

1 **Potential use of naturally colored antioxidants in the food industry - A study of**
2 **consumers' perception and acceptance**

3 **Perception of naturally colored antioxidants**

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18

19 **Abstract**

20 In the present study, the influences of color and awareness of the presence of three
21 different naturally colored antioxidants, were studied using the projective consumer
22 method Word Association. *Moringa*, propolis and red grape pomace extracts were added
23 to three different food products categories (bread, yogurt and pate) as case studies. To
24 explore the influence of the presence of natural antioxidants in the colored products, two
25 conditions were applied: *blind condition* (unawareness) and *informed condition*
26 (awareness). Hedonic scores were concurrently collected using a facial scale with seven
27 points. Results exposed that an unfamiliar color, in food products with added naturally
28 colored antioxidants, did not have a strong impact on consumers' perception of the
29 appearance. The awareness of the presence of natural antioxidants, positively influenced
30 consumers' perception and acceptance. Results also demonstrated that a naturally colored
31 antioxidant from propolis could not be used in all food categories. The problem
32 highlighted by consumers was not attributed to the color, but to the off-flavor presented
33 by the propolis extract.

34

35 **Practical applications:** To increase natural antioxidant use by the food industry,
36 consumers' perception emerge as important tools. The addition of a natural antioxidant
37 in the color of the final product is important information for consumers and for future
38 industrial applications, especially if they provide unfamiliar colors to the products.

39

40 **Keywords:** Food Industry, consumers acceptance, antioxidant, bread, pate, yogurt,
41 *Moringa*, propolis, red grape pomace, Word Association.

42

43 1. INTRODUCTION

44 Food antioxidants are a core topic of food science and are among the most studied topics
45 in the areas of food science and nutrition (Cömert & Gökmen, 2018). This is mainly due
46 to the high consumption of ultra-processed foods, which are characterized by convenience
47 as well as long shelf life (Ribeiro et al., 2019), and represent a demand of modern society
48 (Shim et al., 2011). Increasingly, food antioxidants have gained the spotlight, not merely
49 as a food preservative but also as inhibitors of the oxidation processes in humans
50 metabolism (Cömert & Gökmen, 2018).

51 Consequently, natural food antioxidants have been gaining great attention in several
52 studies recently. They are important healthy alternatives to replace synthetic antioxidants
53 that have been identified as toxicological and/or carcinogenic (Kumar et al., 2015). A
54 number of antioxidants were discovered and isolated from natural sources such as herbs,
55 spices, vegetables, fruits and even food residues (Brewer, 2011; Cömert & Gökmen,
56 2018). Among the natural matrices studied which showed biological activity, it is possible
57 to highlight the resin propolis (Tiveron et al., 2016), red grape pomace (Rockenbach et
58 al., 2011) and leaves of the *Moringa oleifera* plant (Oldoni et al., 2019).

59 The limited use of natural antioxidants, despite the European Union allowing the use
60 of rosemary extract, for example, is probably due to their stability (Carocho et al., 2018).
61 The presence of bitterness, astringency and intense flavor could also limit their
62 incorporation in foods and beverages (Ares et al., 2009). Natural antioxidants from fruits
63 and vegetables present an overall concentration of bioactive compounds that are known
64 to be pigmented and provide a specific color (Cömert, Ezgi Doğan et al., 2020). Pigments
65 that provide color in products could be a challenge for their use. The coloring potential
66 could be desirable or not, depending on consumer perception, or could limit their use by
67 some sectors of the food industry.

68 Food appearance is of unquestionable importance to consumers. Among other
69 attributes, color is considered one of the most significant in food product appearance
70 (Cömert, Ezgi Doğan et al., 2020; König & Renner, 2018; Paakki, Sandell, & Hopia,
71 2016; Schifferstein, Wehrle, & Carbon, 2019; Spence, Levitan, Shankar, & Zampini,
72 2010; Wadhera & Capaldi-Phillips, 2014). Studies have confirmed the relationship
73 between colorful foods and healthy foods (Cömert, Ezgi Doğan et al., 2020; König &
74 Renner, 2018) and consequently the effect of food color when deciding what and how
75 much to eat (König & Renner, 2018; Wadhera & Capaldi-Phillips, 2014). Other studies
76 have tried to understand the influence of food color in flavor and odor perception,
77 revealing that color clearly influences perceived flavor identity (Spence et al., 2010) and
78 strongly affects participants' self-reports on odors qualities (Stevenson & Oaten, 2008).

79 In the studies of Paakki et al.(2016) and Schifferstein et al. (2019) the authors
80 explored consumer reaction to atypically colored foods and concluded that an atypical
81 color in an ordinary food product affects consumer perception and choices. In addition,
82 although atypical colors produce more available types of food products, commercial
83 success may be limited until consumers integrate them into their routines and habits
84 (Schifferstein et al., 2019).

85 Thus, in the present study, the influence of color and the presence of three different
86 naturally colored antioxidants (from *Moringa*, propolis and red grape pomace), was
87 studied in three different products categories (bread, pâté and yogurt) through Word
88 Association. To explore the influence of consumers' awareness of the presence of natural
89 antioxidants in colored products, two conditions were applied: *blind condition*
90 (unawareness of presence) and *informed condition* (awareness of presence).

91 Considering the objectives, three hypotheses were formulated:

92 i) Unfamiliar colored food products influence consumer perception of food
93 appearance;

94 ii) The awareness of the presence of natural antioxidants in colored food products
95 positively influence consumer perception and acceptance;

96 iii) Not all naturally colored antioxidant have the same acceptance in all food
97 products.

98

99 **2. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

100

101 **2.1 Naturally colored antioxidants and food products**

102 Naturally colored lyophilized extract antioxidants were added to three products from
103 different sectors of food industry: yogurt, chicken pâté and bread. The extracts were from
104 *Moringa* (NAM-green) (*Moringa oleífera* Lam, grown at Itajaí, SC - Brazil), propolis
105 (NAP-yellow) (donation Breyer & Cia Ltda, União da Vitória, PR -Brazil) and red grape
106 pomace (NAG-purple) (*Vitis labrusca*, grown at Mariópolis, PR - Brazil). The extracts
107 were obtained according to methodologies proposed by Oldoni et al. (2019) for *Moringa*,
108 Calegari et al. (2020) for propolis and Karling et al. (2017) for red grape pomace. Figure
109 1 shows the three lyophilized extracts of natural antioxidants.

110

Fig. 1

111 Natural antioxidants were used in the 0.5% dosage according to studies already
112 carried out by Terra, N.N.; Fries, L.L.M.; Milani, L.G.; Kubota, E.H.; Terra, A. M.;
113 Urnau, (2005) (*c.f.* see formulations in supplementary material). *Moringa* extract was
114 added with a greenish color expected, propolis a yellowish color and grape a purple/pink
115 color in the products. Figure 2 presents photos of the three products with the proposed
116 three natural antioxidants added.

Fig. 2

117

118

2.2 Sensory tests

120 In order to assess the holistic and hedonic perception of food products with naturally
121 colored antioxidants added, a Word Association (WA) task and a hedonic evaluation
122 using a facial 'smiley' scale were used. Participants were provided with an informed
123 consent form at the beginning of the questionnaire. The Ethics Committee for Human
124 Research of Federal University of Technology - Paraná approved the study (CAAE
125 number 15220019.4.0000.5547).

