

# *Aqueous enzyme assisted oil extraction from oilseeds and emulsion deemulsifying methods: a review*

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 focusing particularly on recent efforts undertaken to improve process economics by recovering and reusing enzymes.

#### **Keywords**

 aqueous oil extraction, enzyme treatment, oil yield, oil characteristics, emulsion separation 

# **1. Introduction**

 Aqueous enzymatic extraction (AEE) is a promising method for the simultaneous extraction of oil and protein from oilseeds. The products are of superior quality and highly suited to human consumption. In the extraction process, water containing selected enzymes forms the extraction medium used for incubating the oilseeds. When enzymes are not employed, the process is termed as aqueous extraction which invariably results in lower oil yield. The use of enzymes allows separation of targeted extracted components with unchanged properties which can potentially influence, favourably, the final product in terms of taste and smell. Interest in this technological approach has also increased recently due to safety and environmental regulatory concerns. In comparison with solvent extraction, the use of an aqueous medium is much safer, environmental-friendly and economical. In addition, it contributes to a much safer and flexible operation, lower energy consumption and operational costs, and lower capital investment. A variety of temporal crops can be processed, and the extracted oil does not need further refining. Non-toxic meal and value-added fibre and protein are also produced as co-products, due to the milder operating conditions employed. In addition, the aqueous medium allows simultaneous

 separation of phospholipids from the oil. Therefore, degumming step (in case of oilseeds) is not necessary and the overall cost of processing can be reduced (Latif & Anwar, 2011; Latif *et al.*, 2011; Yang Li *et al.*, 2011; Chabrand & Glatz, 2009; Jung & Mahfuz, 2009; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Soto *et al.*, 2007; Santos & Ferrari, 2005; Gros *et al.*, 2003; Hanmoungjai *et al.*, 2001; Rosenthal *et al.*, 2001; Sineiro *et al.*, 1998; Ksenija *et al.*, 1997; Rosenthal *et al.*, 1996)

 Despite the advantages, the application of AEE is still limited due to long processing time and the high cost spent for the drying process after the enzyme treatment (Shah *et al.*, 2005; Dominguez *et al.*, 1996). The high cost may also be attributed to the enzymes themselves, because a significant amount is required (normally >1% of the weight of the oilseed taken). Further, the non-availability of enzymes on a commercial scale has limited the development of such processes (Rui *et al.*, 2009; Shah *et al.*, 2005). An added problem with AEE is that it is impossible to avoid emulsification of the extracted oil, which requires post extraction de-emulsification to recover and enhance oil yield (Latif & Anwar, 2011; Long *et al.*, 2011; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Chabrand *et al.*, 2008; Santos & Ferrari, 2005; Rosenthal *et al.*, 1998; Sineiro *et al.*, 1998a). Addition of suitable enzymes to the cream emulsion may be able to separate the oil, and in this paper, this particular sequence of process is termed as aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification (AEED). In an earlier review by Rosenthal *et al.* (1996), the principles and mechanisms of: mechanical, solvent, aqueous, and aqueous enzymatic extraction methods have been

 addressed, besides reviewing the effects of enzymes on plant cell composition and methods employed earlier for de-emulsification. The main purpose of this review is to critically assess the information available to date, in order to conclude whether the enzymatic route

 is a viable industrial option for any given oilseed. In addition, the other objectives of this review are: to discuss the effect of incubating conditions in AEE on the oil extraction efficiency; to compare AEE with other extraction methods in terms of yields and characteristics of the oils from various oil-bearing materials; to explore methods available to de-emulsify the oil- aqueous phase emulsions that are inevitably formed during extraction; and finally, to explore the possibility of re-using in the enzyme after recovery in order to make the process more cost effective.

 **2. Aqueous enzymatic extraction (AEE) method** Table 1 lists the enzymes used in earlier research. In terms of the dispersion structure, Sineiro *et al.* (1998a) reported that aqueous extraction resulted in oil droplets with spherical shapes in the case of sunflower oil. However, with the use of enzymes, the oil aggregates possessed different shapes with less structured and irregular cell wall surface. Different oils exhibit different properties, and it is reasonable to assume that AEE of different oil-bearing materials result in oil droplets with different characteristics. The enhancement in oil yield with the use of enzymes, i.e. AEE as compared to aqueous extraction without enzymes from various oil-bearing materials are summarized in Table 2. The table also summarizes the differences observed in oil yields between AEE and solvent extraction methods. It is clearly shown that the use of enzymes increases the oil yield, yet it is still lower than the yield when solvent extraction is used. Therefore, numerous studies have been conducted to establish the most suitable enzymes that can be used, either individually or in combination, on various types of oil-bearing materials in order to increase the oil yields.

2.1. Studies comparing extraction efficiencies using different enzymes

 Figure 1(a) and 1(b) illustrate the flow sheets of AEE for soybean and olive oil, respectively. The types of enzymes added depend on the cellular composition and structure of the oil-bearing material (Passos *et al.*, 2009). According to Rosenthal *et al.* (2001), the use of Alcalase 2.4L (protease) increased the oil yield from heat-treated soybean flour as compared to cellulase, hemicellulase, and pectinase. Similarly, Santos and Ferrari (2005) reported that both Alcalase and Celluclast (cellulase) were able to increase the oil yield from soybeans, with Alcalase giving higher yields. A higher yield in the case of protease (96.0%) as compared to phospholipase (73.4%) was also reported by Jung *et al.* (2009) in the case of extruded soybean flakes. In addition, Lamsal *et al.* (2006) reported that the use of individual cellulase and a mixture of cellulase and protease did not significantly increase the soybean oil yield from extruded soybean flakes (68%); yet the yield increased when individual protease was added (88%). These findings illustrate the specificity of enzymes and enzymatic mixtures for any given oil-bearing material. The presence of protein as a major component in the cell wall of soybean seeds suggests that the oil is released more easily from the cellular matrix by degrading the proteins, which is achieved by the action of protease. In the case of rapeseed, pectin is reported to be the major component of its cell wall (Zhang *et al.* 2007), hence the highest oil yields, up to 85.9% in emulsified form, has been reported when pectinase is used which is significantly greater than the values obtained with other carbohydrases. Zhang *et al.* (2007) also employed a combination of pectinase

