when the EVOO was added after cooking (50b g/kg) in the FMP samples but
324 not in the F/TMP samples. When the processing-dependent variation in average force was
325 plotted (Fig. 1f), the changes in that value were also similar to those observed for firmness
326 (Fig. 1c). Plots for the viscosity index and the work per displaced volume have been
327 omitted for the sake of brevity.

328

329 **Color Measurements and Expressible Water**

330

331 All the three factors studied significantly **changed** the color parameters, although
332 processing did not significantly affect the yellowness index (YI) (Table 2). An increase in
333 EVOO level favours higher L^* value (lightness) due to an increase in the overall light
334 scattering associated with the scattering properties of fat (Chantrapornchai *et al.* 1999). As
335 the EVOO concentration increased there was an increase in redness (decreasingly negative

336 a^* values) and in yellowness (YI), associated with the augmented pigment content of the
337 MP. The pigment profile of the virgin olive oil comprises chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, and
338 derivative pigments associated with the acidic medium of the oil extraction process (Criado
339 *et al.* 2008).

340 L^* increased when κ -C and XG were added to the MP, which could be partially due
341 to their absolute water-holding capacity (WHC) as discussed below. Also, a^* was higher in
342 the MPB than in the MPA samples, indicating significant raised sample redness. The loss
343 of greenness associated with cryoprotectant addition was probably due to the presence of
344 XG in the system as found previously (Fernández *et al.* 2008). Increased lightness in the
345 F/TMP samples as compared to their FTM counterparts may have been partly due to the
346 formation of fissures produced by the growth of ice crystals during freezing, which favours
347 the release of water; this would transmit the light more rather than capturing it. For its part
348 the loss of greenness found in the processed samples (a^* values nearer to 0) as compared to
349 the fresh counterparts could be due to slight non-enzymatic browning (Maillard reaction)
350 during microwave thawing.

351 On the other hand, the three interactions had a significant effect on L^* and YI (Table
352 2). Moreover, AB and AC interactions significantly affected the a^* value. The variation in
353 the L^* value based on EVOO concentration in both MPA and MPB samples (Fig. 2a)
354 shows that increased EVOO concentration produced an increase in the L^* value in both
355 samples. The influence of droplet characteristics on the optical properties of colored oil-in-
356 water emulsions has been studied (Chantrapornchai *et al.* 1999). The lightness of the
357 emulsions increased with increasing droplet concentration and decreasing droplet size. As
358 the droplet concentration increases so does the reflectance because the droplets scatter light
359 more effectively and hence the light beam is unable to penetrate further into the product
360 and be absorbed.

361 The differences between the L^* values of the MPA samples and their MPB
362 counterparts increased with increasing the EVOO content (Fig. 2a). In emulsions, XG is
363 added to the aqueous phase to prevent droplets from rapidly creaming and coalescence
364 (Parker *et al.* 1995; Sun and Gunasekaran 2009). In this study oil droplet diameters were
365 not measured, but it is probable that the droplets in the MPB samples were smaller than in
366 the ones without cryoprotectants as the presence of XG in the system would prevent
367 coalescence. The reason why the L^* values were lower in the MPA samples, then, is that
368 reflectance decreases with increasing droplet diameter. Note that in the MPB samples the
369 L^* value was greater when the EVOO was added after cooking (50b g/kg), whereas in the
370 MPA systems it was greater in the samples with 50 g/kg EVOO added before cooking.
371 This discrepancy could also be related to the presence of cryoprotectants in the system. MP
372 with EVOO added before final homogenization would be expected to have larger droplets
373 because the oil was not thoroughly trituated. In the presence of XG, the droplets scatter
374 light more effectively when the oil is not so strongly entrapped in the matrix. In the MPA
375 samples on the other hand, reflectance probably decreased because the scattering efficiency
376 of the droplets decreases above a certain droplet size (Chantrapornchai *et al.* 1999).

377 In turn, as the droplet concentration increases, more reflected light travels through the
378 oil phase of the MP being absorbed by the pigments mentioned earlier, intensifying the
379 color of the MP (Figs. 2b, c). However, as regards YI values, there were small differences
380 between FMP and F/TMP samples. **Anyway, the color differences found between samples,**
381 **although significant, should not be of major importance in practical terms.**

382 E_w changed significantly with EVOO concentration and processing (Table 2), and the
383 AC interaction had a significant effect on the WHC of the samples (Fig. 2d). In this study,
384 addition of κ -C and XG reduced the E_w of both FMP and F/TMP samples to 0%,
385 corroborating the well-established ability of **XG to reduce water separation** (Alvarez *et al.*

386 2008, 2009; Arocas *et al.* 2009), and evidencing the existence of XG-water or XG-water-
387 XG interactions in the systems. XG is an anionic, hygroscopic material of exceptional
388 pseudoplasticity (Baranowska *et al.* 2008); its texturizing effect can be achieved at low
389 gum concentration because of unusual water-holding ability. Also, adding XG (0.3% w/w)
390 to corn starch pastes (10% w/w) minimized amylose retrogradation, syneresis and
391 rheological changes after freezing (Ferrero *et al.* 1994). Certainly, the E_w values confirm
392 that XG effectively stabilizes MP against syneresis when no more than 1.5 g/kg is added.

393 Besides, WHC was greater in the FMP samples than in their F/TMP counterparts at all
394 EVOO concentrations (Fig. 2d). This result is probably related to structural damage caused
395 by freezing. The addition of EVOO at low concentrations significantly increased E_w ,
396 mainly in the processed samples, which is likely due to that the interchain spaces were
397 occupied by oil, displacing the water (Liehr and Kuliche 1996). However, the addition of
398 EVOO at higher concentrations significantly reduced water loss, probably because excess
399 oil hindered the release of water from the starch matrix. EVOO by itself was not effective
400 in enhancing the WHC of MP. In any case E_w percentages were also quite high (> 20) in
401 both FMP and F/TMP samples without added EVOO, evidencing the presence of weak
402 starch-water or starch-water-starch interactions in all the systems. Water separation in the
403 MPA samples is related to starch retrogradation and consequent reduction of WHC
404 (BeMiller and Whistler 1996).