126

2.2.1 Participants

128 The participants in the test were students and lecturers that were randomly selected at the
129 Federal Technological University of Paraná with no relation to food sciences. The
130 participants (n = 476) aged between 20 and 55 years old. Each consumer participated in
131 the evaluation of only one of the products with one of the naturally colored antioxidants
132 added, in order to get the most spontaneous answers and avoid biased responses caused
133 by previous contact with the samples and technique. All participants were consumers of
134 the tested products categories. The data related to the numbers of participants are shown
135 in Table 1.

136

Table 1

137

2.2.2 Sample preparation

139 The tests were performed in a sensory analysis laboratory according to ISO 8589 (ISO,
140 2007). Yogurt samples were prepared the day before and refrigerated at 4 °C. Each yogurt
141 sample (10 mL) was served at 15 °C in a plastic cup coded with a 3-digit random number

142 (Miele et al., 2019). Pâté samples were prepared the day before and refrigerated at 4 °C
143 in glass containers. 10 g of pâté with cream crackers were served on plastic dishes coded
144 with a 3-digit random number at 10 °C (Siret & Issanchou, 2000). Bread samples were
145 prepared 24 hours before,
146 packed in plastic bags and kept at room temperature (25 ± 1 °C). Before analysis, the
147 samples were sliced into equally sized pieces (2 cm thick) and served on plastic dishes
148 coded with 3-digit random number (Dhen et al., 2018).

149

150 **2.2.3 Word Association**

151 Word association was applied according to Ares, Giménez, & Gámbaro (2008) and
152 Mitterer-Daltoé, Carrillo, Queiroz, Fiszman, & Varela, (2013). Two stimuli were applied
153 to each consumer. For the first stimulus, called *blind condition*, the instruction was:
154 “Write the first four words, sensations or feelings that come to your mind when you taste
155 the sample (yogurt, bread or pâté)”. For the second stimulus, called *informed condition*
156 the instruction was: "Write the first four words, sensations or feelings that come to your
157 mind when you taste the (yogurt, bread or pâté)” with natural antioxidant added (from
158 *Moringa*, propolis or red grape pomace)". No prior explanation of natural antioxidants
159 was given to the participants.

160

161

162 **2.2.4 Hedonic test**

163 Nowadays, emojis have grown in popularity in all age-groups, becoming a must in digital
164 communication. Previous studies (Deubler et al., 2020; Swaney-Stueve et al., 2018) have
165 compared emoji scales to the P&K scale and found it to be an alternative to traditional
166 hedonic methods.

167 The test was applied using a facial ‘smiley’ scale with seven points. Each consumer was
168 asked to mark with an X over the emoji that identified their level of acceptance of the
169 tested product (Deubler et al., 2020; Swaney-Stueve et al., 2018).

170

171 **2.3 Data analysis**

172 Word Association data analysis was based on Antmann, Ares, Salvador, Varela, &
173 Fiszman (2011). Associations were grouped into different categories, which were then
174 grouped into different dimensions. Four researchers performed the grouping
175 independently. The final categories and their names were determined by consensus
176 among the researchers. Categories mentioned by more than 5% of the participants were
177 included in the analysis. The bilateral Z-test was performed to study differences between
178 the associations for the *blind* and *informed conditions* (Mitterer-Daltoé et al., 2013). To
179 better understand and visualize the categories that represented each product with natural
180 antioxidant added (in *blind* and *informed conditions*), Correspondence Analysis (CA) was
181 applied.

182 The means of hedonic scores for each product were evaluated by the Tukey test ($p \leq$
183 0.05). T-test was used to verify significant differences between *conditions* for each
184 product. Data were analyzed using Statistica® software 12.7.

185

186 **3. RESULTS**

187

188 **3.1. Consumer perception of the products**

189

190 The Tables from 2 to 4 show the dimensions and categories obtained from the results of
191 the WA. Six common dimensions among samples were built by consensus among the

192 four researchers' participants in the data analysis process. Words with similar meanings
193 were grouped in the same category. The common dimensions were: **Hedonic**, **Texture**,
194 **Flavor**, **Appearance**, **Habits** and **Ingredients**. Other dimensions such as **Odor** and
195 **Health** appeared for some of the products.

196

197 **3.2.1 Yogurt**

198 Table 2 shows the dimensions and categories obtained from *blind condition* and *informed*
199 *condition* for yogurts with the three naturally colored antioxidants added. **Hedonic** was
200 one of the dimensions most mentioned for the three yogurts in both conditions. The most
201 mentioned category of this dimension was *Tasty*, showing good acceptance of the yogurts.

202

Table 2

203 Significant differences between conditions for this dimension were verified for
204 yogurts NAM-green and NAG-purple-added. In the NAM-green-added category, *Bad*
205 had no mentions on *informed condition*, meaning, the awareness of the presence of a
206 natural antioxidant provided a more positive perception, and a consequently decrease in
207 rejection. Similarly, in the NAG-purple-added yogurt, the category *Tasty* was
208 significantly more mentioned, and the category *Bad* was significantly less cited in the
209 *informed condition*.

210 The number of mentions in the **Flavor** dimension revealed the importance of this
211 sensory attribute in dairy products such as yogurts. *Sour* was the category most
212 mentioned, an expected result since this basic taste is typical in yoghurt as a consequence
213 of the fermentation process (Shepard et al., 2013). It is worth noting that the difference in
214 mentions of *Sour* between conditions for the three yogurts, even though significant, it
215 only appeared for yogurt NAG-purple-added. This does not imply that participants did

216 not perceive sour taste in the *informed condition*. What may have happened, was that due
217 to the additional information the associations in focus changed.

218 Yogurt formulations contained 11.5% sugar, a fact that justified the mention of *Sweet*
219 in all samples. Specific **Flavor** categories were cited for the three yogurts with naturally
220 colored antioxidants added. Furthermore, the mention of *Tea* category for the NAM-
221 green-added yogurt revealed a flavor connected to plants or leaves provided by the natural
222 antioxidant from *Moringa*. *Honey* was the flavor that appeared in the *blind condition* for
223 the NAP-yellow-added yogurt. Consequently, in the *informed condition*, the awareness
224 of the natural antioxidant from propolis converted *Propolis* as the flavor most elicited.

225 The yogurt NAG-purple-added was the only product with a correct flavor
226 identification, since the term *Grape* was mentioned not only in the *informed condition*
227 but also in the *blind condition*. This may have happened due to the regular consumption
228 of this fruit. The opposite can be said regarding *Moringa* and propolis.

229 It is noteworthy the *Natural Appearance* perception of consumers, led by NAM-
230 green and NAP-yellow-added yogurts, was only in the *informed condition* in the NAM-
231 green case and was equally mentioned in both conditions for NAP-yellow yogurt. The
232 natural appearance could indicate a potential for a healthy appeal for the products with
233 naturally colored antioxidants added (Dickson-Spillmann et al., 2011).