 with cellulase and β-glucanase in a ratio of 4:1:1 to result in the highest yield (91.6% emulsified oil), this marginal enhancement in yield may be attributed to the elimination of 113 other barriers to the release of oil. Similarly, Szydłowska-Czerniak *et al.* (2010) reported that the application of pectolytic enzyme (ROHAPECT PTE) under optimum conditions prior to pressing produced higher rapeseed free oil yield (16.5%) as compared to cellulolytic enzyme (15.5%).

 Different from oilseeds, addition of enzymes is done on the olive paste in the case of olive fruits, followed by its kneading process as shown in Fig. 1(b). Most studies on extraction of olive oil involved addition of an enzyme mixture consisting mainly pectinase, cellulase, hemicellulase, and other minor enzymes. The studies also reported the inadequacies of these enzymes to extract olive oil if added individually (Aliakbarian et al., 2008; De Faveri et al., 2008; Chiacchierini et al., 2007).

 In general, a better oil extraction yield can be expected when a judiciously chosen mixture of enzymes is used because of possible synergy (Passos *et al.*, 2009). However, according to Rovaris *et al.* (2012), there was no significant difference in soybean oil yields when a mixture of Alcalase 2.4 L and Viscozyme was used as compared to a mixture of Alcalase 2.4 L and Celluclast 1.5 L (29.48% as against 26.82% at pH 4.5; 20.63% as against 20.23% in the case of uncontrolled pH), even though Viscozyme itself is a mixture of enzymes. There was also no significant difference in garlic oil yields upon addition of Viscozyme as compared to addition of individual pectinase, protease, and cellulase as reported by Sowbhagya *et al.* (2009). A similar outcome was reported by Tabtabaei and Diosady (2013) in yellow mustard flour oil extraction when Celluclast 1.5L and Pectinex Ultra SP-L were used, as against Viscozyme L. In addition, the use of Alcalase 2.4L and

 Protex 7L resulted in highest sesame (Latif & Anwar, 2011) and *Moringa oleifera* (Latif *et al.*, 2011) seed oils, respectively, in comparison with Viscozyme L, Protex 7L, Natuzyme, Kemzyme, and Multifect CX 13L which are essentially mixtures of enzymes (Latif &Anwar, 2011; Latif *et al.*, 2011). Viscozyme, being a mixture of enzymes, was reported to have performed better in the case of sunflower oil extraction, which had been proved by Latif and Anwar (2009). A higher oil yield from bush mango kernel flour was also observed upon addition of Viscozyme (68.0%) as compared to Alcalase (35.0%) and Pectinex (42.2%) (Womeni *et al.*, 2008). The different effects of the Viscozyme on oil yields may be due to the nature of different oil-bearing materials and incubating conditions employed.

 In a different study conducted by Jiang *et al.* (2010), five different proteases were tested to improve peanut oil yield, and the highest oil yield was obtained when Alcalase was used (73.45%), followed by As1398 (66.36%), Nutrase (60.08%), Protizyme (55.02%), and Protamex (48.89%). A combination of Alcalase with any of these enzymes did not increase the oil yield. Therefore, Jiang *et al.* (2010) only used Alcalase which reduced the extraction cost, and increased oil yield up to 79.32% under optimum incubating conditions. Similarly, the use of Neutrase 0.8L resulted in marginally lower *Moringa oleifera* oil yield than when its combination with other three enzymes were employed (Abdulkarim *et al.*, 2006). In the case of flaxseed oil extraction conducted by Long *et al.* (2011), the addition of cellulase, pectinase, and hemicellulase, individually, gave higher yields than β-glucosidase and proteinase. Therefore, these authors used a mixture of cellulase, pectinase, and hemicellulase (1:1:1) which resulted in a higher oil

 yield of 61.7-66.1% as compared to the oil yield of each individual enzyme. With reference to Table 2, , Zhang *et al.* (2007) reported highest yield of 92.7% in the case of rapeseed oil, however, the oil remained very stably emulsified in the cream. Therefore, an alkaline extraction was conducted by using Alcalase which resulted in protein degradation along with an increase in total oil yield.

 Based on the above studies, it is not possible to establish conclusively whether it is better to use enzymes individually or in combination, although there are numerous instances where there is a possibility that a mixture can work synergistically. The choice of enzyme depends on the location of the oil within the cellular architecture and the biochemical nature of the components surrounding it. It is therefore necessary, not only to look at the dominant biochemical component holding the cellular matrix together, but also investigate the cellular architecture and examine the specific components which act as a barrier against the release of oil. It is only when both these factors are considered simultaneously, the right enzyme mixture can be identified for a given oil-bearing material. 