405

406 **Sensory Analyses**

407

408 **Attributes perceived before putting the sample in mouth.** All the three main factors and
409 their interactions significantly ($P < 0.05$) affected the scores for granularity and moisture
410 (1) (Table 3). One can observe that at all EVOO concentrations granularity scores were

411 greater in the MPA samples (Fig. 3a) and likewise in the fresh products (Fig. 3b).
412 Christianson et al. (1981) indicated that gums like XG affect the gelatinization and
413 retrogradation of starch through strong associations with amylose, resulting in reduced
414 amylose-amylose interactions. In turn, presence of XG reduced granularity in the F/TMP
415 systems by assisting new starch/water interactions and consequent water absorption. In
416 both MPA and MPB samples, panelists judged granularity lowest in the samples with more
417 than 10 g/kg added EVOO. The effects of EVOO on granularity are related to the
418 lubricating and coating properties conferred by the oil as reported for vanilla custard
419 desserts (de Wijk *et al.* 2003).

420 In turn, moisture (1) decreased significantly with respect to MPA samples with the
421 addition of cryoprotectants in both FMP and F/TMP (Fig. 3c). Panelists detected greater
422 ability to hold water molecules in MPB samples, confirming the results for E_w values.
423 Similarly, panelists detected less aqueousness in the processed samples than in the fresh
424 ones, probably due to water loss.

425

426 **Attributes perceived at the time of putting the sample in the mouth.** Stickiness scores
427 were significantly higher in the MPB samples, although there were no differences in these
428 scores as a consequence of EVOO concentration or processing (Table 3; Fig. 3d). In turn,
429 the three factors significantly affected scores for denseness, homogeneity, moisture (2) and
430 firmness. Denseness was significantly higher in the processed than in the fresh samples
431 only when EVOO was added at the highest concentrations (Fig. 3e). Also, denseness was
432 lower in the MPA than in the MPB samples (Fig. 3f), and only in this latter case were
433 denseness scores significantly higher in the F/TMP samples than in their FMP
434 counterparts.

435 When EVOO concentration was increased, homogeneity increased in both MPA and
436 MPB samples (Fig. 3g). Note that the presence of EVOO in the systems rendered
437 differences in homogeneity among MPA and MPB samples less appreciable. Also, when
438 EVOO concentration was increased (Fig. 3h), homogeneity increased in the FMP products
439 but was almost constant in the processed samples. This indicates a positive effect of adding
440 EVOO to MP, since the negative effect of freezing on this attribute is masked by the oil.
441 Panelists detected reduced moisture (2) in the MPB samples and in the processed systems,
442 and when the EVOO concentration was increased, moisture (2) significantly increased
443 when cryoprotectants were also added (Fig. 3i).

444 In turn, panelists detected reduced firmness in the samples with added EVOO, without
445 added cryoprotectants and without processing. One can observe that the processed samples
446 with the lower and higher EVOO concentrations were the firmest, whereas in the systems
447 with 25 g kg⁻¹ added EVOO the fresh samples had similar firmness than the control (Fig.
448 4a). In the MPA samples there were no differences between firmness scores in fresh and
449 processed samples (Fig. 4b); however, panelists detected increased firmness in processed
450 MP with added κ -C and XG, matching the result for textural properties in MPB samples
451 (Figs. 1c,f).

452

453 **Attributes perceived at the time of preparing the sample in the mouth for swallowing.**

454 EVOO concentration, cryoprotectant addition and processing also had a significant effect
455 on cohesiveness, adhesiveness and fibrousness (1) (Table 3). When EVOO concentration
456 was increased, cohesiveness and adhesiveness scores decreased significantly in the MPB
457 samples (Figs. 4c,d). In the MPA samples there were no significant differences between
458 the adhesiveness scores of fresh and processed samples (Fig. 4e), whereas panelists scored
459 the processed MPB samples higher for adhesiveness than their fresh counterparts. Scores

460 for fibrousness (1) also decreased with increasing EVOO concentration, with
461 cryoprotectant addition and with processing (Figs. 4f,g). Again, addition of cryoprotectants
462 reduced differences in fibrousness (1) between fresh and processed samples. This is
463 probably related to the fact that the hydrocolloids can make systems in the rubbery state
464 more viscous, reducing molecular mobility and preventing retrogradation (Ferrero *et al.*
465 1994).

466

467 **Attributes perceived during final and residual phases of mastication.** The three factors
468 studied had a significant effect on ease of swallowing and fibrousness (2) (Table 4),
469 whereas only EVOO concentration had a significant effect on palate coating. In samples
470 both without and with added cryoprotectants (Fig. 4h) and in both FMP and F/TMP
471 samples (Fig. 4i), ease of swallowing scores increased with increasing oil content.
472 However, only when EVOO was added at concentrations of 0 and 10 g/kg, the scores for
473 this attribute were higher in the samples without cryoprotectants and in the processed
474 samples. Panelists also scored the samples with added EVOO significantly higher for
475 palate coating than the ones made without EVOO (Figs. 5a,b). Scores for palate coating
476 were higher in the MPA samples with 25 and 50 g/kg added EVOO than in their MPB
477 counterparts (Fig. 5a), and the EVOO content had a much smaller effect in the F/TMP
478 samples than in the fresh counterparts (Fig. 5b). Palate coating scores for MPA samples
479 decreased after processing whereas scores for MPB samples increased with respect to the
480 fresh products (Fig. 5c). Also, in the MPA samples, the addition of EVOO at all
481 concentrations significantly reduced sample fibrousness (2) (Fig. 5d).

482 A complete dependence study was performed on the instrumental textural properties
483 versus sensory attribute scores. **Low correlations between instrumental and sensory ratings**
484 **were found. Previous publications by other researchers generally agree on good to**

485 excellent correlations for hardness (based on calculated “*r*” values (Szczesniak 2002).
486 Correlations for other parameters are usually less good and product-dependent. In this
487 study, relatively good correlations with sensory denseness and adhesiveness scores were
488 found only in the case of viscosity index ($R^2 = 0.81$ and 0.76 , respectively). Differences in
489 consistency observed among samples were explained by viscosity index, but not the
490 variation in granularity or fibrousness, determining the sample creaminess.

491

492 **Overall acceptability.** EVOO concentration, cryoprotectant addition and processing had a
493 significant effect on the OA of the samples (Table 4). Scores for OA increased
494 significantly with increasing EVOO content in both MPA and MPB samples (Fig. 5e), and
495 likewise in both FMP and F/TMP samples (Fig. 5f). Similarly, a positive relationship
496 between oil content and sensory acceptability has been observed in a set of Polish
497 commercial mayonnaises (Juszack *et al.* 2003) and in salami (Severini *et al.* 2003). In this
498 study, the main differences between samples without and with added EVOO were ascribed
499 to either an aromatic or a creamy note detected in the oil-added MP. Samples with higher
500 percentages of EVOO produced less sensations of dryness and roughness, more sensations
501 of flavour, creamy and fatty mouth- and after-feel than the samples without added oil. Fat
502 is a well-known enhancer of creaminess sensations (de Wijk *et al.* 2003). The latter authors
503 suggested that the possible mechanism by which fat affects the sensory attributes include
504 lubrication and flavour release. The effects of fat on odour and flavour attributes may be
505 related to the flavour-releasing properties of fat.