234 The yogurts were moreover associated to *Memories*, revealing the influence of past
235 experiences in the perception of yogurts. This *Memories* may also indicate a potential
236 market use of these naturally colored antioxidants in yogurts, since it is known that
237 memory has a positive effect on the perception of foods (Morin-Audebrand et al., 2012).
238 Furthermore, past experiences (Ajzen, 1991; Verbeke & Vackier, 2005) and familiarity
239 can influence the food buying behavior (Fotopoulos et al., 2009). Spontaneous mention
240 of any color was observed only in the yogurt NAM-green-added. This was probably due

241 to green color being an atypical color for commercial yogurts. The results also showed
242 that consumers related the *Green* color with avocado.

243

244 **3.2.2 Pâtés**

245 The dimensions and categories obtained from *blind condition* and *informed condition* for
246 the pâtés with the three added naturally colored antioxidants are shown in Table 3.

247 **Hedonic** was the dimension most mentioned for pâtés with naturally colored antioxidants.

248 The frequency of mentions of the category *Tasty* demonstrated that the three natural
249 antioxidants used in pâtés pleased consumers. Likewise, the good acceptance as *Tasty*
250 mentions for pâtés was equally ($p \geq 0.05$) observed in *blind* and *informed conditions*.

251

Table 3

252 The dimensions **Texture** and **Flavor** revealed the sensory attributes most relevant
253 for pâtés by consumers. According to Antmann, Ares, Salvador, Varela, & Fiszman
254 (2011) the most frequently mentioned terms could be related to the most relevant for
255 consumers, and more commonly used by them to describe the characteristics of food
256 products.

257 Some results corroborated the findings for yogurts: A change of focus with the
258 provided information about the presence of natural antioxidants in the *informed condition*
259 stimulus. Among sensory attributes, *Seasoned* was one of the most cited for all
260 formulations. In NAM-green-added pâté for *blind condition* 38.46% of participants cited
261 this term. The number of mentions dropped to 3.8% of participants in the *informed*
262 *condition*. This influence could also be visualized by the *Garlic* category. For NAP-
263 yellow-added pâté, the *informed condition* resulted in the occurrence of the terms
264 *Propolis/Honey* to describe the product and the absence of the term *Garlic*.

265 The *informed condition* also produced significant differences in other categories,
266 such as the *Healthy* category in NAG-purple-added pâté. Awareness of the presence of
267 the red grape pomace natural antioxidant provided a positive healthy perception. Another
268 positive perception for all pâté samples was the category *Memory* represented by the
269 terms *family* and *home*. Once more, few mentions about color were reported. *Weird/ugly*
270 was mentioned for NAG-purple-added pâtés, most probably related to the unusual purple
271 color. No mentions related to color were registered to NAP-yellow-added pâtés.

272

273 3.2.3 Bread

274 Table 4 exhibits the dimensions and categories obtained from *blind* and *informed*
275 *condition* for breads with NAM-green, NAP-yellow and NAG-purple added.

276

Table 4

277 Similarly, the dimension **Hedonic**, specifically the category *Tasty*, was the most
278 mentioned for all bread samples. As with NAG-purple-added yogurts, NAG-purple-
279 added bread in the *informed condition* exhibited significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$) from
280 *blind condition*. The awareness of the natural antioxidant presence provided a more
281 positive hedonic perception.

282 To the NAM-green-added bread, an interesting result is the occurrence of the
283 category *Surprise* when the stimulus offered the information about the presence of a
284 natural antioxidant from *Moringa*. The category *Surprise* appeared for all breads samples,
285 indicating a perception of innovation (Mazon et al., 2020) for these colored breads.
286 However it is important to note that not all mentions about innovation point to a good
287 acceptance (Tuorila et al., 2008). Instead, it often indicates a behavior known as food
288 neophobia, which can be defined as a fear of eating novel foods.

289 A key find in the present study was the category *Bitter* appearing to describe the
290 NAM-green-added bread in *informed condition* ($p \leq 0.05$), revealing a relationship
291 between plants and the bitter taste perceived. *Bitter* was an important category to describe
292 the NAP-yellow-added bread and this category was mentioned in *blind condition* and
293 *informed condition*, for 53.57% and 42.86% of consumers, respectively. The number of
294 mentions for this category clearly showed the relevance of this attribute for the NAP-
295 yellow-added bread. The category *Bitter residual* corroborated the presence of this
296 undesirable taste.

297 Although cited, mentions about **Appearance** and color were few. For the bread with
298 NAP-yellow, *Weird/ugly* was cited for 10.71% of consumers in *blind condition* and for
299 5.35% of consumers in *informed condition*. The appearance of NAG-purple-added breads
300 was described as *Old/mold* and *Weird/ugly*. No mentions about appearance were
301 registered to the NAM-green-added breads.

302 Once more, *Memories* appeared as a positive category cognitively related to the
303 colored breads. Significant differences were registered between conditions. Less
304 mentions were noted in the *informed condition* probably due to a change in focus caused
305 by the awareness already discussed. This suggested the absence of a link between
306 products with natural antioxidants and the memories of consumers, indicating the
307 newness of the subject.

308

309 **3.2.4 Correspondence analysis**

310 Combining the terms elicited by the WA task and the products with natural antioxidants
311 added led to better understanding of the perceptions of consumers, Correspondence
312 Analysis for each product category was applied (Figures 3, 4 and 5). It is a technique of
313 interdependence whose main benefit is the ability to represent rows and columns on a
314 perceptual map (Hair et al., 2009).

315 The primary result revealed by bi-plots was the visual association for each product
316 with different natural colored antioxidant added. Moreover, bi-plots highlighted the
317 different perceptions from each natural antioxidant added. It became clear from the
318 analysis of the sample (Fig. 3) the NAM-green-added yogurts were linked to *Sour, Bitter,*
319 *Green, Avocado, Tea* and *Healthy* terms. While, NAP-yellow-added yogurts were
320 associated with *Memories, Happiness, Smooth, Medicine* and *Honey*. In addition, NAG-
321 purple-added yogurts were associated with *Natural, Creamy, Milk, Consistent* and *Grape*
322 categories.

323

Fig. 3

324 For the NAM-green-added pâtés the (Fig. 4) linked associations were *Garlic,*
325 *Memories* and *Salty*. The NAP-yellow-added pâtés were associated with *Consistent, Soft,*
326 *Bad, Residual, Cold, Humid* and *Honey* categories. It is important to note that the NAG-
327 purple-added pâtés became more distant on the perceptual map, indicating a stronger
328 influence of the *blind* and *informed*. NAG-purple-added paté in *blind condition* was
329 associated with *Creamy, Satiety, Good Smell, Weird-Ugly, Snack, Strong* and *Chicken*.
330 While NAG-purple-added paté in *informed condition* was associated with *Light,*
331 *Homogenous, Herbs, Good color, Fear, Sweet, Weird texture* and healthier associations
332 such as *Natural* and *Healthy*.

Fig. 4

333
 334 Finally, the findings showed that NAM-green-added breads (Fig. 5) were
 335 associated with *Salty, Porous, Market, Good smell, Dry, Breakfast* and *Light*. NAP-
 336 yellow-added breads were associated with *Bitter, Herbs, Medicine, Honey, Bitter residual*
 337 and *Bad*. As can be seen *Bad* appeared as an important category to understand the
 338 negative hedonic effect of the sensory characteristics of NAP-yellow-added breads by
 339 consumers. Thus, it can be stated that for consumers, NAM-green-added bread samples
 340 had a bad taste due to the bitter and residual bitter taste. For NAG-purple-added bread,
 341 the related categories were *Yeast, Flour, Surprise, Dense, Good texture, Satiety, Humid,*
 342 *Grape. Healthy* was again noted for a NAG-purple-added product. Moreover, negative
 343 categories related to appearance were also associated with *Weird/Ugly* and *Old/mold*.

