

# Effects of Extrusion Conditions on Physicochemical Properties of Finger Millet (*Gramineae Setaria*)

Peng Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Jianjun Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Ming Li<sup>1</sup>, Jing Li<sup>1</sup>, Hongwei Zhu<sup>1</sup>, Shirang Wang<sup>1</sup> & Guoping Yu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> College of Food Science, Northeast Agricultural University, Harbin, China

<sup>2</sup> College of Food Science and Engineering, Tonghua Normal University, Tonghua, China

Correspondence: Shirang Wang, College of Food Science, Northeast Agricultural University, No. 600 Changjiang Road, Harbin, China. E-mail: wangshirang2017@126.com

Guoping Yu, professor, College of Food Science, Northeast Agricultural University, No. 600 Changjiang Road, Harbin, China. Tel: 86-0451-5519-0128. E-mail: yuguopingneau@hotmail.com

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## Abstract

In this study, the effects of different extrusion parameters (extrusion temperature: 100, 130, and 160 °C; moisture content: 22%, 26%, and 30%; screw speed: 180 rpm, 270 rpm, and 360 rpm) on physicochemical properties of finger millet were reviewed. High extrusion temperature produced extrudates with high radial expansion index (REI) and starch digestibility and low bulk density (BD). High moisture content and low screw speed increased BD and total starch content (TSC) while decreasing REI and water solubility index (WSI). WSI and starch digestibility first increased and then decreased with increase in extrusion temperature and moisture content, which reached a maximum at 130 °C and 26%, respectively. However, water absorption index (WAI) was affected by the interactions among various conditions. The extrudates were darker and yellower than native millet. Based on these extrusion conditions, various millet and millet-based products can be produced.

**Keywords:** extrusion processing, millet processing, physical properties, starch digestibility, full factorial experiment design

## 1. Introduction

Millet, a small-seeded crop of considerable importance in many parts of the world, especially in Asia and Africa, plays a major role in food supply security (Liang et al., 2018). Reports show that millet is richer in proteins, lipids, and B vitamins than other cereal grains, such as wheat and rice (Parameswaran & Sadasivam, 1994; Wu et al., 2014). It also contains phytochemicals, such as phenolic acids, flavonoids, tannins, and phytate (Pradeep & Guha, 2011). Furthermore, millet and millet-based products are known to have lower starch and protein digestibility rates compared to other cereals (Annor et al., 2017), and are beneficial for specific categories of individuals (e.g. diabetics and obese people).

Extrusion processing technology was usually used in the food industry, especially grain processing, due to its advantages of high efficiency, low cost and convenience (Shivendra et al., 2010). Extrusion is a high temperature short time process, which combines several steps, including heat and mass transfer, mixing, shearing, particle size reduction, melting, texturizing, caramelizing, and shaping (Nikmaram et al., 2017). Extrusion of food can be utilized to manufacture various types of food products combined with the merits of a completely automated technology that allow efficient use of energy during cooking and better process control (Alonso et al., 2000; Zhao et al., 2015). In addition, extrusion parameters such as the screw speed, extrusion temperature, and moisture content can affect the properties of extrudates. Extrusion with high moisture content (50 g/100 g or 60 g/100 g) and two screw speeds (200 rpm or 300 rpm) can keep the high level of  $\beta$ -glucan in oats from being destroyed, so that its molecular weight, total solids content and thermal characteristics can be maintained (Sayanjali et al., 2017). Corn and soybean blends were extruded with a higher specific mechanical energy (SME) showed a higher water solubility index and the water absorption rate showed an upward trend at the initial stage, but showed a downward trend with the increase of SME (Guo et al., 2018).