506 Panelists scored the MPB and F/TMP samples higher for OA (Figs. 5e,f). This is
507 probably related to the presence of XG in the systems. It was found that samples
508 containing blends of κ -C and XG (Alvarez *et al.* 2009; Fernández *et al.* 2009), were
509 preferred organoleptically due to the creamy mouthfeel they produced. The effects of XG

510 on mouth texture may be related to its WHC as perceived by the panelists. Besides, in the
511 processed MPB samples, there were no significant differences between the OA scores
512 given to the MP at any concentration of added EVOO (which were the highest). This has
513 important consequences for the formulation of EVOO-based MP. Results indicate that in
514 the presence of κ -C and XG, if the EVOO content is reduced to below 25 g/kg, the OA
515 score for the product does not decrease, and hence its consumer acceptability is not
516 adversely affected.

517

518 **Microstructure Examination**

519

520 **To achieve a better understanding of the sensory and rheological results and the effect of**
521 **adding cryoprotectants and of freezing/thawing, the microstructure of the MP samples was**
522 **studied by SEM (Figs. 6, 7).** Fig. 6a shows a microphotograph of the fresh control without
523 either added cryoprotectants or oil. Cooked cells are still distinguishable and firmly bound
524 together by a continuous network of amylose. However, in the fresh control without added
525 EVOO but with added cryoprotectants (Fig. 6b), less complete cells are visible, appearing
526 separated from one another and embedded in a continuous network of amylose and κ -C in
527 which starch granules and XG aggregates are entrapped. Probably, the presence of
528 cryoprotectants occluding a great amount of water probably facilitated loss of the original
529 cell shape.

530 Microphotographs of the corresponding processed counterparts (Figs. 6c,d) show that
531 freezing and thawing of MPA and MPB samples resulted in completely dissolved cells.
532 Part of the intracellular water was drawn out osmotically because of freezing-induced
533 concentration of the cell mass. Cell tearing is probably caused by the formation of ice
534 crystals. Fresh MPA sample contain more complete cells (Fig. 6a), which could give them

535 greater mechanical strength; this would justify that the values of the textural properties
536 were higher in fresh MPA samples than in their processed counterparts. In turn, the
537 processed MPA sample without added EVOO (Fig. 6c) developed a spongy appearance
538 due to amylose and amylopectin retrogradation occurring during freezing and frozen
539 storage (Ferrero *et al.* 1994).

540 The microphotograph of processed MPB sample without added EVOO (Fig. 6d) shows
541 the presence of fibres or strands. According to Giannouli and Morris (2003), during
542 freezing, XG chains are forced to align and associate by conversion of water to ice crystals.
543 The forced associations survive upon thawing to give a cryogel network. It is likely that
544 such strands are related to this XG conformational transition, since they were observed in
545 most of the F/TMP containing cryoprotectants. Formation of strands can be explained by a
546 progressive increase in local concentration of the polymer as liquid water is converted into
547 ice crystals, promoting intermolecular associations.

548 Fig. 7 shows microphotographs of the counterparts of the samples shown in the Fig. 6,
549 but with 50 g/kg added EVOO. When EVOO was added, a dispersed thin phase or layer of
550 oil formed, enveloping all the microstructures constituting the MP. Fig. 7a shows some oil
551 droplets in MPA sample, probably formed by aggregation through steric and/or
552 electrostatic forces (Paraskevopoulou *et al.* 2005), whereas Fig. 7b shows no oil droplets in
553 presence of κ -C and XG. In MPA samples, freezing also had a negative influence on the
554 formation of oil droplet clusters (Fig. 7c); it is likely that the structural damage caused by
555 freezing enabled the oil droplets to come close enough together to aggregate.
556 Microphotograph of the processed sample with 50 g/kg added EVOO (Fig. 7d) shows that
557 white gel structures are also discernible in the presence of cryoprotectants.

558 Addition of XG to salad dressings induces depletion flocculation of the droplets and
559 formation of a three-dimensional weak gel network structure that retards the process of

560 droplet creaming (Parker *et al.* 1995). Adding a hydrocolloid causes protein-coated
561 droplets to aggregate and be excluded from the region of continuous phase between them.
562 Therefore, in the MP with added κ -C and XG and oil, the XG may have been adsorbed
563 onto the surface of the droplets, enhancing stability against flocculation and coalescence
564 and forming the white film observed in both microphotographs (Figs. 7b,d). On the other
565 hand, there are no noticeable differences between FMP and F/TMP samples with added κ -
566 C and XG and oil, confirming that the addition of κ -C and XG significantly reduced
567 quality differences between FMP and their F/TMP counterparts.

568

569 **CONCLUSION**

570

571 The addition of either EVOO or cryoprotectants and processing significantly affected the
572 physical, structural and sensory characteristics of MP, although the effect of EVOO
573 concentration depended on the presence of cryoprotectants and on freezing/thawing.
574 Increased EVOO concentration resulted in less structured systems and enhancement of
575 color due to an increase in overall light scattering and pigment content. Addition of κ -C
576 and XG improved thickness, possibly through the exclusion effect of swollen starch
577 granules promoting gelation of the κ -C. Addition of EVOO in increasing concentrations
578 enhanced the sensory quality of MP in terms of reduced granularity, denseness,
579 cohesiveness, adhesiveness and fibrousness, and increased homogeneity, ease of
580 swallowing and palate coating. Instrumental texture measurements were able to distinguish
581 the variations in mechanical textural attributes scored by the panellists. Conversely,
582 geometrical textural attributes (granularity, homogeneity and fibrousness) have to be
583 support by structural traits. Creaminess was the most crucial factor for OA of the products
584 and could be explained by the presence of EVOO aggregates observed by microstructure

585 analysis. Samples with 50 g/kg added EVOO were judged the best of all. There is a
586 possibility of using EVOO in combination with MP to provide a highly nutritious product
587 with improved physicochemical, functional and sensory characteristics.

588

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590

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594

595

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698

699 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

700 FIG. 1. TEXTURAL PROPERTIES OF MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED EXTRA
701 VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

702 (A-C) Firmness; (D-F) Average force; MPA, MPB: mashed potatoes without and with
703 added cryoprotectants respectively; FMP, F/TMP: fresh and frozen/thawed mashed
704 potatoes respectively.