Fig. 5

344
 345

3.5. Acceptance of products with naturally colored antioxidants added

346
 347 Results showed no significant difference in acceptance between both conditions for
 348 NAM-green, NAP-yellow and NAG-purple added pâté and bread (Table 5), meaning that
 349 for consumers awareness of natural antioxidants did not influence acceptance rates.
 350 Among yogurts, only the formulation NAG-purple-added showed significant difference
 351 between conditions. This indicates that the information about the presence of a natural
 352 antioxidant of red grape pomace produced a higher acceptance of the yogurt.
 353 Combining the results from CA and acceptance rate helps to confirm the suitability of
 354 emoji scales to get likability or emotional response to consumer products. Samples with
 355 positive word associations were given the highest scores and those with negative the
 356 lowest. This situation can be clearly seen by analyzing natural coloring antioxidant-added
 357 breads. NAP-yellow-added breads, in both conditions, showed the lowest acceptance rate

358 and based on CA bi-plots were better related to the negative words: *Bad*, *Bitter* and *Bitter*
359 *residual*.

360

361

362

Table 5

363

364 **4. DISCUSSION**

365 The present work was based on three hypotheses regarding the use of naturally colored
366 antioxidants in different food products. In order to verify the hypotheses, the present
367 article used a projective technique Word Association and a hedonic test in two conditions:
368 *Blind* and *informed*, generating two scenarios for consumers to distinguish the
369 information regarding the presence of natural antioxidants.

370 The data from WA and hedonic tests confirmed or partially confirmed these
371 hypotheses. The technique proved to be an important tool to display terminologies that
372 better describe products by consumers. In this sense, it can be said that the terminologies
373 related to **Hedonic**, **Texture** and **Flavor** dimensions, which were the most noted, and the
374 ones related to sensory aspects demonstrated that sensory attributes are imperative for
375 consumers.

376 Accordingly, it is important to point out that low importance (few mentions) was
377 given to appearance cues. For the objectives of this work, this is a positive result, since
378 the resulting color from the application of natural antioxidants did not create strong
379 negative associations. According to Roininen, Arvola, & Lahhteenmaki (2006), the
380 associations that first come to the consumers' minds are considered the most important
381 for consumption decisions. This finding is aligned with the assessment of the first
382 hypothesis.

383

384 **4.1 Hypothesis 1**

385 The analysis of the first hypothesis derived from the stimulus *blind condition*. In the
386 Brazilian market, green yogurts, purple, or green breads and purple, green, or yellow pâtés
387 are considered products with atypical color. According to the present results, Hypothesis
388 1 could not be confirmed, since the unusual color of products from this study did not have
389 a major (negative) impact on the perception of their appearance. The unusual green yogurt
390 drew attention from few consumers (9.8%) that mentioned the category *Avocado* relative
391 to the visual appearance of the yogurt. This connection is due to the Brazilian habit of
392 consuming an emulsified dessert from milk, avocado and sugar.

393 Surprisingly, there were few mentions related to the appearance of the colored pâtés.
394 In Brazil the common color of a commercial pâté is light pink caused by the addition of
395 a dye called cochinel carmine, which makes green, purple or yellow pâtés to be
396 considered atypical or unusual. Among colored pâtés, the purple one (NAG-purple)
397 produced more associations relative to appearance, as 3.8% of consumers mentioned the
398 category *Good Color* and 11.5% mentioned *Weird/Ugly* to appearance. For green pâtés
399 (NAM-green) only one consumer mentioned *Weird/Ugly* to describe appearance. For
400 yellow pâté (NAP-yellow), no mentions about appearance were registered.

401 Among colored breads, with some mentions, the NAG-purple-added bread produced
402 more mentions among the samples about appearance. It is noteworthy that the two
403 categories that emerged were of a negative nature: *Old/Mold* and *Weird/Ugly*. The same
404 effect was noted for NAP-yellow bread, while for green (NAM-green) bread no mentions
405 about appearance were recorded. Therefore, based on the low number of associations
406 related to appearance, and suitable acceptance rates discovered, we can consider that

407 unusual color of food products from this study had little influence on consumers'
408 perception of appearance.

409 Hypothesis 1 was developed based on the studies of Paakki et al. (2016) and
410 Schifferstein et al. (2019). In both papers, they demonstrated that an atypical color in an
411 ordinary food product affected participants' perception. What is common between these
412 two studies is the application in a vegetable *in natura* (potatoes and carrots), which
413 contrast with the processed foods from this study (yogurt, bread and pâté). The current
414 findings suggested that consumers are probably more receptive (less neophobia) to
415 unusual color in processed foods. To the food industry, it is indicative of great potential
416 to use natural antioxidants, even if they have color.

417 Two differences that cannot be overlooked between the present study and the
418 research developed by Paakki et al. (2016) and Schifferstein et al. (2019) were the
419 methodologies applied for atypical colored food evaluations. In Schifferstein et al. (2019)
420 the methodology applied was to explore the atypical color of carrots when directed to
421 appearance through the question: "I find that this carrot looks like..." and assessed on 7-
422 point un-numbered Likert scale. The methodology, therefore, forced the evaluation of
423 visual cues. Paakki et al. (2016) for instance, used a Likert scale with defined attributes
424 for potato evaluation, which also drove consumer perception, after participants were
425 asked to imagine an occasion where both typical colored potatoes (yellow) and atypical
426 colored potatoes (blue) were served, asking them to choose between them, and to explain
427 their choice. This second part generated a free association list and appearance and color
428 were noted to be important aspects when explaining their choice, especially among those
429 choosing atypical colored potatoes. Although the assessment was less targeted, the
430 cognitions of the second methodology were the result of a comparison between two

431 conditions in which the only difference was color (typical and atypical), leading to a
432 directed assessment.

433 Word association is a technique where the main characteristic is the possibility of
434 holistic product evaluation. This methodology is based on the assumption that providing
435 a stimulus to respondents and asking them to free associate the ideas that come to mind,
436 could give relatively unrestricted access to the respondents mental representations of the
437 stimulus (Antmann et al., 2011; Ares et al., 2008). Therefore, what could be indicative of
438 the studies of atypical colored food perceptions is that, when the stimulus has a direction
439 to the visual aspects, they gain greater importance. When the stimulus is associated with
440 a holistic, undirected technique and healthy ingredient information, visual cues do not
441 appear as the main association of conditions. This particular fact could be used by the
442 research and development sector, especially the label one.

443 Besides that, the hue of an atypically colored food product could have an important
444 influence on consumer perception of food appearance. Blue, the atypical color used in the
445 study of potatoes, was described by consumers as “looks odd”. As discussed by the
446 authors, blue is an unfamiliar color in food, and for this reason, blue in potatoes was
447 related to food neophobia (Paakki et al., 2016). In this way, purple/pink, green and yellow
448 are colors naturally found in foods (vegetables, fruits) (Cömert, Ezgi Doğan et al., 2020)
449 and possibly, for that reason, did not cause much impact on consumers, reinforcing the
450 potential of *Moringa*, propolis and grape pomace extracts.