Previous studies have reported that extruded millet compounded with other cereals improve the quality and functionality of the products. Extrusion cooking of millet, cowpea, and sorghum was used for the production of weaning food items. Extrusion of decorticated millet at 13-15% moisture content produced expanded extrudates with low bulk density, high water solubility and molecular dispersion of starch. Extrusion moisture of decorticated millet at 15% moisture produced the highest radial expansion, water solubility, and molecular dispersion of starch (Almeidadominguez et al., 1993). Extruded millet flour (20 g/100 g) in composite bread can reverse the increased firmness and reduced extensibility contributed by native flour substitutes (Patil et al., 2016). Kharat et al. (2019) reported the extrusion processing characteristics of whole grain flours of major millets (finger, foxtail and pearl), and showed that whole grain foxtail millet flour was the best among the three millets tested in their study for expanding the millet-based product repertoire. Different fiber content in these kinds of millet is the main reason for this result. In addition, the nutritional properties of major millets are not affected by extrusion conditions (Swapnil et al., 2018).

However, information regarding the effect of extrusion conditions on physicochemical properties and *in vitro* digestibility of millet is limited. Hence, we investigated the effect of different extrusion conditions (extrusion temperature, screw speed, and moisture content) on physicochemical properties (radial expansion index (REI), bulk density (BD), water solubility index (WSI), water absorption index (WAI), and total starch content (TS)) and *in vitro* starch digestibility of finger millet. In order to provide a certain theoretical basis for the development of millet and millet-based food by extrusion.

## 2. Materials and Method

### 2.1 Millet

The millet (*Gramineae Setaria* variety Shishe), used in this study was acquired from Qingyang Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Qingyang, Gansu, China).

### 2.2 Millet flour Composition

The millet was ground in a mixer (GEX GPD-1000C, Taizhou, China) through an 80 mesh sieve. The composition of millet flours was determined following the guidelines of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC). Moisture, ash, lipid content, and protein content ( $\%N \times 6.25$ ; protein coefficient) were determined according to the AOAC 2000 guidelines (method numbers 925.10, 923.03, 920.85, and 984.13, respectively). Ash, lipid content, and protein content were reported on a percent dry weight basis (d.b.). Carbohydrate content was computed by difference. Total starch concentration was determined using an acid hydrolysis kit (BC0705, Solarbio, Beijing, China).

### 2.3 Extrusion Condition

Millet flour was extruded in a twin screw extruder (DS56-III type, Ji'nan Sai Shun puffing Machinery Co., Ltd Jinan, China) at different barrel temperatures (100, 130, and 160 °C), feed moisture (22%, 26%, and 30%), and screw speeds (180, 270, and 360 rpm) as shown in Table 1. The setting of extrusion parameters refers to the studies of Brahma et al. (2016) and Kharat et al. (2019) with slight modification. The extrudate was ground and stored at -4 °C.

Table 1. Extrusion experiment design

No.	Barrel temperature (°C)	Feed moisture (%)	Screw speed (rpm)	No.	Barrel temperature (°C)	Feed moisture (%)	Screw speed (rpm)
1	100	30	180	15	130	26	360
2	100	30	270	16	130	22	180
3	100	30	360	17	130	22	270
4	100	26	180	18	130	22	360
5	100	26	270	19	160	30	180
6	100	26	360	20	160	30	270
7	100	22	180	21	160	30	360
8	100	22	270	22	160	26	180
9	100	22	360	23	160	26	270
10	130	30	180	24	160	26	360
11	130	30	270	25	160	22	180
12	130	30	360	26	160	22	270
13	130	26	180	27	160	22	360
14	130	26	270				

## 2.4 Physical Properties of Extruded Millet Flour

### 2.4.1 Radial Expansion Index (REI)

REI was computed according to the diameter of the extrudates divided by the die diameter. Then the diameter of the extrudates was determined using a Vernier calliper (Shanghai Measuring & Cutting Tool Works Co. Ltd., Shanghai, China) with an accuracy of 0.1 mm. Each sample was measured ten times.