705 FIG. 2. COLOR PARAMETERS AND EXPRESSIBLE WATER OF MASHED
706 POTATOES WITH ADDED EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

707 (A-C) L*, lightness; a*, red-greenness; YI, yellowness index; (D) E_w, expressible water;
708 MPA, MPB: mashed potatoes without and with added cryoprotectants respectively; FMP,
709 F/TMP: fresh and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes respectively.

710 FIG. 3. TPA SENSORY ATTRIBUTES OF MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED
711 EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

712 (A, B) Granularity; (C) Moisture (1); (D) Stickiness; (E, F) Denseness; (G, H)
713 Homogeneity; (I) Moisture (2); MPA, MPB: mashed potatoes without and with added
714 cryoprotectants respectively; FMP, F/TMP: fresh and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes
715 respectively.

716 FIG. 4. TPA SENSORY ATTRIBUTES OF MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED
717 EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

718 (A, B) Firmness; (C) Cohesiveness; (D, E) Adhesiveness; (F, G) Fibrousness (1); (H, I)
719 Ease of swallowing; MPA, MPB: mashed potatoes without and with added cryoprotectants
720 respectively; FMP, F/TMP: fresh and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes respectively.

721 FIG. 5. TPA SENSORY ATTRIBUTES AND OVERALL ACCEPTABILITY OF
722 MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

723 (A-C) Palate coating; (D) Fibrousness (2); (E, F) Overall acceptability (OA); MPA, MPB:
724 mashed potatoes without and with added cryoprotectants respectively; FMP, F/TMP: fresh
725 and frozen/thawed mashed potatoes respectively.

726 **FIG. 6. MICROPHOTOGRAPHS OF MASHED POTATOES**

727 (A) Fresh sample without added cryoprotectants; (B) Fresh sample with added
728 cryoprotectants; (C) Processed sample without added cryoprotectants; (D) Processed
729 sample with added cryoprotectants; Magnification was 200 (bar = 100 μm).

730 **FIG. 7. MICROPHOTOGRAPHS OF MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED EXTRA**
731 **VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)**

732 (A) Fresh sample without added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (B) Fresh
733 sample with added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (C) Processed sample
734 without added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (D) Processed sample with
735 added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; Magnification was 200 (bar = 100
736 μm).