451

452 **4.2 Hypothesis 2**

453 The analysis of Hypothesis 2 was derived from the comparison between conditions
454 of the categories from WA and acceptance rates from the hedonic test. As can be seen in
455 the results section, awareness of the presence of natural antioxidants in colored food

456 products influenced consumers' perceptions and acceptance, *i.e.*. Hypothesis 2 was
457 confirmed.

458 The results also suggested that the influence of awareness of the presence of natural
459 antioxidants in colored products had different effects for each product and for each
460 naturally colored antioxidant. Regarding yogurts, the results revealed differences between
461 conditions in the categories of the dimensions **Hedonic**, **Texture**, **Appearance**, and
462 **Flavor**. For pâtés the differences were in the dimensions **Flavor**, **Ingredient** and **Health**.
463 Bread presented differences in the categories of **Hedonic**, **Flavor**, **Habits** and
464 **Ingredient**.

465 Based on general analysis, which involves all products with all three antioxidants
466 added, a significant positive effect could be extracted from the perception of the products
467 in the *informed condition*. This positive effect is clearer in the analysis of the **Hedonic**
468 dimension of the NAM-green and NAG-purple added yogurts; the three pâtés; and the
469 NAG-purple-added bread. In the NAG-purple yogurt the number of mentions of the
470 category *Tasty* was significantly higher in the *informed condition*, and this behavior was
471 also reflected in its acceptances. Indeed, it is noteworthy that NAG-purple-added yogurt
472 was the only one that presented significant differences both in acceptance and *Tasty*
473 category between *blind* and *informed condition*.

474 The hypothesis that the acceptance would be impacted by the awareness of the
475 presence of natural antioxidants in the colored food products is based on studies which
476 reported the importance given by consumers to food safety issues (Wongprawmas &
477 Canavari, 2017), and healthy eating (Carrillo et al., 2011). This could determine the
478 future potential of any food ingredient (Varela & Fiszman, 2013). As mentioned by
479 Grunert (2005), quality and safety perception by consumers is highly related to food
480 choice, consumer demand, and may be connected to price perception and willingness to

481 pay. In the present study, health issues represented by the category *Healthy* were just
482 related to NAG-purple-added pâté ($p \leq 0.05$ between conditions), and to NAM-green-
483 added yogurt and bread ($p \geq 0.05$ between conditions).

484 Another category that has a direct connection to health issues is *Natural*. This
485 category was significantly more mentioned relative to the NAM-green yogurt in *informed*
486 *condition*. The occurrence of this category when the presence of natural antioxidants was
487 acknowledged, may be linked to the lack of mentions of *Bad* category for this product in
488 *informed condition*. This was also the case for NAG-purple-added bread, that presented
489 significantly more mentions of *Tasty* in the *informed condition*. The opposite was noted
490 with the NAM-green and NAP-yellow breads with *Surprise* category appearing in the
491 *informed condition* ($p \leq 0.05$).

492 **Flavor** was a dimension that reflected significant differences between conditions in
493 all products. An interesting result was the emergence of the *Bitter* category in the
494 *informed condition* ($p \leq 0.05$) for the NAM-green bread. This behavior showed the
495 relationship between the awareness of *Moringa* and bitter taste. As is well known, color
496 influences taste and flavor perception (Spence et al., 2010), and the awareness of the
497 presence of a green leaf may have influenced perceptions as well. Furthermore, for green
498 vegetables the relation to bitter and sour tastes is common (Schifferstein et al., 2019).

499 *Memories* was another category that called attention in breads. It was clear that in the
500 *blind condition* an influence of past experiences in the associations of the breads occurred
501 and in informed condition there was a significant reduction in these associations. This
502 behavior could be explained by a change in focus or an indication that there were no
503 associations between the word antioxidant, even natural antioxidant, and past
504 experiences.

505

506 4.3 Hypothesis 3

507 Hypothesis 3 was also confirmed. Analysis of acceptance results demonstrated that
508 a naturally colored antioxidant cannot be applied in all categories of products. It was the
509 acceptance rates of the NAP-yellow-added breads that confirmed this hypothesis. This
510 natural antioxidant when added to bread indicated the lowest acceptance for both
511 conditions, revealing a slight difficulty that the industry could face using NAP-yellow in
512 the baked products sector. Interestingly, this hypothesis was based on coloring action,
513 which natural antioxidants could offer. In fact, the rejection of the product was not caused
514 by the color provided by the NAP-yellow, but by another drawback of this antioxidant:
515 The bitter taste produced in food.

516 The category *Bitter* in NAP-yellow-added bread could not be overlooked. No
517 differences between the two conditions were identified, showing the bitter taste was
518 clearly perceived and unaltered by the information received. *Bitter* obtained a large
519 number of mentions and revealed more than an important attribute with which to describe
520 bread, indicating a disadvantage in the use of this antioxidant in breads and similar
521 products.

522 Nowadays, it is well established that the chemical composition of propolis varies
523 according to climatic and phyto-geographic conditions (Bankova, 2005; Bankova et al.,
524 2016). The propolis used in this study was produced in the South of Brazil (Paraná and
525 Santa Catarina states) and its chemical composition was previously determined by
526 Calegari et al., (2017) and Oldoni et al., (2015). The results indicated a high content of
527 phenolic acids such as caffeic, coumaric, ferulic, gallic and derivative of cinnamic
528 (artepillin C), all low-molecular-weight compounds. The bitter taste is related to phenolic
529 compounds with low-molecular-weight (Drewnowski & Gomez-carneros, 2000). To
530 further explain, it is worth noting that with the other NAP-yellow-added products (yogurt

531 and pâté), the bitter taste was not associated, possibly as a consequence of the presence
532 of a high amount of sugar, salt and condiments in these products, since the interaction of
533 basic tastes mixed in high concentrations is known. Sweet and salty suppress bitter taste
534 (Keast & Breslin, 2002).

535 This behavior brought to light two important insights: the potential for applying the
536 same naturally colored antioxidants in various sectors of the food industry, even if causing
537 some type of atypical color; and the emergence of another drawback in the use of natural
538 antioxidants in food, the unintended taste or flavor. Regardless of the cause, the results of
539 the present study showed a wide possibility for application in different sectors of the food
540 industry of naturally colored antioxidants.

541 Despite the fact that this work covers only three specific food categories, and give
542 that results point out to the fact that consumers reaction to naturally colored antioxidant
543 is category dependent, it is important to study the effect in further product categories.
544 Also, it is necessary to expand the number of consumers to the tests if the aim is launching
545 these naturally colored antioxidants to the market. Besides further studies need to assess
546 the effectiveness of these natural antioxidants preserving food when compared to the
547 synthetic ones.

548

549 **5. CONCLUSION**

550 The results showed that the unfamiliar color of foods with added naturally colored
551 antioxidants, did not have a strong impact on consumers' perception of appearance. This
552 behavior was probably linked to consumers being more receptive to unusual colors in
553 processed foods. Being aware of the presence of natural antioxidants in colored foods
554 positively influenced consumers' perception and acceptance. The categories *Tasty*,
555 *Healthy*, *Natural* and *Surprise* were most mentioned in the *informed condition*.