### 2.4.2 Bulk Density (BD)

BD was determined according to the methods described by Natabirwa et al. (2017). A known amount of sample was packed in a 1,000 mL graduated cylinder with an accuracy of 10 mL, after which the cylinder was tapped gently 20 times on the bench top. When the content volume did not reduce further, the volumetric measurement was accurately recorded, and the result was expressed as follows:

$$BD \text{ (g/cm}^3\text{)} = \frac{\text{Sample quality (g)}}{\text{Sample volume (cm}^3\text{)}} \quad (1)$$

### 2.4.3 Water Solubility Index (WSI) and Water Absorption Index (WAI)

The WSI and WAI of raw and extruded millet flour were determined using the method of Jongsutjarittam and Charoenrein with slight modifications (Jongsutjarittam & Charoenrein, 2014). The samples (about 2 g on dry weight basis) were dispersed in 10 mL water for 30 min at 30 °C with vortex mixing once in every five minutes. Next, they were detached using a centrifuge (5810R, Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany) at 3000 × g for 15 min. The supernatant was poured into an aluminum can and dried in the hot air oven at 105 °C for 6 h. WSI and WAI were calculated as follows:

$$WSI \text{ (%) } = \frac{\text{Sample mass supernatant (g)}}{\text{Sample mass (g)}} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

$$WAI \text{ (g/g)} = \frac{\text{Sample mass with absorbed water (g)}}{\text{Sample mass (g)}} \quad (3)$$

### 2.4.4 Appearance Attributes

Color measurements were performed on raw and extruded millet flour using a ZE 6000 colorimeter (Nippon Denshoku, Kogyo Co., Tokyo, Japan). The color of the extrudates was expressed as the average of three L\*, a\*, and b\* readings. Each sample was measured thrice.

### 2.4.5 *In vitro* Starch Digestibility of Extruded Millet Flour

*In vitro* starch digestibility of extrudates was determined using the method of Minekus et al. (2014). For simulating intestinal enzymatic hydrolysis, aliquots (5 mL) of the digested solution were placed in test tubes for 0, 20, and 120 min, and immediately placed in a boiling water bath for 5 min to inactivate α-amylase. Subsequently, 3,5-dini-trosalicylic acid reagent was added to determine reducing sugar concentration, and the absorbance of the solution was measured at 550 nm using maltose as a standard. Each sample was measured thrice. *In vitro* starch digestibility was calculated according to the method of Englyst et al. (1992). The

digestibility of starch was characterized using rapidly digestible starch (RDS), slowly digestible starch (SDS), and resistant starch (RS), and was calculated as follows:

$$\text{RDS (\%)} = (\text{G20} - \text{FG}) \times 0.9/\text{TS} \times 100 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{SDS (\%)} = (\text{G120} - \text{G20}) \times 0.9/\text{TS} \times 100 \quad (5)$$

$$\text{RS (\%)} = 1 - (\text{RDS} + \text{SDS}) \quad (6)$$

### 2.5 Data Analysis

A three-factor ANOVA was applied with extrusion temperature, moisture content, and screw speed as the main effects, while including all the two-way and three-way interactions in the ANOVA model for comparisons among extrudates. Contributions of each factor to the whole ANOVA model were calculated by dividing each factor's sum of squares by the total sum of squares and multiplying by 100. This can effectively and accurately show the contribution of each factor to the response. All data were analyzed using the SPSS software (SPSS version 20.0, IBM Statistics, New York, USA). Responses are shown as mean±standard deviation.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Millet flour Composition

Millet flour composition is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Millet flour composition

Component	Value	Component	Value	Color	Value
Moisture (% wb)	10.37±0.03	Ash (% db)	1.87±0.05	L*	87.03±0.3
Protein (% db)	11.96±0.33	Carbohydrate (% db)	75.25	a*	1.28±0.04
Lipid (% db)	10.92±0.12	Total starch (% db)	66.10±0.02	b*	22.36±0.29

### 3.2 Effect of Extrusion Conditions on Physical Properties of Millet Extrudates

The effects of extrusion conditions on the physical properties of millet extrudates are listed in Table 3 and the statistical results are listed in Table 4.