737

FIGURE 1

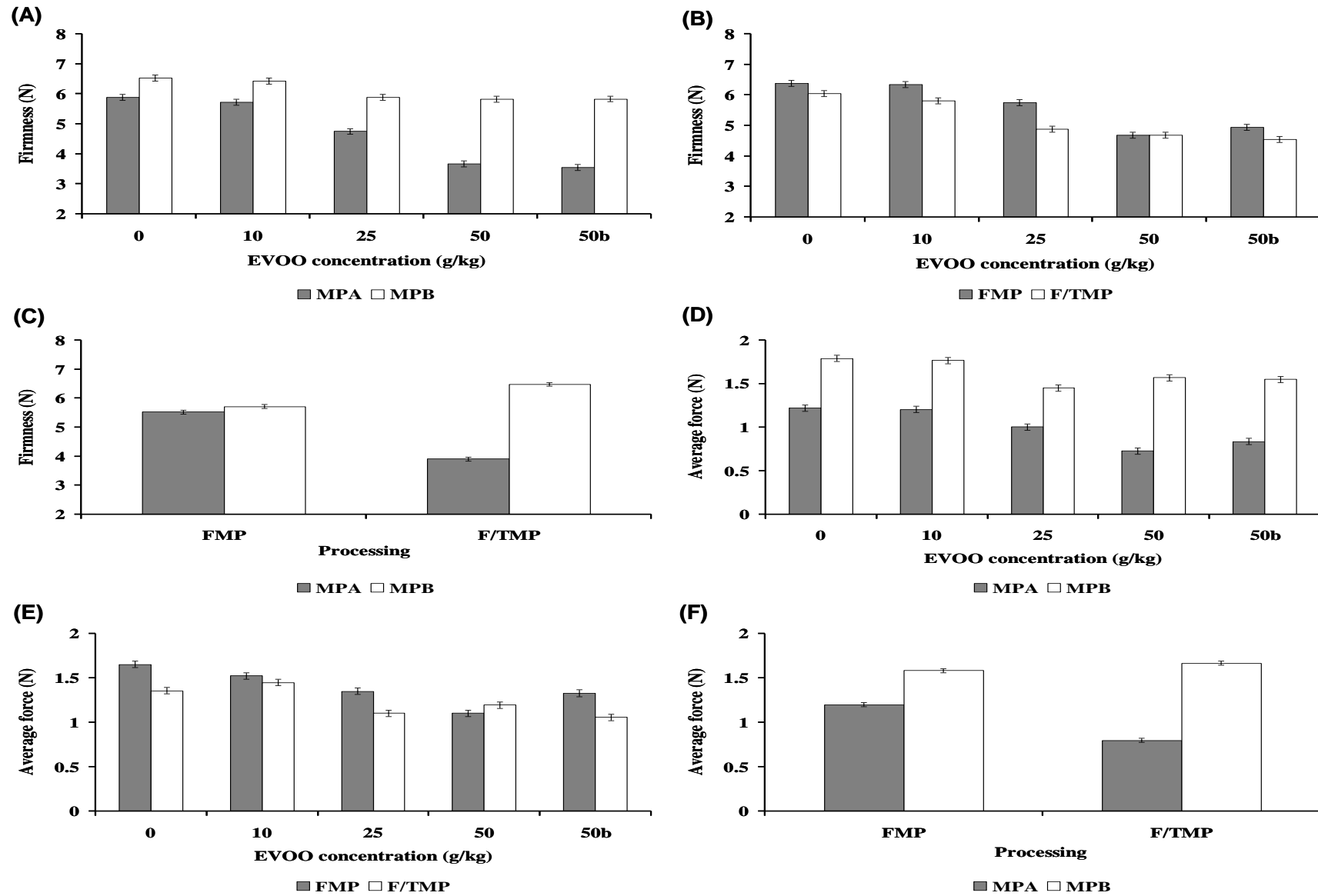


FIGURE 2

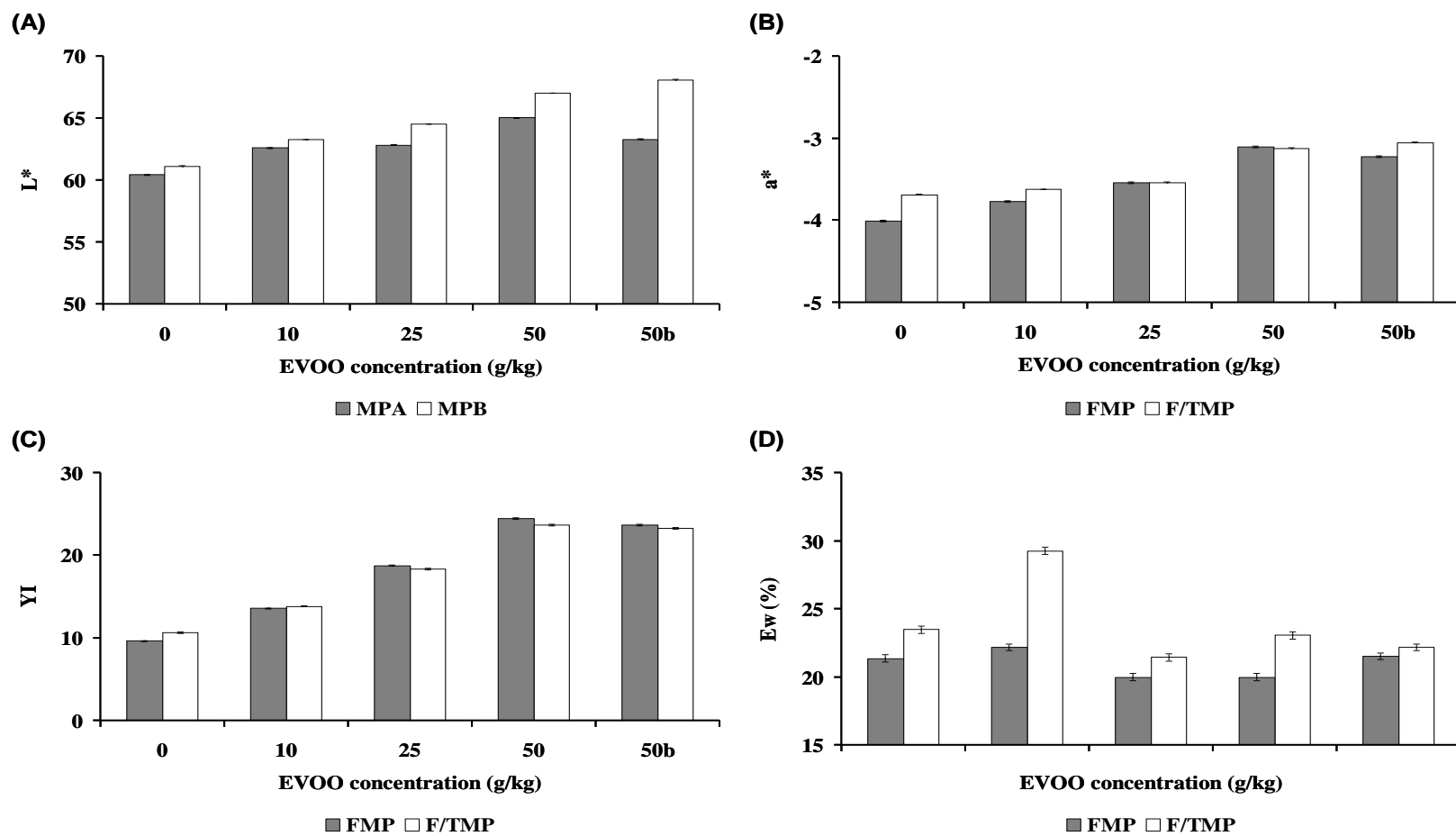


FIGURE 3

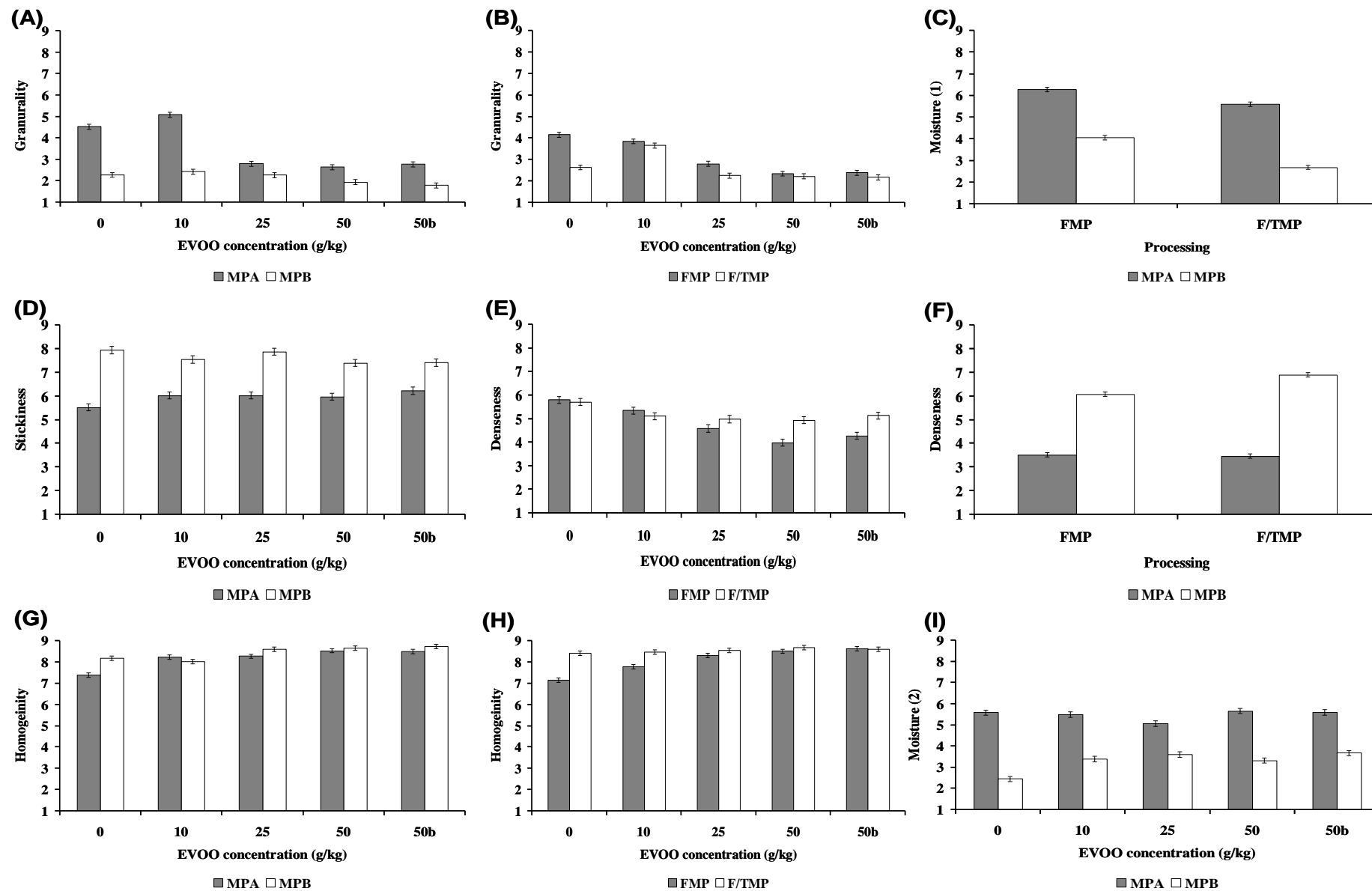


FIGURE 4

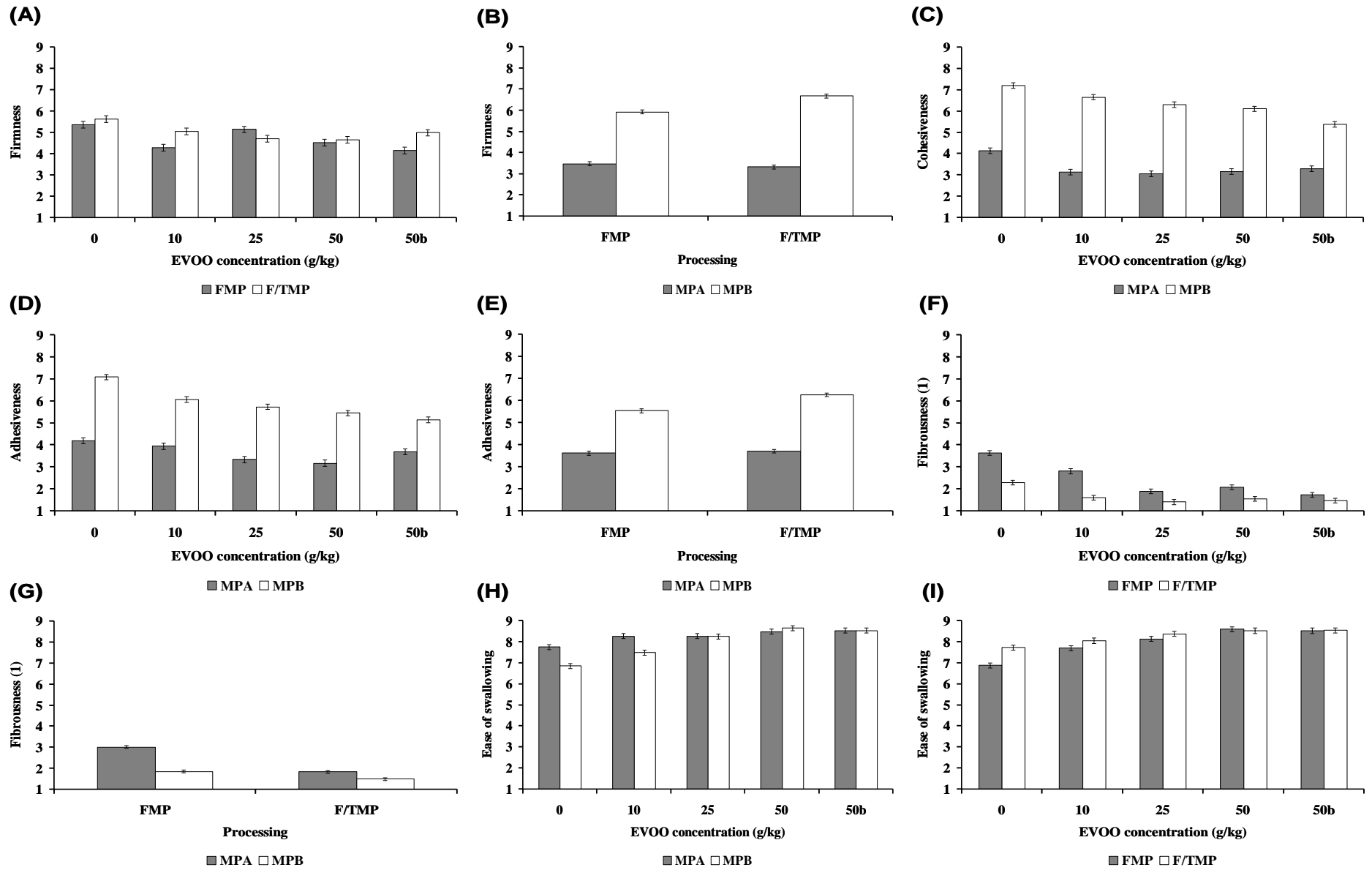


FIGURE 5

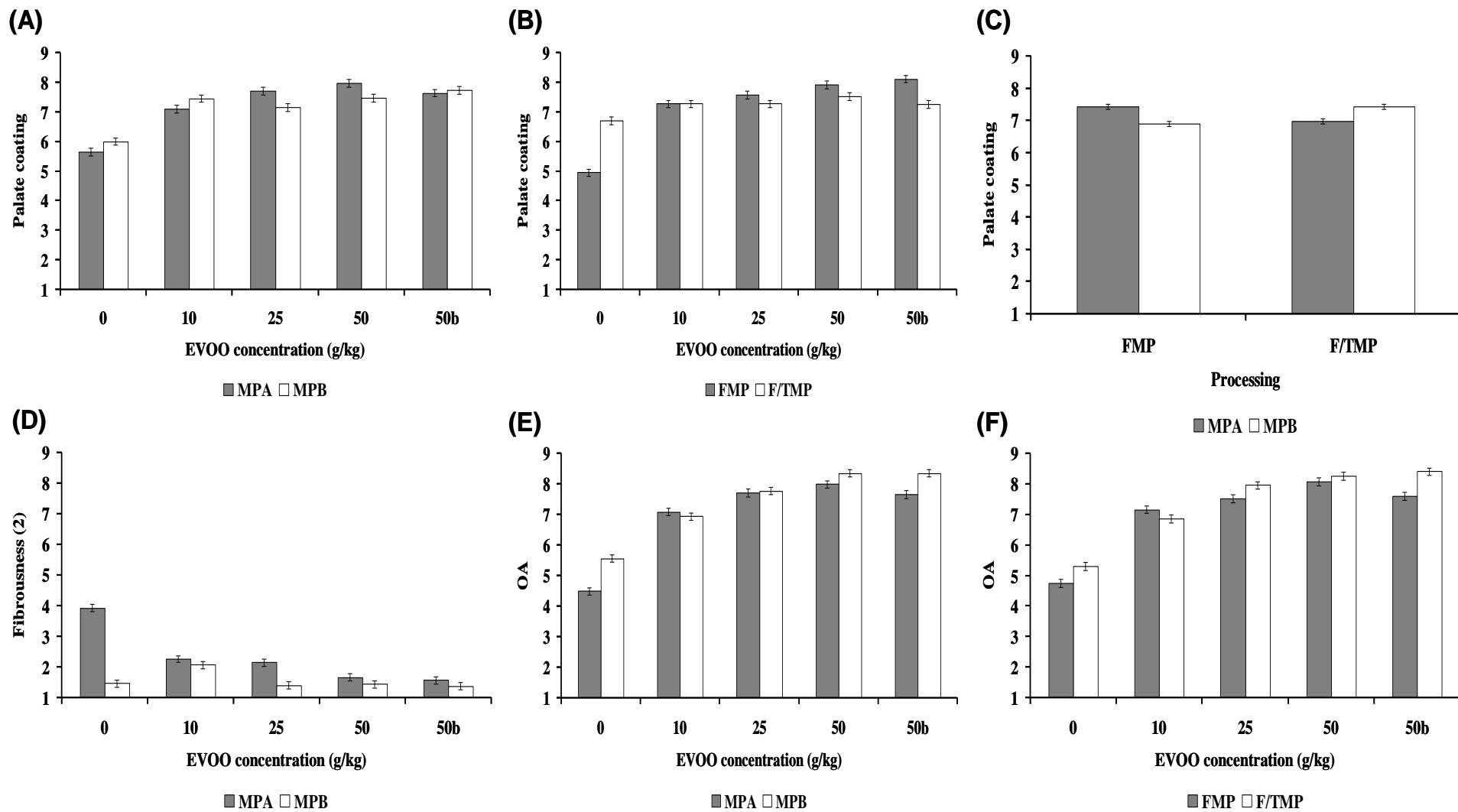


TABLE 1. EFFECTS OF EVOO CONCENTRATION, CRYOPROTECTANT ADDITION AND FREEZING/THAWING ON TEXTURAL PROPERTIES OF MP

Source	Firmness (N)	Viscosity index (N s)	Work per displaced volume (J/m ³)	Average force (N)
Main effects:				
A:EVOO concentration (g/kg)				