2.2. Studies on the use of enzyme as a pre-treatment step prior to extraction

 Recently, the application of enzyme pre-treatment prior to oil extraction has been shown to increase yields (Li *et al.*, 2012). The addition of enzymes as a pre-treatment weakens the cells and facilitate the following oil extraction methods such as mechanical pressing and solvent treatment. Furthermore, the advantage of employing this approach lies in the possibility of avoiding the formation of an oil-in-water emulsion that is very difficult



(2009), Jung *et al.* (2009), and Wu *et al.* (2009). According to these authors, protein

oil. The use of extrusion prior to AEE has been extensively studied by Jung and Mahfuz

aggregates are formed during extrusion but these entrap or interact with the oil. The



 are not recommended and there appears to be an optimum size. This illustrates the importance of selecting the right particle size prior to extraction as had been done by some authors. Sineiro *et al.* (1998a) used ground soybean and sunflower seeds having mean particle size <0.2 mm. The grape seeds used by Passos *et al.* (2009) were grouped into different particle size ranges (in mm): <0.50, 0.50-0.60, 0.60-0.71, 0.71-1.0, 1.0-1.4, 1.4- 227 2.0, and  $>2.0$ , and increment in oil yield was observed at lower particle sizes. In the case of linseed oil, Gros *et al.* (2003) reported no oil recovery from whole linseed kernels, because the substrate was not accessible to the enzymes added. Instead, the hull broke down and the kernels expanded due to hydration. On the other hand, when the kernels were crushed to form different particle sizes including fine powders, the yields improved, particularly after applying hydraulic pressures (Gros *et al.*, 2003). Similarly, in the case of soybean, the use of flour resulted in 24% higher yield than the flakes (Jung *et al.*, 2009), while 31% yield enhancement was reported by Rosenthal *et al.* (1998) when the particle size was reduced from 400 µm to 100 µm.

# *2.4.2. Enzyme/substrate ratio*

 Higher enzyme concentration leads to greater interaction between the enzyme and substrate, thus promoting cell wall degradation and rupturing more peptide bonds (Teixeira *et al.*, 2013; Jiang *et al.*, 2010; Dominguez *et al.*, 1996). However, too high enzyme concentration may result in bitterness and off flavours, as reported by Jiang *et al.* (2010), possibly due to the extraction of undesirable components. Most authors have reported similar trends where the oil yield increased up to certain enzyme concentration only,

followed by steady or decreased rate which may be due to saturation of the substrates

(Jiang *et al.*, 2010), or caramelization of soluble sugars that limit oil release (Zuniga *et al.*,

2003). In general, the actual concentration used will depend on process economics

especially the cost of enzymes (Long *et al.*, 2011; Zhang *et al.*, 2007), and the quality of

the oil extracted.

*2.4.3. Ratio of water to oil-bearing material*

 The water used in AEE not only serves as an extraction medium but also enters the oil-bearing material and modifies its water activity. The resulting moisture content of the oil-bearing material can assist hydrolytic reaction, diffusion, and mobility of the enzymes and products (Yang Li *et al.*, 2011; Zhang *et al.* 2007; Sineiro *et al.*, 1998a; Dominguez *et al.*, 1996). On the other hand, very low moisture content results in the formation of thick suspensions which can prevent the enzymes from effectively penetrating into the substrate (Zhang *et al.*, 2007). Sineiro *et al.* (1998a) reported that only certain 'areas' in sunflower kernels were degraded by enzymes at low moisture content. Although, materials with higher water activity demonstrate higher extraction efficiency (Soto *et al.*, 2007), the presence of excessive moisture content in the oil-bearing material can decrease the concentration of enzymes and substrates, and have an adverse effect on extraction (Yang Li *et al.*, 2011; Zhang *et al.*, 2007; Dominguez *et al.*, 1996). Therefore, selection of appropriate moisture content is critical for the success of AEE. 

*2.4.4. pH of extraction medium* 

 The pH at which enzymes attain maximum activity varies with the enzyme. In most earlier studies, the pH value of the solution, be it for soaking pre-treatment or extraction 268 itself, was set at a value corresponding to maximum enzyme activity (Latif & Anwar, 2011; Jung & Mahfuz, 2009; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Abdulkarim *et al.*, 2005; Rosenthal *et al.*, 2001; Sineiro *et al.*, 1998). However, the optimum pH of a number of enzymes is in the range of 271 the isoelectric pH of proteins which depends on the nature of the oilseeds; since proteins are highly insoluble in this range of pH, oil release may get inhibited. Therefore, the pH value employed must not only be conducive for the action of enzymes but it should also be remote from protein isoelectric point (Tabtabaei & Diosady, 2013; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Sineiro *et al.*, 1998; Rosenthal *et al.*, 1996). This is yet another reason why many authors considered using a mixture of enzymes which demonstrates high activity at pH values remote from the isoelectric point and remain effective for oil extraction. The enzymes are able to solubilize and hydrolyze the proteins besides disrupting other polysaccharide constituents which facilitate oil release (Rovaris *et al.*, 2012; Latif & Anwar, 2011; Passos *et al.*, 2009). Long *et al.* (2011) had used a mixture of cellulase, pectinase, and hemicellulase (1:1:1) at pH 4.5-5.0 which resulted in highest flaxseed oil yield (73.9%) as compared to oil yield of each individual enzyme. In the case of soybean oil, at pH 4.5, Rovaris *et al.* (2012) used a mixture of Alcalase 2.4L and Celluclast 1.5L which resulted in 26.82% oil (20.63% in the case of uncontrolled pH), and a mixture of Alcalase 2.4 L and Viscozyme which resulted in 29.48% oil (20.23% in the case of uncontrolled pH). A 286 number of studies have also used Protizyme<sup>TM</sup> for the AEE (Jiang *et al.*, 2010; Gaur *et al.*, 287 2010; Sharma *et al.*, 2002). Protizyme<sup>TM</sup>, being a mixture of proteases, possess different

 optimum pH which allowed selection of any incubating pH sensitive to the isoelectric point of the major protein fraction of the seeds. Overall, proper pH selection critically influences yields of oil and other components in AEE .