Table 3. Effect of processing variables on physical properties of millet extrudates

No.	REI	BD (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	WAI (g/g)	WSI (%)	Color		
					L*	a*	b*
1	2.41±0.33	0.88±0.20	2.32±0.11	3.93±0.07	83.88±0.02	1.28±0.02	32.51±0.02
2	2.39±0.24	0.87±0.09	2.11±0.09	4.27±0.12	83.8±0.09	1.56±0.09	35.08±0.12
3	2.81±0.39	0.70±0.08	3.09±0.21	4.35±0.02	83.89±0.01	1.5±0.04	34.52±0.01
4	2.42±0.17	0.84±0.14	2.93±1.14	4.32±0.05	83.95±0.1	1.4±0.03	34.11±0.11
5	2.69±0.40	0.73±0.10	7.59±0.01	5.07±0.05	83.37±0.13	1.5±0.07	34.88±0.17
6	2.74±0.37	0.77±0.14	10.67±0.55	5.05±0.05	83.09±0.07	1.33±0.1	33.79±0.32
7	2.19±0.23	0.74±0.05	5.01±0.20	4.2±0.02	83.97±0.1	1.23±0.02	33.26±0.29
8	3.55±0.36	0.67±0.06	12.84±0.07	5.09±0.01	83.48±0.11	1.32±0.03	33.61±0.37
9	2.69±0.18	0.55±0.06	15.04±0.51	4.77±0.03	83.37±0.07	1.25±0.02	32.37±1
10	2.52±0.26	0.74±0.17	4.69±0.04	5.36±0.05	83.64±0.05	1.33±0.05	31.88±0.24
11	2.75±0.16	0.60±0.09	10.45±0.70	5.57±0.07	83.36±0.07	1.36±0.02	33.58±0.44
12	3.26±0.37	0.52±0.03	13.82±0.93	4.99±0.04	83.18±0.25	1.37±0.06	32.37±0.8
13	2.38±0.68	0.81±0.12	5.15±0.10	5.16±0.11	83.34±0.12	1.42±0.03	32.29±0.17
14	3.59±0.32	0.59±0.13	13.76±0.76	4.91±0.05	82.52±0.16	1.15±0.03	29.39±0.3
15	4.15±0.51	0.36±0.06	14.71±0.71	5.21±0.05	84.02±0.07	1.17±0.03	30.34±0.49
16	3.01±0.12	0.45±0.05	11.74±0.10	5.12±0.64	83.24±0.02	1.17±0.01	31.1±0.28
17	4.32±0.47	0.26±0.04	15.17±0.42	5.24±0.02	83.8±0.14	1.06±0.06	29.4±0.22
18	5.37±0.75	0.25±0.05	21.1±1.41	5.12±0.03	83.91±0.13	1.04±0.05	27.95±0.3
19	3.63±0.30	0.69±0.08	8.95±0.07	4.46±0.01	83.14±0.05	1.25±0.01	33.45±0.07
20	3.04±0.95	0.61±0.11	6.21±4.11	4.64±0.01	83.37±0.13	1.26±0.05	33.49±0.19
21	3.15±0.51	0.65±0.08	7.88±0.14	4.2±0.02	82.73±0.09	1.47±0.03	33.84±0.2
22	3.07±0.55	0.55±0.05	10.58±0.02	5.14±0.01	83.63±0.08	1.17±0.03	33.2±0.25
23	2.80±0.22	0.65±0.09	11.02±0.29	5.25±0.08	83.39±0.05	1.28±0.04	33.23±0.31
24	3.69±0.26	0.44±0.07	12.99±0.59	5.24±0.06	83.57±0.15	1.18±0.05	31.56±0.19
25	3.02±0.31	0.54±0.09	11.49±0.12	5.54±0.03	84.04±0.07	0.94±0.02	30.61±0.24
26	4.54±0.44	0.33±0.05	15.42±0.48	5.27±0.2	84.23±0.07	1.01±0.03	29.5±0.54
27	5.67±0.49	0.17±0.03	18.79±0.52	5.44±0.01	84.16±0.05	0.94±0.03	28.39±0.32