0	6.21 a	-29.33 a	3518.78 a	1.51 a
10	6.08 a	-28.37 a	3462.25 a	1.49 a
25	5.32 b	-26.12 b	2867.16 b	1.23 b
50	4.69 c	-23.06 c	2681.10 b	1.15 b
50b	4.74 c	-23.69 c	2786.29 b	1.19 b
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.26	1.24	227.00	0.097
B:Cryoprotectant addition				
Without κ -C and XG	4.71 a	-20.71 a	2333.51 a	1.00 a
With κ -C and XG	6.10 b	-31.52 b	3792.72 b	1.63 b
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.16	0.78	143.57	0.06
C:Processing				
Fresh	5.62 a	-26.73 a	3248.00 a	1.39 a
Frozen/thawed	5.19 b	-25.50 b	2878.23 b	1.23 b
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.16	0.78	143.57	0.06
Interactions				
AB	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
AC	0.001	0.18	<0.001	<0.001
BC	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
ABC	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

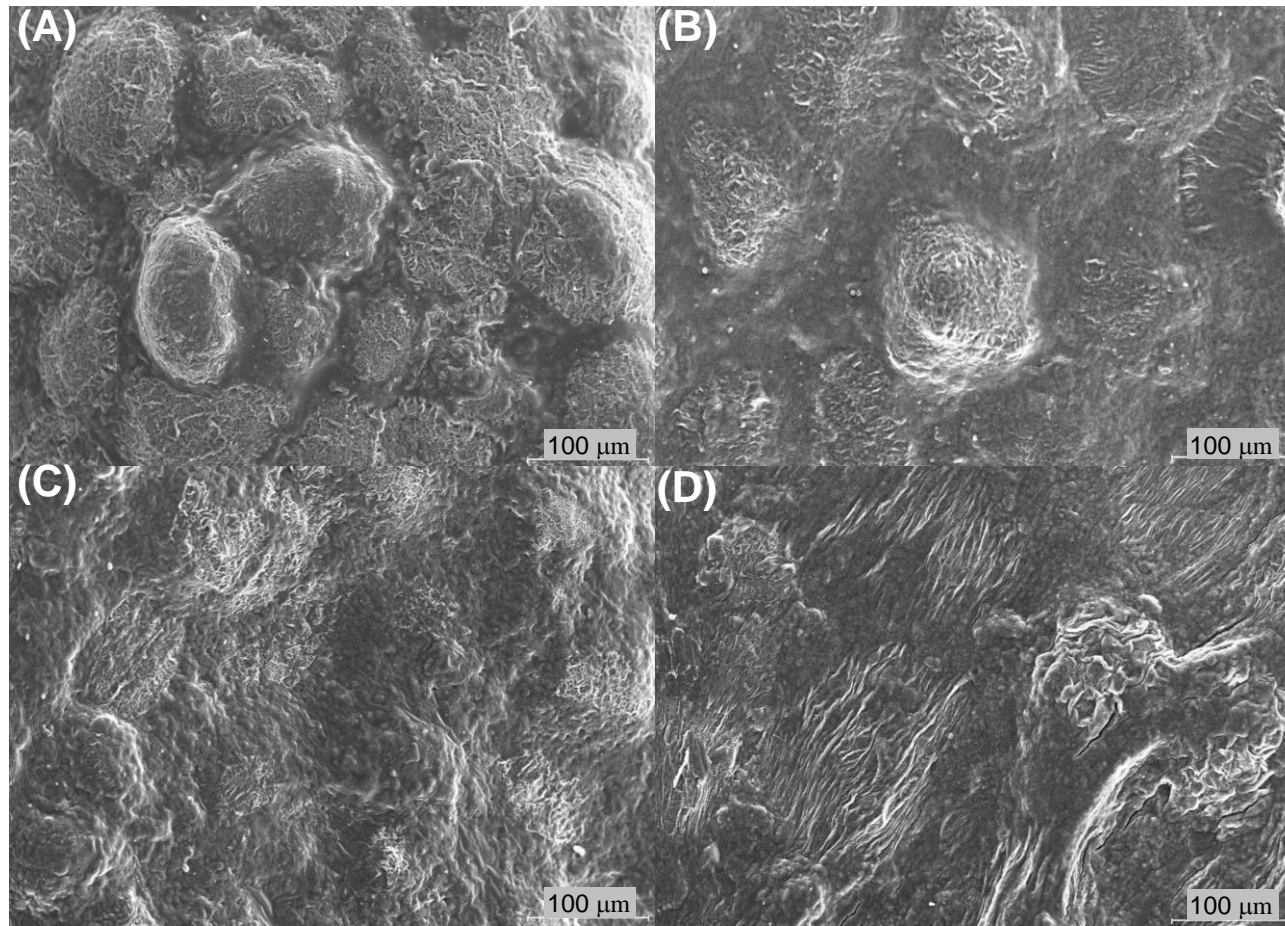
TABLE 2. EFFECTS OF EVOO CONCENTRATION, CRYOPROTECTANT ADDITION AND FREEZING/THAWING ON COLOR MEASUREMENTS AND EXPRESSIBLE WATER OF MP