556 Acceptance rates revealed the potential use of naturally colored antioxidants of
557 *Moringa* and red grape pomace in the three categories of tested products (dairy, baked
558 and meat). Naturally colored antioxidants of propolis in bread presented a significant
559 drawback for consumers, because of the presence of an intense bitter taste. Therefore, this
560 sector of the food industry may face a struggle in its use, not caused by the color, but by
561 the off flavor.

562 Finally, in answer to the hypotheses that guided this research, this study brought an
563 important insight into the use of a holistic approach to the evaluation of unusually colored
564 food products by consumers. The Word Association technique proved to be a useful tool
565 in understanding consumers' perception of atypical colored foods with added natural
566 antioxidants, revealing the most important barriers and opportunities to their addition.
567 Hedonics, flavor, and texture attributes were the most important aspects for consumers,
568 regardless of the awareness of a natural antioxidant present in the product.

569

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576

577 **Conflict of interest**

578 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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- 745

746 **Table 1-** Number of participants.

	Yogurt	Pâté	Bread
NAM-green-added	51 consumers (25 female and 26 male)	52 consumers (30 female, 22 male)	57 consumers (37 female, 20 male)
NAP-yellow-added	50 consumers (28 female and 22 male)	51 consumers (27 female, 24 male)	56 consumers (26 female, 30 male)
NAG-purple-added	52 consumers (23 female and 29 male)	52 consumers (28 female, 24 male)	55 consumers (30 female, 25 male)

747 NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally
748 colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally colored antioxidant red
749 grape pomace added.

Dimensions and categories	NAM-green			NAP-yellow			NAG-purple		
	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test
<i>Milk</i>	5	2	1.1749	0	0	-	5	1	1.6832
<i>Fruits</i>	15	9	1.4005	8	3	1.5980	6	5	0.3192

751 NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally
752 colored antioxidant red grape pomace added.

Show significant difference ($\alpha = 0.05$; $Z\alpha = 1.96$).

753

754

755 **Table 3** - Frequency of mention of dimensions and categories for pâté added with extracts in blind and informed conditions.

Dimensions and categories	NAM-green			NAP-yellow			NAG-purple		
	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test
Hedonic									
<i>Tasty</i>	82	69	1.5736	54	51	1.7192	56	57	0.3190
<i>Satiety</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	3	0	1.7575
<i>Indifferent</i>	5	4	0.3487	7	7	0	7	4	0.9565
<i>Fear</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	4	6	0.6652
<i>Cold</i>	0	0	-	3	2	0.4585	0	0	-
<i>Bad</i>	0	0	-	3	1	1.0202	0	0	-
Texture									
<i>Soft</i>	0	0	-	10	5	1.3978	5	5	0
<i>Creamy</i>	12	8	0.9952	10	13	0.7108	9	8	0.2651
<i>Consistent</i>	3	2	0.4583	8	8	0	6	5	0.3188
<i>Weird texture</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	1	4	1.3751
<i>Humid</i>	0	0	-	3	5	0.7365	0	0	-
Flavor									
<i>Strong</i>	5	11	1.6306	8	6	0.5754	7	5	0.6138
<i>Salty</i>	15	16	0.2143	10	9	0.2543	11	7	1.0367
<i>Sweet</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	1	3	1.0198
<i>Seasoned</i>	20	2	4.3218	10	15	1.1509	8	8	0
<i>Light</i>	4	11	1.9537	6	12	1.5584	10	17	1.5656
<i>Bitter</i>	0	0	-	8	5	0.8907	0	0	-
<i>Residual</i>	0	0	-	4	2	0.8416	0	0	-
<i>Propolis/honey</i>	0	0	-	0	8	2.9463	0	0	-
Odor									
<i>Good smell</i>	3	5	0.7359	4	4	0	7	4	0.9565
Appearance									
<i>Homogeneous</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	4	2	0.8411
<i>Good color</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	2	4	0.8411
<i>Fresh</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	2	3	0.4584
<i>Weird/ugly</i>	1	3	1.0198	0	0	-	6	3	1.0463
Habits/Daily life									

Dimensions and categories	NAM-green			NAP-yellow			NAG-purple		
	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test
<i>Snack (picnic, afternoon)</i>	3	2	0.4583	0	0	-	3	5	0.7360
<i>Appetite</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	6	7	0.2965
<i>Memories (family, home)</i>	10	4	1.7237	4	1	1.3757	4	2	0.8411
<i>Appetizer (toast, crackers)</i>	3	5	0.7359	4	5	0.3490	4	1	1.3751
Health									
<i>Healthy</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	5	2.2918
Ingredients/Production									
<i>Herbs</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	3	1	1.0198
<i>Garlic</i>	9	2	2.2319	5	0	2.2929	3	1	1.0198
<i>Chicken</i>	5	4	0.3487	5	4	0.3490	5	3	0.7360

756 NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally

757 colored antioxidant red grape pomace added.

758 Show significant difference ($\alpha = 0.05$; $Z\alpha = 1.96$).

759 **Table 4** - Frequency of mention of dimensions and categories for bread added with extracts in blind and informed conditions.

Dimensions and categories	NAM-green			NAP-yellow			NAG-purple		
	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test
Hedonic									
<i>Tasty</i>	52	49	0.8839	38	37	0.2008	34	45	2.3312
<i>Hunger</i>	3	1	1.0180	3	2	0.4575	3	0	1.7561
<i>Warmth</i>	4	4	0	0	0	-	6	2	1.4686
<i>Bad</i>	4	2	0.8388	10	6	1.0801	2	6	1.4686
<i>Indifferent</i>	2	5	1.1704	1	8	2.4331	1	7	2.2029
<i>Surprise</i>	0	5	2.2867	3	1	1.0183	1	4	1.3732
<i>Satiety</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	2	3	0.4577
Texture									
<i>Soft</i>	38	28	1.8969	32	27	0.9462	22	28	1.1489
<i>Porous</i>	3	2	0.4573	0	0	-	0	0	-
<i>Dense</i>	4	6	0.6621	5	10	1.3872	6	10	1.0817
<i>Dry</i>	2	6	1.4666	3	1	1.0183	0	0	-
<i>Humid</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	1	4	1.3732
<i>Good texture</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	3	4	0.3906
Flavor									
<i>Strong</i>	3	5	0.7333	6	5	0.3175	0	0	-
<i>Bitter</i>	0	6	2.5166	30	24	1.1346	2	5	1.1717
<i>Salty</i>	6	5	0.3172	0	0	-	0	0	-
<i>Sweet</i>	6	6	0	4	4	0	1	6	1.9529
<i>Bitter residual</i>	0	0	-	3	12	2.4970	1	4	1.3732
<i>Light</i>	7	11	1.0274	6	0	2.5178	6	5	0.3178
<i>Medicine</i>	0	0	-	3	7	1.3254	0	0	-
<i>Propolis/Honey</i>	0	0	-	10	21	2.3231	0	0	-
<i>Grape</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	5	2.2887
Odor									
<i>Good smell</i>	3	4	0.3901	0	3	1.7557	0	0	-
Habits/Daily life									
<i>Market</i>	3	3	0	0	0	-	0	0	-
<i>Breakfast</i>	8	4	1.2207	3	2	0.4575	2	4	0.8397
<i>Margarine/ butter</i>	0	4	2.0360	3	2	0.4575	0	0	-