Table 4. Factor contributions (%) to ANOVA models for physical properties of millet extrudates

Factor	REI	BD	WSI	WAI	Color		
					L*	a*	b*
T	34.44***	23.42***	29.77***	14.90***	3.45***	28.84***	37.09***
M	31.76***	20.61***	36.99***	14.03***	16.45***	41.49***	31.31***
SS	17.73***	20.73***	16.78***	3.60*	1.99***	0.56	2.55***
T*M	2.72***	6.65***	0.91	10.74***	27.91***	3.32***	11.30***
T*SS	1.96*	6.86***	2.12***	4.76	14.74***	9.15***	4.74***
M*SS	1.34	11.76***	5.12***	20.39***	10.39***	7.41***	8.32***
T*M*SS	7.31***	7.54***	6.50***	24.63***	21.01***	5.55***	3.77***
Error	2.75	2.43	1.82	6.94	4.07	3.67	0.93

Note. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001.

### 3.2.1 Radial Expansion Index (REI) and Bulk Density (BD)

The REI of the extrudates ranged between 2.19 and 5.67 (Table 3). REI decreased with increase in moisture content, whereas it increased with screw speed and extrusion temperature. The increase in REI with screw speed was possibly because of increased water vapor pressure at the die nozzle, which resulted in bubble growth (Hagenimana et al., 2006). Decrease in REI at high moisture content may be attributed to reduced elasticity of dough because of plasticization of the melt in the extruder (Tucker et al., 2006). These results suggested that high extrusion temperature, low moisture content, and high screw speed are critical for attaining high REI of extrudates.

The BD of the extrudates ranged between 0.17 and 0.88 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (Table 3), which increased with moisture content and decreased with screw speed and extrusion temperature. It is noteworthy that BD increased slightly when the

extrusion temperature was high (160 °C). High extrusion temperature may lead to high die pressure, rapid vaporization of water, and enhanced rupture of bubbles, which may slightly decrease BD. Higher screw speed results in lower bulk density of the extrudates, which was similar to the results of previous reports. Suksomboon et al. (2011) found the BD of snacks (purple rice and soybean flour blend) increased directly with moisture content at all extrusion temperatures and screw speeds ( $P < 0.05$ ), however, high extrusion temperature and high screw speed led to decrease in BD of extrudates ( $P < 0.05$ ). High BD at high moisture content may be due to the plasticizing and lubricating effect of water, which reduces the machine-shear effects and starch disintegration in the extruder (Maskan and Altan, 2011). Yu and Ramaswamy (2012) found that the moisture content had the most significant effect on the BD of extrudates, when analyzing the mixture of corn flour and soybean protein isolate with response surface methodology, in which the moisture content surface plot concaved at mid-moisture content somewhat similarly with both temperature and screw speed indicating a lower BD.

### 3.2.2 Water solubility index (WSI) and water absorption index (WAI)

WSI and WAI of the extrudates varied from 2.11% to 18.79% and 3.93 to 5.57 g/g, respectively (Table 3). The extrudates had an obviously higher WSI and WAI than that of unextrudates (2.22% and 3.14 g/g), in addition to extrusion at low temperature and high moisture content.