Source	<i>L</i> *	<i>a</i> *	YI	<i>E_w</i> (%)
Main effects:				
A:EVOO concentration (g/kg)				
0	60.79 a	-3.85 a	10.14 a	22.42 b
10	62.95 b	-3.70 b	13.73 b	25.73 a
25	63.68 c	-3.54 c	18.58 c	20.72 d
50	66.04 d	-3.11 d	24.08 d	21.52 c
50b	65.70 e	-3.14 d	23.47 e	21.85 b, c
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.07	0.02	0.20	0.71
B:Cryoprotectant addition				
Without κ -C and XG	62.85 a	-3.59 a	16.74 a	-
With κ -C and XG	64.81 b	-3.34 b	19.26 b	-
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	-
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.04	0.01	0.13	-
C:Processing				
Fresh	63.33 a	-3.53 a	18.03 a	21.01 a
Frozen/thawed	64.33 b	-3.40 b	17.97 a	23.89 b
<i>P</i> values	<0.001	<0.001	0.17	<0.001
<i>LSD</i> (99%)	0.04	0.01	0.13	0.45
Interactions				
AB	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	-
AC	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
BC	<0.001	0.34	<0.001	-
ABC	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	-

TABLE 4. EFFECTS OF EVOO CONCENTRATION, CRYOPROTECTANT ADDITION AND FREEZING/THAWING ON SENSORY ATTRIBUTES PERCEIVED DURING THE FINAL AND RESIDUAL PHASES OF MASTICATION AND OVERALL ACCEPTABILITY OF MP

Sensory attributes	Perceived during the final and residual phases of mastication			Overall acceptability (OA)
	Ease of swallowing	Palate coating	Fibrousness (2)	
Main effects:				
A:EVOO concentration	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
B:Cryoprotectant addition	<0.001	0.520	<0.001	<0.001
C:Processing	<0.001	0.601	<0.001	<0.001
Interactions				
AB	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
AC	0.003	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
BC	0.126	<0.001	<0.001	0.055
ABC	0.211	<0.001	<0.001	0.015

FIGURE 6



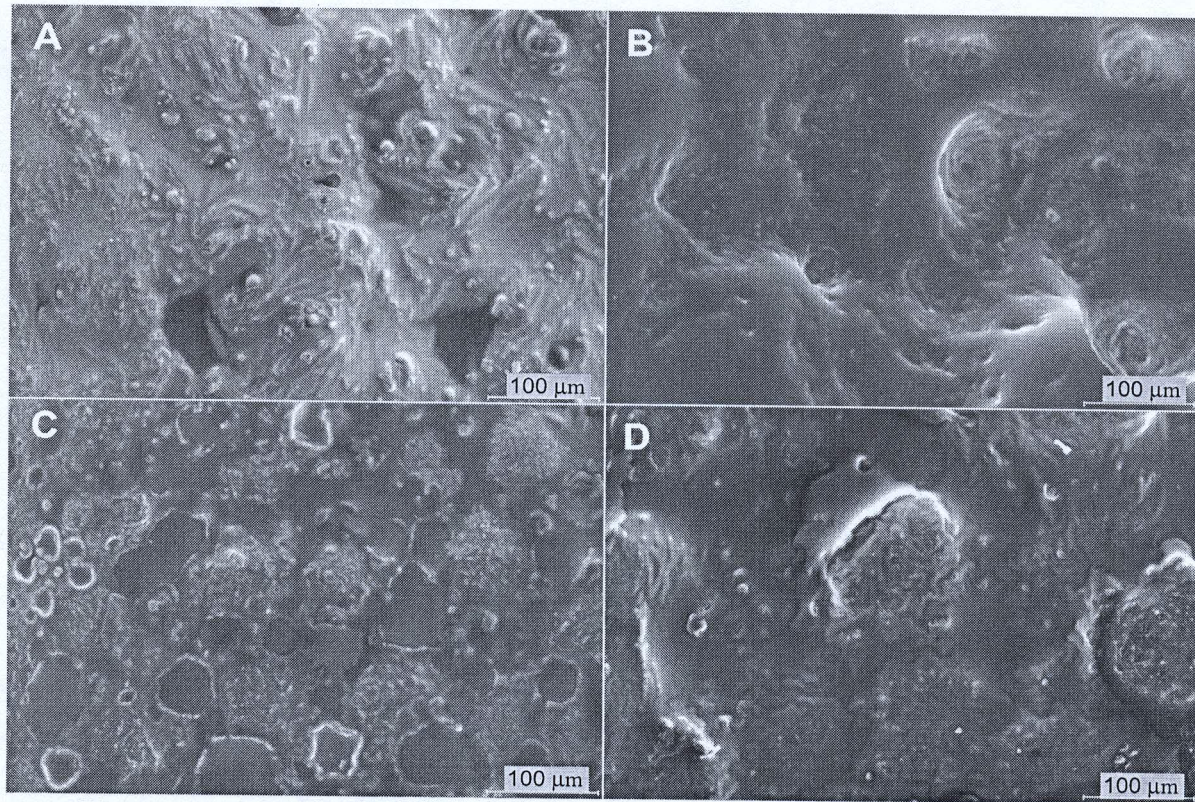


FIG. 7. MICROPHOTOGRAPHS OF MASHED POTATOES WITH ADDED EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL (EVOO)

(A) Fresh sample without added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (B) Fresh sample with added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (C) Processed sample without added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; (D) Processed sample with added cryoprotectants and with 50 g/kg added EVOO; Magnification was 200 (bar = 100 µm).