#### *2.4.5. Incubation temperature*

 Besides being active over a narrow range of pH, enzymes also active over a narrow temperature interval. According to Rui *et al.* (2009), the optimum temperature range for 295 enzymatic hydrolysis is between 40-55  $\textdegree C$ , thus many authors employ AEE temperatures which fall within this range. In practice, one often prefers to use the lowest possible temperature yielding adequate activity (Passos *et al.*, 2009). In the case of olive fruits, a 298 lower temperature of 30  $\degree$ C was found to be favourable especially to preserve the oil quality (Aliakbarian *et al.*, 2008; De Faveri *et al.*, 2008; Ranalli *et al.*, 2003; Garcia *et al.*, 2001; Ranalli *et al.*, 1999). Gros *et al.* (2003) also used a temperature of 34 ⁰C for similar reason in linseed oil extraction. A significant effect of temperature on oil yield was 302 reported by Sharma *et al.* (2002), where highest peanut oil yield was observed at 40 °C, but 303 it decreased significantly when the temperature was reduced to  $37 \degree C$ . According to Zúniga *et al.* (2003), at temperatures greater than 45 °C, enzymatic hydrolysis begins to decrease due to enzyme inactivation which leads to lower oil yield. The oil release from the cells may also be limited due to presence of soluble sugars in the composition which can undergo caramelization during the drying stage. Therefore, similar trends were reported from most of the conducted studies, where the oil yield increased up to certain temperature only, followed by steady or decreased rate afterwards. Thus, besides the oil yield, the oil

quality characteristics must also be taken into consideration when selecting AEE

temperature.

*2.4.6. Incubation time*

 According to Jiang *et al.* (2010), Abdulkarim *et al.* (2006), Santos and Ferrari (2005), and Dominguez *et al.* (1996), degradation of cell wall components can be enhanced by prolonging the incubation time. Passos *et al.* (2009) also reported that the use of an enzyme mixture of cellulase, protease, xylanase, and pectinase for 120 hr resulted in 3.8% higher yield as compared to 24 hr of incubation time. However, this time duration (i.e. 120 hr) is far too long to be acceptable in practice (Passos *et al.*, 2009), lower oil quality may result (Jiang *et al.*, 2010), leading to high energy usage and production of undesirable products (Abdulkarim *et al.*, 2006). In addition, Rui *et al.* (2009) highlighted that longer incubation time of AEE in relation to other solvent extraction methods is one of the disadvantages of AEE. In some cases, the oil yield decreased after a certain incubation period because the whole substrates have reacted with the enzymes; leaving negligible substrates left for further enzymatic reaction to take place (Zhang *et al.*, 2007). On the whole, these studies have shown that although oil yield may increases with time, the rate of increase may be far too slow to warrant extended operations, and the oil quality may also get compromised.

*2.4.7. Agitation rate*



of the ground seeds, the ratio of water to oil-bearing material, and the interaction between

soybean oil yield was significantly influenced by the type of enzyme used, the particle size

 the two latter parameters. However, according to Hanmoungjai *et al.* (2001), only the enzyme concentration had the most significant effect on the extraction of rice bran oil, while both the incubation time and temperature did not significantly affect the oil yield. Different AEE parameters used for other samples such as bayberry kernels (Zhang et al., 2012), kalahari melon seeds (Nyam et al., 2009a), palm fruit (Teixeira et al., 2013), peanuts (Jiang et al., 2010), and pine kernels (Yang Li et al., 2011) also had different degree of significant effect on oil yield. These studies show that it is almost impossible to generalize which factor is important and which is not, for a given material. It is necessary to undertake an experimental investigation before designing and scaling up an AEE process.

# **3. De-emulsification methods for aqueous enzymatic process (AEED)**

 When oil is extracted into an aqueous enzymatic phase, it inevitably forms an emulsion, which is often difficult to separate because of the added stability imparted by the interfacially active cellular components which are also extracted in the same process. It is therefore necessary to carefully consider the techniques employed to separate the oil, because the final yield and oil quality, and the economic viability of the process, will depend critically on de-emulsification steps. When AEE is followed by a centrifugation step, besides oil, other fractions recovered include a skim and a cream emulsion (Figure  $371 \quad 1(a)$ ). The cream emulsion is very stable due to its protein content which acts as an excellent emulsifier. Addition of suitable enzymes to the cream emulsion may be able to separate the oil, and in this paper as had been mentioned earlier, this particular sequence of process is termed as aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification (AEED). The enzymes  used in the AEED processes were also listed in Table 1. In this method, the enzymes added to the cream emulsion hydrolyze the interfacial proteins, thus reducing their molecular size and decreasing the rigidity of the oil droplet interface. The enzymes also remove the high molecular weight polypeptides which may occupy the emulsion interface and further reduce the interfacial membrane thickness. These enzymatic reactions lead to greater oil droplet coalescence and assist in free oil release (Tabtabaei & Diosady, 2013; Raghavendra & Raghavarao, 2010; Chabrand & Glatz, 2009; Jung & Mahfuz, 2009; Marina *et al.*, 2009; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Chabrand *et al.*, 2008). The original enzymes used in the AEE may also be carried out into the cream emulsion and assist hydrolytic reactions if suitable incubating conditions were employed (Chabrand & Glatz, 2009; Jung *et al.*, 2009). The free oil yield is commonly expressed as a percentage based on the initial weight of the cream emulsion. In the case of oil-bearing coconut milk, the emulsion needs to be destabilized in order to obtain virgin coconut oil as shown in Figure 1(c). According to Jena and Das (2006), Garcia *et al.* (2005), Tangsuphoom and Coupland (2005), and Balasundaresan *et al.* (2002), coconut milk emulsion is low in stability due to its high fat content and the presence of coconut proteins (~65% is globulin known as cocosin) with low emulsifying properties. Therefore, these authors noted that the separation was not too challenging and concluded that the oil droplets were prone to undergo aggregation and tended to separate. In contrast, Marina *et al.* (2009), Tangsuphoom and Coupland (2008), Peamprasart and Chiewchan (2006), and McGlone *et al.* (1986) reported that a coconut cream emulsion was highly stable due to presence of natural phospholipids and coconut proteins (mainly globulins and albumins) which requires extra energy to be destabilized. It is not uncommon