Dimensions and categories	NAM-green			NAP-yellow			NAG-purple		
	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test	<i>Blind condition</i>	<i>Informed condition</i>	Z test
<i>Memories (family, home, childhood)</i>	23	8	3.1573	13	5	2.0582	15	6	2.1834
Appearance									
<i>Weird/Ugly</i>	0	0	-	6	3	1.0427	3	6	1.0436
<i>Old/Mold</i>	0	0	-	0	0	-	3	0	1.7561
Health									
<i>Healthy (functional food)</i>	0	3	1.7553	0	0	-	4	5	0.3478
Ingredients/Production									
<i>Dough</i>	2	4	0.8388	4	4	0	3	2	0.4577
<i>Flour</i>	4	0	2.0360	0	0	-	5	1	1.6794
<i>Herbs</i>	0	0	-	3	1	1.0183	0	0	-
<i>Yeast/fermentation</i>	3	0	1.7553	0	0	-	3	1	1.0187

- 760 NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally
- 761 colored antioxidant red grape pomace added.
- 762 Show significant difference ($\alpha = 0.05$; $Z\alpha = 1.96$).

763 **Table 5** - Hedonic test results for the products added naturally colored antioxidants

Products	Naturally antioxidant	Blind condition	Informed condition	p t-test
Yogurt		5.14 ^a ±1.41	5.37 ^a ±1.27	0.38
Paté	Moringa	5.50 ^a ±1.01	5.58 ^a ±1,13	0.72
Bread		5.47 ^a ±1.08	5.53 ^a ±0,96	0.78
Yogurt		5.58 ^a ±1.18	5.84 ^a ±1.19	0.28
Paté	Propolis	5.29 ^a ±1.03	5.63 ^a ±0.93	0.09
Bread		4.41 ^b ±1.35	4.80 ^b ±1.46	0.14
Yogurt		5.63 ^a ±1.08	6.08 ^a ±0.95	0.03
Paté	Grape pomace	5.36 ^a ±1.18	5.77 ^{ab} ±0.97	0.06
Bread		5.27 ^a ±1.08	5.38 ^b ±1.09	0.58

764 p: p-value of T-test, $p \leq 0.05$ means statistic difference between conditions for each product in rows;765 Means of the different categories of food products added with one of the naturally colored antioxidant followed by equal
766 letters in the same column do not differ significantly by Tukey test ($p \geq 0.05$).

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Supplementary material

Potential use of naturally colored antioxidants in food industries - A study of consumers' perception and acceptance

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Table S1 - Formulation of yogurts added with extracts of moringa, propolis and red grape pomace

Ingredients	Formulations (%)		
	F1	F2	F3
UHT whole milk	85.00	85.00	85.00
Whole milk powder	3.00	3.00	3.00
Industrial dairy yeast	0.30	0.30	0.30
Sugar	11.50	11.50	11.50
Moringa extract	0.50	-	-
Propolis extract	-	0.50	-
Grape pomace extract	-	-	0.50

F1: Fermented milk with natural antioxidant extract from moringa; F2: Fermented milk added with natural antioxidant extract of propolis; F3: Fermented milk added with natural antioxidant extract of red grape pomace.

Table S2 - Formulation of chicken patés with extracts of moringa, propolis and red grape pomace

Ingredients	Formulations (%)		
	F1	F2	F1
Chicken meat	39.98	39.98	39.98
Sunflower oil	25.00	25.00	25.00
Cassava starch	4.00	4.00	4.00
Ice	25.00	25.00	25.00
Soy protein	2.50	2.50	2.50
Salt	1.30	1.30	1.30
TPF	0.50	0.50	0.50
Chili	0.12	0.12	0.12
Garlic	1.00	1.00	1.00
Parsley	0.10	0.10	0.10
BHT	-	-	-
Moringa extract	0.50	-	-
Propolis extract	-	0.50	-
Grape pomace extract	-	-	0.50

TPF: Sodium tripolyphosphate stabilizer; Control: chicken paté without antioxidant; F1: chicken pate added with natural antioxidant extract from moringa; F2: chicken paté added with natural antioxidant extract of propolis; F3: chicken paté added with natural antioxidant extract of red grape pomace.

Table S1 - Formulation of bread with extracts of moringa, propolis and red grape pomace

Ingredients	Formulations (%)		
	F1	F2	F3
Wheat flour	53.87	53.87	53.87
Salt	0.80	0.80	0.80
Sugar	2.41	2.41	2.41
Whole pasteurized milk	33.56	33.56	33.56
Eggs	5.91	5.91	5.91
Soy oil	2.42	2.42	2.42
Biological yeast	0.53	0.53	0.53
Moringa extract	0.50	-	-
Propolis extract	-	0.50	-
Grape pomace extract	-	-	0.50

F1: Bread added with natural antioxidant extract from moringa; F2: Bread added with natural antioxidant extract of propolis; F3: Bread added with natural antioxidant extract of red grape pomace.

Figure 1 - Lyophilized extracts of naturally colored antioxidants. A) NAM-green: *Moringa*; B) NAP-yellow: propolis; C) NAG-purple: red grape pomace.

Figure 2 –In order; Yogurts, patés and bread samples with natural antioxidants added: (A) NAM-green (*Moringa*); (B) NAP-yellow (propolis) and (C) NAG-purple (red grape pomace).

Figure 3 - Correspondence Analysis performed on data from Word Association task for yogurts. NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally colored antioxidant red grape pomace added. BC: *Blind condition*. IC: *Informed condition*.

Figure 4 - Correspondence Analysis performed on data from Word Association task for patés. NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally colored antioxidant red grape pomace added. BC: *Blind condition*. IC: *Informed condition*.

Figure 5 - Correspondence Analysis performed on data from Word Association task for bread. NAM-green: Naturally colored antioxidant *Moringa* added. NAP-yellow: Naturally colored antioxidant propolis added. NAG-purple: Naturally colored antioxidant red grape pomace added. BC: *Blind condition*. IC: *Informed condition*.