WSI represents the amount of water-soluble components that disperse in aqueous phase during cooking. Higher WSI indicates higher adhesiveness and stickiness in food products (Kraithong et al., 2017). Higher screw speed and lower moisture content can result in higher WSI, and it exhibited a maximum within the moisture range tested. Extrudates with higher screw speed showed higher WSI value, which was possibly due to the disruption of the macromolecules (mainly starch), resulting in high solubility of small molecules (Guo et al., 2018). Higher moisture content during extrusion processing resulted in lower starch gelatinization; the extrudate probably acted as a plasticizer because of less starch degradation and shear force, which decreased WSI (Diasmartins et al., 2018).

WAI indicates the ability of native and extruded millet flour to associate with water molecules (Shafi et al., 2016). All the variables of extrusion processing can significantly modify the WAI of extrudates. However, the effect of individual extrusion parameters on WAI is not obvious; in contrast, ANOVA shows that WAI of the extruded product is affected by the interactions of multiple extrusion parameters (Table 4). Examining the raw rice flour, it was found that the extrusion can increase WAI of the samples (from 2.42 to above 7.0), while the variables in the extrusion process were not able to significantly modify the water absorption values (Teba et al., 2017). Yadav et al. (2014) also found that the WAI of the extrudate had no significant relationship with the extrusion conditions and was related to the content of whey protein when studying millet-whey protein snacks.

### 3.2.3 Appearance Attributes

The color properties of millet flour before and after extrusion were surveyed. The lightness ( $L^*$ ), redness ( $a^*$ ), and yellowness ( $b^*$ ) of the extrudates varied from 82.52 to 84.23, 0.94 to 1.47, and 27.95 to 34.88, respectively (Table 3).  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ , and  $b^*$  of raw millet flour were 87.02, 1.27, and 22.36 (Table 2), respectively. These results indicated that extrusion processing decreased  $L^*$  and increased  $b^*$  of millet flour. Nevertheless, extrusion processing changed the color slightly to red ( $a^*$ ). The main factor responsible for changes in color properties is the Maillard reaction, which is divided into three steps: in the initial phase, in which a reaction between reducing sugar and amines results in colorless products; slightly yellow or colourless products are formed in the middle phase, whereas intense colored products are the outcome of the last phase of the process (Ames, 1998). Zhang et al. (2017) also observed the value of  $L^*$  of canola meal after extrusion was significantly lower than that of unextruded. At high-temperature conditions, the increase in the moisture content decreased the lightness.

### 3.3 Effect of Processing Conditions on Starch Content and Digestion of Millet Extrudates

The effects of extrusion conditions on starch content and digestion of millet extrudates are listed in Table 5 and the statistical results are listed in Table 6.

Table 5. Effect of processing variables on content and digestion of millet extrudates

No.	TSC (% db)	RDS (% TS)	SDS (% TS)	RS (% TS)
1	63.37±2.01	83.37±1.65	12.85±1.67	3.79±0.27
2	64.33±4.2	82.97±4.15	14.57±0.32	2.47±3.85
3	64.4±1.1	83.77±0.21	12.53±1.85	3.7±1.65
4	63.2±3.05	84.73±2.05	12.57±2.57	3.8±0.75
5	63.13±0.15	84.3±1.25	11.3±3.56	4.4±2.35
6	61.57±3.06	85.03±0.51	9.51±1.61	5.46±1.12
7	59.3±2	79.5±1.2	13.5±2.75	7±1.55
8	61.73±4.9	80.9±1.71	12.1±1.3	7.0±0.79
9	61.67±2	81.83±1.15	12.57±0.5	5.6±0.66
10	63.13±3.05	85.37±7.6	11.8±1.31	2.83±6.3
11	63.23±0.61	84.87±3.2	14.1±1.8	1.03±1.4
12	64.9±4.29	85.07±2.25	10.73±0.95	4.2±1.66
13	61.77±0.75	85.53±2.22	10.72±2.32	3.75±4.51
14	64.47±0.5	85.97±3.15	10.97±3.57	3.07±0.57
15	63.1±1.1	86.57±0.7	10.4±2.21	3.03±1.5
16	59.6±1.47	82.43±2.79	11.57±2.6	6±0.62
17	61.8±2	82.67±5.3	14.93±3.87	2.4±1.73
18	60.93±0.85	84.5±2.4	9.03±0.72	6.47±3.07
19	61.03±0.95	85.97±1.31	10.53±0.5	3.5±0.82
20	61±1.1	85.4±1.25	13.43±3.92	1.17±2.7
21	63.57±2.8	87.3±3.5	10.57±3.4	2.13±0.12
22	59.97±3.05	89.13±0.65	8.75±2.1	2.12±1.45
23	62.03±0.15	88.37±2.5	8.25±2.05	3.38±0.49
24	62±0	90.07±3.3	8.07±4.05	1.87±0.75
25	59.27±2.95	84.1±1.05	11.71±2.44	4.19±1.39
26	60.37±1.01	83.57±3.61	13.23±1.6	3.2±2.01
27	61.2±2.51	86.03±0.85	9±2.96	4.97±2.12