#### *3.2.2. pH value*

 As had been discussed earlier (section 2.4.4), different enzymes possess different optimum pH where maximum activity is observed. Therefore, most studies employed the optimum pH of the enzyme used in order to obtain the highest free oil yield (Table 5). In the case of soybean oil, according to Wu *et al.* (2009), the oil droplet size and free oil yield 447 increased when the pH was lowered to 4.5, but not lower than 4.0. At the pH of 4.5, which is the isoelectric point of soy protein, electrostatic repulsion between oil droplets decrease, thus further enhancing oil droplets coalescence, formation of larger oil droplets, and higher free oil yield (Wu *et al.*, 2009). In a study conducted by Chabrand and Glatz (2009), the authors reported as high as 83% free soybean oil yield when the pH of the cream emulsion was reduced to pH 4.5, and addition of enzyme (G-ZYME G999) at this similar pH increased the free oil yield up to 100%. Similarly, Wu *et al.* (2009) reported that the use of G-ZYME G999 and Protex 50FP separately at pH 4.5 resulted in 100% free oil yield. These authors suggested that the combination of enzymatic reaction and pH reduction leads to coalescence of the oil droplets and formation of much bigger droplets than when enzymes are not used. Chabrand and Glatz (2009) had also reported the use of high pH on the free soybean oil yield. At pH 9, only 2% of free oil yield was recovered. With the use of enzymes (i.e. AEED) at pH 8 which was the original pH of the cream emulsion, no free oil yield was obtained. Similarly, Wu et al. (2009) reported that the free soybean oil yield decreased when the pH was increased beyond pH 4.5 up to pH 8. Therefore, the significance of enzymes addition at suitable pH values for higher free oil yield is clear.

# *3.2.3. Incubation time and temperature*



may be due to the action of remaining protease in the cream emulsion which was carried

out from the AEE. In the case of yellow mustard flour, Tabtabaei and Diosady (2013)

 subjected the emulsion recovered after AEED process to an alkaline treatment which resulted in higher oil yield than AEED alone.

 Other processing parameters such as shaking, de-canting, and stirring may also influence de-emulsification efficiency (Jung *et al.*, 2009).

# **4. Oil characteristics**

 Most authors have reported the effects of extraction methods on the oil characteristics which are summarized in Table 6. With reference to the table, the oil yields from most of the enzyme treatments were lower in oxidative deterioration and rancidity, indicated by the lower free fatty acids and peroxide values as compared to the yields from solvent treatments. It was assumed that the high temperature used during the solvent extraction resulted in lower oxidative quality of the oils (Latif *et al.*, 2011; Latif & Anwar, 2011; Latif & Anwar, 2009; Latif *et al.*, 2008). The peroxide value of rice bran oil extracted by solvent was also higher than that extracted enzymatically, but the difference was too small to the limit industrial application (Hanmoungjai *et al.*, 2001). In contrast, Kalahari melon seed oil from AEE process gave higher free fatty acid and peroxide value than solvent extracted oil. This may be due to the lipase activity in the seeds during the initial heating in the case of AEE process (Nyam *et al.*, 2009).

 With reference to Table 6, some of the enzymatically extracted oils gave higher iodine value (IV) than aqueous and solvent extracted oils. Hanmoungjai *et al.* (2001) and Long *et al.* (2011) reported that the higher IV indicated higher polyunsaturated fatty acid content which therefore suggested a higher antioxidant activity. In addition, highest total

 tocopherols was observed in most seed oils obtained from the AEE, followed by aqueous and solvent extracted oils. It was suggested that the higher temperature employed in the solvent treatment reduced the tocopherol content in the oil (Latif *et al.*, 2011; Latif & Anwar, 2011). The total tocopherols in olive oils reported by Ranalli *et al.* (2001) and Ranalli *et al.* (2003) were also higher when AEE was employed as compared to aqueous extractions without enzymes. In contrast, Nyam *et al.* (2009) reported lower total tocopherol content in the Kalahari melon oil obtained by AEE than solvent extraction method. This may be due to the production of components during the digestion process in the AEE that can influence the amount of non-saponifiable matter, including tocopherols (Gunstone, 2000),

 In terms of total phenolic content, the values varied with different oil-bearing materials, extraction methods employed, and the types of enzymes used in the AEE process. In the case of olive oil, AEE resulted in higher total phenolic content than the aqueous extractions without enzymes. This may be due to cell wall hydrolysis by the enzymes used which further assists partitioning of the phenolics into the oil. The phenolic content positively influences oxidative stability, shelf life, nutritional, sensory, and health 523 properties of the olive oil, besides flavour which got a greater sensory score (Latif & Anwar, 2009, 2011; Aliakbarian *et al.*, 2008; Ranalli *et al.*, 2003; Ranalli *et al.*, 1999; Ranalli & De Mattia, 1997). Najafian *et al.* (2009) also reported that at higher enzyme concentration, the phenolic content increased whilst the oil turbidity decreased, which may be due to the enzymatic effect in reducing the amount of colloidal particles.

 In terms of the fatty acid compositions (FAC), most authors reported similarities between the oils obtained from solvent and enzymatic extraction methods (Teixeira *et al.*, 2013; Li *et al.*, 2012; Zhang *et al.*, 2012; Latif *et al.*, 2011; Latif & Anwar, 2009, 2011; Jung *et al.*, 2009; Nyam *et al.*, 2009, 2009a; Latif *et al.*, 2008). In a study conducted by Rui *et al.* (2009), the FAC of the pitaya oil obtained from microwave-pre-treated enzyme treatment was similar to the recommended FAC by the US dietary standard. Rui *et al.* (2009) suggested that microwave irradiation enhanced volumetric swelling of the cells in the seed kernels which caused cell walls rupture, while the enzymes hydrolyzed the cell wall and the bonds between the protein or pectin. A combination of these methods led to extraction of pitaya oil with varying fatty acid types as compared to other methods. In the case of flaxseed oil, Long *et al.* (2011) reported that the oil yield from enzyme-pre-treated ultrasonication possessed higher monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids than the flaxseed oil obtained by solvent extraction. According to the authors, the use of water allowed diffusion of water-soluble components instead of the oil. Therefore, the oil possessed approximately similar FAC as the original flaxseed oil (Long *et al.*, 2011). In addition to the characteristics listed in Table 6, the colour intensity of oil had also been reported in some studies based on red and yellow units; higher values of these units correspond to higher colour intensity. In the case of *Moringa oleifera* seeds, according to Latif *et al.* (2011) and Abdulkarim *et al.* (2006), the different enzymes used in the AEE processes act on different components of the seeds which resulted in oil yields having different colour intensity. However, the difference was more significant between the oil obtained by AEE and solvent extraction methods, which is similar to the results reported by Nyam *et al.* (2009) and Latif *et al.* (2008) for Kalahari melon and canola seed oil,

 respectively. The solvent-extracted oil had higher colour intensity which may due to the pigments extracted by the solvent into the oil, such as carotenes and chlorophylls. The oil obtained from AEE process may not need refining due to low colour intensity which reduces the processing costs (Latif & Anwar, 2009; Nyam *et al.*, 2009; Latif *et al.*, 2008; Abdulkarim *et al.*, 2006, Abdulkarim *et al.*, 2005).

 Besides the colour of the oils, the sterols were also significantly lower in oil obtained by AEE than solvent extracted oil, which suggests the ability of the solvent used to extract lipid-soluble components (Nyam *et al.*, 2009). In addition to these characteristics, Sowbhagya *et al.* (2009) reported that the use of enzymes as a pre-treatment prior to steam distillation or hydrodistillation resulted in garlic oil with higher concentration of dithiins which possess health benefits and highly desirable from a nutraceutical point of view. In the case of soybean oil, with the use of enzymes, Jung *et al.* (2009) reported lower phosphorus content (<200ppm) which comply with the specification of the National Oilseed Processors Association trading rules for crude degummed soybean oil. In a study done by Ranalli *et al.* (1999), the Cytolase 0 enzyme used in olive oil extraction was harmless and water-soluble. Therefore, after the enzyme exerted all its effects on oil extraction, it came out into the water (i.e. olive juice) and left no residue in the oil. Thus the olive oil composition was not modified.

 In extraction of virgin coconut oil from coconut milk emulsion, a combination of AEED, chilling, and thawing for the coconut milk destabilization resulted in highest creaming index as compared to other destabilization methods which indicated faster oil



 Overall, enzyme based extraction methods result in oils with better characteristics as compared to oil obtained from solvent and aqueous extraction methods. Therefore, further studies are desirable to enable industrial application by scaling up.

# **5. Potentials for re-using enzymes in enzymatic extraction methods**

Rosenthal *et al.* (1996) highlighted the possible alternatives for improvement of aqueous

extraction, including the use of enzymes (i.e. AEE), the optimization of both extraction and

de-emulsification processes, utilization of membrane technology, and the potential of water

recycling (i.e. enzyme recycling in the case of AEE). Enzyme recycling may assist in

- reducing the cost of AEE which bears the potential to compete with conventional
- extraction method based on the market price commanded by the oil (Nyam *et al.*, 2009a)

 According to Jung *et al.* (2009), after conducting AEE (Protex 6L) to produce soybean oil, the aqueous phase recovered contained 84.7% of the remaining Protex 6L activity. After separation, a major part of this enzyme activity was recovered in the skim fraction (Jung *et al.*, 2009). Similarly, 100% of Protex 6L activity remained in the skim fraction in a study conducted by Chabrand and Glatz (2009). These findings indicate the possibility of recovering and re-using the skim fraction as a source of water and enzyme at the upstream end of the process (Jung *et al.*, 2009). In addition, Jung *et al.* (2009) reported lower Protex 6L activity in the cream emulsion, yet adequate to increase the free oil yield with the use of suitable incubation time and temperature. Droplet coalescence was also promoted by the gentle stirring during the incubation of the cream emulsion (Jung *et al.*, 2009).

 Studies concerning the enzyme recycling were conducted in order to improve process economics and lower the environmental impact of the process. Another method which has gained recent interests is the enzyme immobilization, where the enzymes are separated from the treated products before being re-used. It was reported that the separated enzymes possessed enhanced stability (Long *et al.*, 2011; Wan *et al.*, 2008; Roy *et al.*, 2004). The increasing demands on enzyme-based methods have resulted in production of more enzymes at lower production costs (Roy *et al.*, 2004; Mondal *et al.*, 2003; Sharma *et al.*, 2003; Chase, 1994).

**6. Concluding remarks**

 This review has highlighted the main process, advantages, and disadvantages of AEE and AEED as alternative methods for conventional solvent based extraction methods. In order to enhance the oil yield, a combination of AEE with other non-enzymatic processing methods prior to, or after AEE, has been widely conducted and relevant studies have been reviewed in this paper. The process factors influencing AEE and AEED efficiencies, as well as the oil characteristics, have also been discussed. On the whole, the process factors are correlated with each other, and statistical optimization is currently the best solution for investigating the interacting effects between the contributing factors for obtaining highest oil yield with favourable quality. The high cost of enzymes and production of lower oil yield than that of solvent extraction method have been the major drawbacks of AEE process. Despite the problems, the interest in this method for oil and protein extraction has progressively increased due to the perceived environmental advantages.