Table 6. Factor contributions (%) to ANOVA models for content and digestion of millet extrudates

Factor (%)	TSC	RDS	SDS	RS
T	3.87	11.16**	4.22	3.96
M	18.58***	24.79***	14.46**	19.15***
SS	6.60	3.69	15.33**	6.67
T*M	1.64	1.95	1.66	1.43
T*SS	1.81	0.69	0.90	2.02
M*SS	3.25	0.86	3.07	2.97
T*M*SS	2.43	0.37	7.10	8.37
Error	59.83	56.48	53.25	55.42

Note. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001.

### 3.3.1 Total Starch Content of Extrudates

Total starch content is an important index for cereal-based products. Starch concentration of the extrudates ranged from 61.63% to 74.87%, which was significantly affected by moisture. Lower moisture content decreased the starch concentration of the extrudates. This may be due to changes in the shear force and the susceptibility of high molecular weight branched amylopectin to shear degradation during extrusion processing, resulting in variations in the total starch content of the extrudates (Li et al., 2017).

### 3.3.2 *In vitro* Starch Digestibility of Extruded Millet Flour

RDS, SDS, and RS of the extrudates varied from 79.5% to 90.07%, 8.07% to 14.1%, and 1.03% to 7.0%, respectively (Table 3), which was significantly affected by extrusion temperature and moisture content. During extrusion, starch gelatinization directly affected its digestibility. Furthermore, high temperatures increased the degree of starch gelatinization, which increased its digestibility (Rathod & Annapure, 2017). In addition, the

RDS of extrudates mainly exhibited a quadratic relationship with moisture content and reached the maximum value at moderate moisture condition (26%). This result agrees with those of Su et al. (2017), the rate of digestion of RDS and saliva/gastric juice-digested starch of sorghum-barley blend exhibited a quadratic relationship with the moisture content with  $30 \pm 4.3\%$  as the critical moisture. Furthermore, the starch digestibility properties of extrudates were not significantly affected by the screw speed ( $P > 0.05$ ). The rate of starch digestion, indices of water binding, and solubility reduced, and the extrudates were denser when extrusion was performed in the presence of high moisture content. In this study, we have discussed the *in vitro* digestion patterns of intestinal enzymes, but have not investigated those of enzymes in other phases such as in the oral cavity and stomach, which is a limitation of the study.

#### 4. Conclusion

In summary, this study reveals how physicochemical properties and starch digestibility of millet are affected by extrusion. High extrusion temperature increases REI and starch digestibility of the extrudates but decreased BD. High moisture content and low screw speed increased BD and total starch content while decreasing REI and WSI. When extrusion temperature and moisture content were increased, WSI and starch digestibility increased first, followed by a decrease. However, WAI is affected by the interaction among various conditions. The extrudates were darker and yellower than native millet. Thus, extrusion conditions can redefine the properties of produced millet, which can be significant for altering its market value and increasing the diversity of millet products.

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