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**Figure caption**



**Table captions**

 **Table 1. Commercial enzymes used for aqueous enzymatic extraction (AEE) and aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification (AEED) processes: descriptions and compositions.**

- **Table 2. The oil yield enhancement with the use of enzymes, and the oil yield**
- **difference between the enzyme and solvent extraction methods.**

**Table 3. Enhancement in oil yield due to presence of enzyme pre-treatment prior to** 

- **the extraction method, as compared to the extraction method alone.**
- **Table 4. The advantages of the use of pre-treatments (non-enzymatic) prior to the**
- **enzymatic extraction method.**
- **Table 5. Maximum oil yields as affected by the selected and optimized incubating**
- **conditions of the aqueous enzymatic extraction and aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-**
- **emulsification methods.**
- **Table 6. The characteristics of oil yields from solvent, aqueous, and aqueous**
- **enzymatic extraction methods.**







<b>Enzymes commercial names</b>	<b>Description/Composition</b>	Reference
Single enzyme		
Alcalase <sup>®</sup>	Protease	Womeni et al. (2008)
Alcalase 2.4L	Protease	Rosenthal et al. (2001)
		Latif & Anwar $(2009)$
		Jiang et al. (2010)
		Latif & Anwar $(2011)$
		Rovaris et al. (2012)
		Tabtabaei & Diosady (2013)
As1398	Protease	Jiang et al. (2010)
Celluclast 1.5L®	Cellulase	Dominguez et al. (1996)
		Sineiro et al. (1998)
		Abdulkarim et al. (2006)
		Rovaris et al. (2012)
		Tabtabaei & Diosady (2013)
		Teixeira et al. (2013)
Flavourzyme® 1000 L	Protease	Nyam et al. (2009)
		Nyam et al. (2009a)
Glucanex	Glucosidases	Garcia et al. (2001)
G-ZYME® G999	Lysophospholipase A1	Chabrand & Glatz (2009)
		Wu et al. (2009)
		Tabtabaei & Diosady (2013)
Lipomod 699L	Phospholipase A2	Tabtabaei & Diosady (2013)
LysoMax <sup>™</sup>	Phospholipase A2	Wu et al. (2009)
Multifect Neutral <sup>®</sup>	Protease	Lamsal & Johnson (2007)
Neutrase 0.8L	Bacterial neutral protease	Abdulkarim et al. (2005)
		Abdulkarim et al. (2006)
		Nyam et al. (2009)
		Nyam et al. (2009a)
Nutrase	Xylanase	Jiang et al. (2010)
Papain	Protease	Jiang et al. (2010)
Pectinase 1.06021	Pectinase	Najafian et al. (2009)
Pectinase Multieffect FE®	Pectinase	Teixeira et al. (2013)

**Table 1. Commercial enzymes used for aqueous enzymatic extraction (AEE) and aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification (AEED) processes: descriptions and compositions.**















The oil yield differences were determined based on the oil yields under the best incubating conditions of each enzyme used, or based on the fixed incubating conditions for all enzymes used, in the conducted studies.

All aqueous enzymatic extractions resulted in higher oil yields than aqueous extractions, and all solvent treatments resulted in higher oil yields than aqueous enzymatic extractions.

a total oil as in the skim and cream emulsion

<sup>b</sup> average oil yield enhancements from three olive species with the use of enzymes at high concentrations

Oil-bearing material	Type of enzyme	<b>Extraction method</b>	<b>Enhancement</b>	Reference	
	(pre-treatment)		in oil yield		
			$(\%)$		
Crushed borage seeds	Olivex / Celluclast (1:1)	Double pressing	5.40 <sup>a</sup>	Soto et al.	
$(\leq 2.0$ mm)				(2007)	
Crushed garlic cloves	Cellulase	Steam distillation	0.11	Sowbhagya et	
	Pectinase		0.23	al. (2009)	
	Protease		0.22		
	Viscozyme		0.18		
	Cellulase	Hydrodistillation	0.14		
	Pectinase		0.26		
	Protease		0.24		
	Viscozyme		0.19		
Ground flaxseeds	Cellulase / Pectinase /	Ultrasonication	29.50	Long et al.	
	Hemicellulase (1:1:1)			(2011)	
Ground rapeseeds	ROHAPECT® PTE	Pressing	5.70	Szydłowska-	
	<b>ROHALASE® OS</b>		1.70	Czerniak et	
				al. (2010)	
Milled grape seeds	A mixture of cellulase,	Solvent extraction (24 hr)	106.00	Passos et al.	
	xylanase, protease,	Solvent extraction (120 hr)	163.00	(2009)	
	pectinase				
Minced yellow horn seed	Cellulase / hemicellulase /	Microwave	4.30 (oil yield	Li et al.	
kernels	pectinase $(1.8:1.3:2.5)$		enhancement	(2013)	
			as compared to		
			AEE alone)		
Pre-heated ground	Ultrazyme / Celluclast	Double pressing (hydraulic	$-8.00$	Zuniga et al.	
Chilean hazelnut seeds	(1:1)	pressing at each of 39.2		(2003)	
(inedible, $\leq$ 1.4 mm)		MPa)			
Silybum marianum seed	Cellulase / Xylanase /	Solvent extraction (1.5 hr)	10.46	Li et al.	
powders	Pectinase / Protease			(2012)	
	(2:1:1:2)	Solvent extraction (14.0 hr)	50.72		
Whole sunflower kernels	Celluclast 1.5L / Pectinex	Pressing (Batch press)	13.11	Dominguez et	
	Ultra SP $(2:1)$			al. (1996)	
Mango kernel powders	Protizyme™	Three-phase partitioning	16.00	Gaur et al.	
Soybean flour		method	8.00	(2007)	

**Table 3. Enhancement in oil yield due to presence of enzyme pre-treatment prior to the extraction method, as compared to the extraction method alone.**



<sup>a</sup> the oil yield enhancement was based on the difference between an enzymatic and non-enzymatic pre-treatment,

followed by double pressing

<b>Oil-bearing</b>	Pre-treatment	<b>Type of</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	Reference
material		enzyme		
Ground Isatis	Microwave	Cellulase /	- In combination with AEE, the use of	Gai et al. (2013)
indigotica		Proteinase /	optimal microwave irradiation power	
seeds		Pectinase	increased the oil yield up to 59.27%, and	
		(1:1:1)	the oil yield had greater antioxidant	
			properties than solvent-extracted oil.	
Ground	Ultrasonication	Protizyme <sup>TM</sup>	The enzyme treatment time was reduced	Shah et al.
Jatropha seed	$(5 \text{ min})$		from 18 hr to 6 hr for maximum of 74% oil	(2005)
kernels			yield	
(inedible)				
Ground	Electrical		Mucilage (stabilizing agent) is removed	Gros et al. (2003)
linseeds	discharge		which caused easier oil separation from the	
			resulted residue by using enzyme treatment	
Grounds	Alkaline	Alcalase	Oil yield of 5.87% higher than AEE alone	Jiang et al.
peanuts	extraction			(2010)
Ground pitaya	Microwave	Pectinase /	- Oil yield of 0.84% higher than AEE	Rui et al. (2009)
seeds $(40-$		Cellulase /	alone	
mesh sieved)		Acid protease		
		(1:1:1)		
Ground	Ultrasound	Protex 6L	-Under the fixed parameters of the	Xiaonan Sui et
watermelon			ultrasound, the yield was 20.67% higher	al. (2011), Shan
kernels			than AEE alone	Liu et al. (2011)
			-Under the selected parameters of	
			ultrasound for maximum oil yield, the	
			yield was 21.39% higher than AEE alone	
Soybean	High pressure	Protex 7L	Oil yield of 3.20% higher than AEE alone	Jung & Mahfuz
flakes	processing (200			(2009)
	MPa)			
	High pressure		Oil yield of 1.30% higher than AEE alone	
	processing (500			
	MPa)			
	Extrusion		- Oil yield of 29.90% higher than AEE	
			alone	
			- Free oil yield of 17.00% higher than AEE	

**Table 4. The advantages of the use of pre-treatments (non-enzymatic) prior to the enzymatic extraction method.**



AEE: aqueous enzymatic extraction.

**Table 5. Maximum oil yields as affected by the selected and optimized incubating conditions of the aqueous enzymatic extraction and aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification methods.**

Oil-bearing material	Type of enzyme	Moisture /	Enzyme /	pH	Tempera-	Time (hr)	<b>Agitation</b>	Oil yield	Reference
		<b>Material ratio</b>	<b>Material</b>		ture $(^{\circ}C)$		rate (rpm)	(%)	
		(w/w; for	ratio						
		aqueous							
		enzymatic							
		extraction)							

*Selected(\*) and optimized (\*\*) incubating conditions used for maximum oil yield in aqueous enzymatic extraction*





Ground pine kernels	Alcalase endo- protease <sup>a</sup>	$5:1**$	1.97%**	$8.40**$	$51.0**$	$3.00**$	٠	89.12	Yang Li et al. (2011)
Ground pumpkin seeds	Cellulase <sup>a</sup>	$\blacksquare$	1.70% $(w/w)^{**}$	٠	$47.0**$	$2.64**$	$\blacksquare$	89.12	Hu & Zou (2013)
Ground watermelon kernels	Protex 6L <sup>a</sup>	$4.35:1**$	$2.63\%**$	7.89**	$47.1**$	4.29**	$\overline{\phantom{a}}$	77.25	Xiaonan Sui et <i>al.</i> $(2011)$ ; Shan Liu et al. (2011)
Palm fruits	Pectinase / Cellulase / Tannase $(1:1:1)^a$	$2:1 (v/w)$ **	$4.00**$	$4.00**$	50.0	$0.50*$	200	91.52	Teixeira et al. (2013)
Shattered bayberry kernels (60-mesh sieved)	Cellulase / Neutral protease $(1:2)$ <sup>a</sup>	$4.91:1 (v/w)**$	$3.17\%**$	$\sim$	$51.6**$	$4.00**$	$\sim$	31.15	Zhang et al. (2012)

*Selected (\*) and optimized (\*\*) incubating conditions for maximum free oil yield in aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification method*







Values without any notation are fixed incubating conditions.

<sup>a</sup> Type of enzymes used for aqueous enzymatic extraction

<sup>b</sup> Type of enzymes used for aqueous enzymatic emulsion de-emulsification

\*selected incubating condition; the authors varied the level of each incubating condition and finalized the conditions which resulted in highest oil yield.

\*\*optimized incubating condition; the authors varied the level of each incubating condition and optimized the conditions which resulted in highest oil yield based on an experimental design and statistical software used.

\*\*\* optimum incubating condition of the enzyme used; different types of enzymes possess different optimum pH and temperature where the enzymes attain maximum activity















The column adjacent to the olive paste refers to the different olive species used.

\*data not reported

\*\*A: pectinase, cellulase, hemicellulase; B: pectinase, hemicellulase; C: pectolytic enzyme