Fig. 1

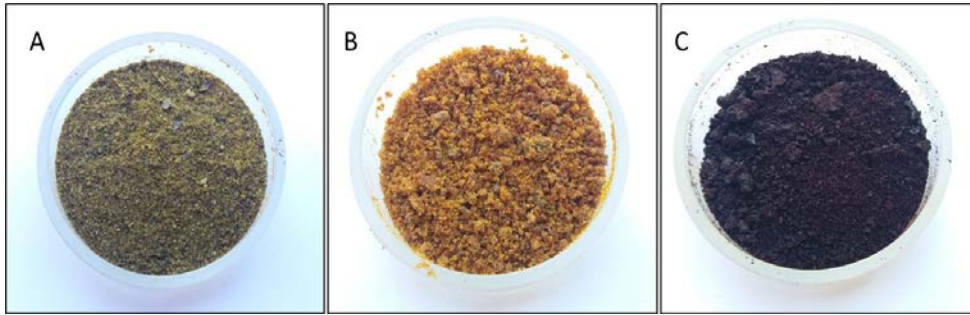


Fig. 2

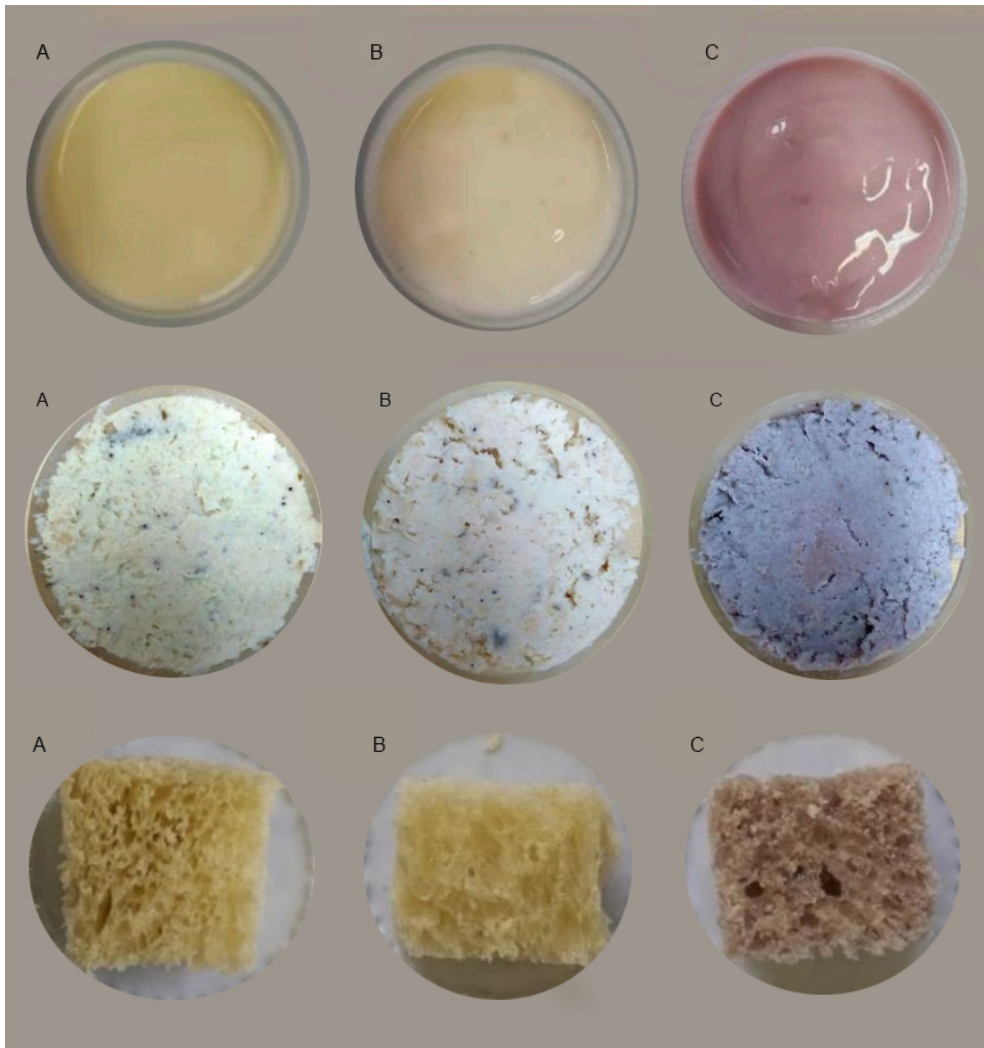


Fig. 3

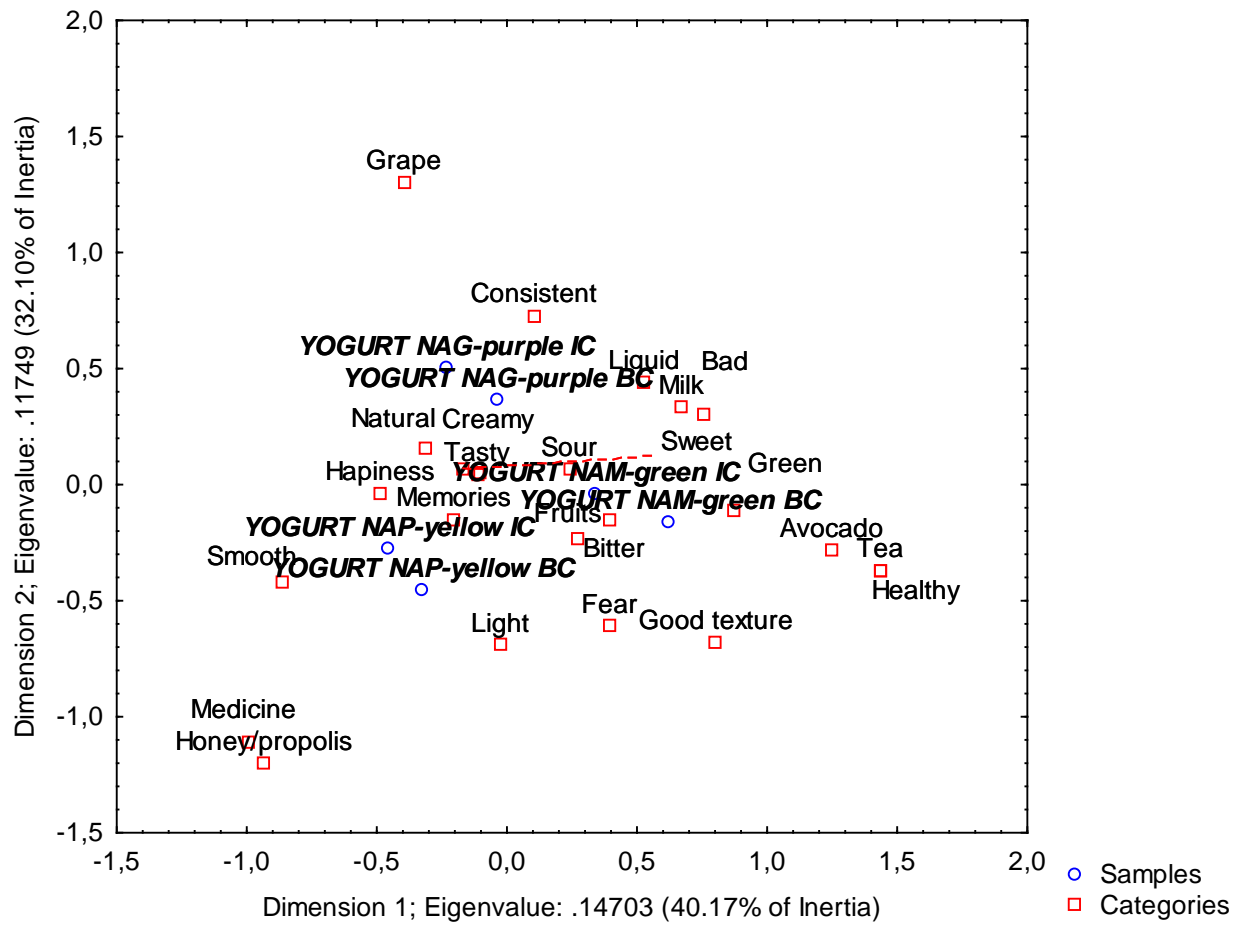
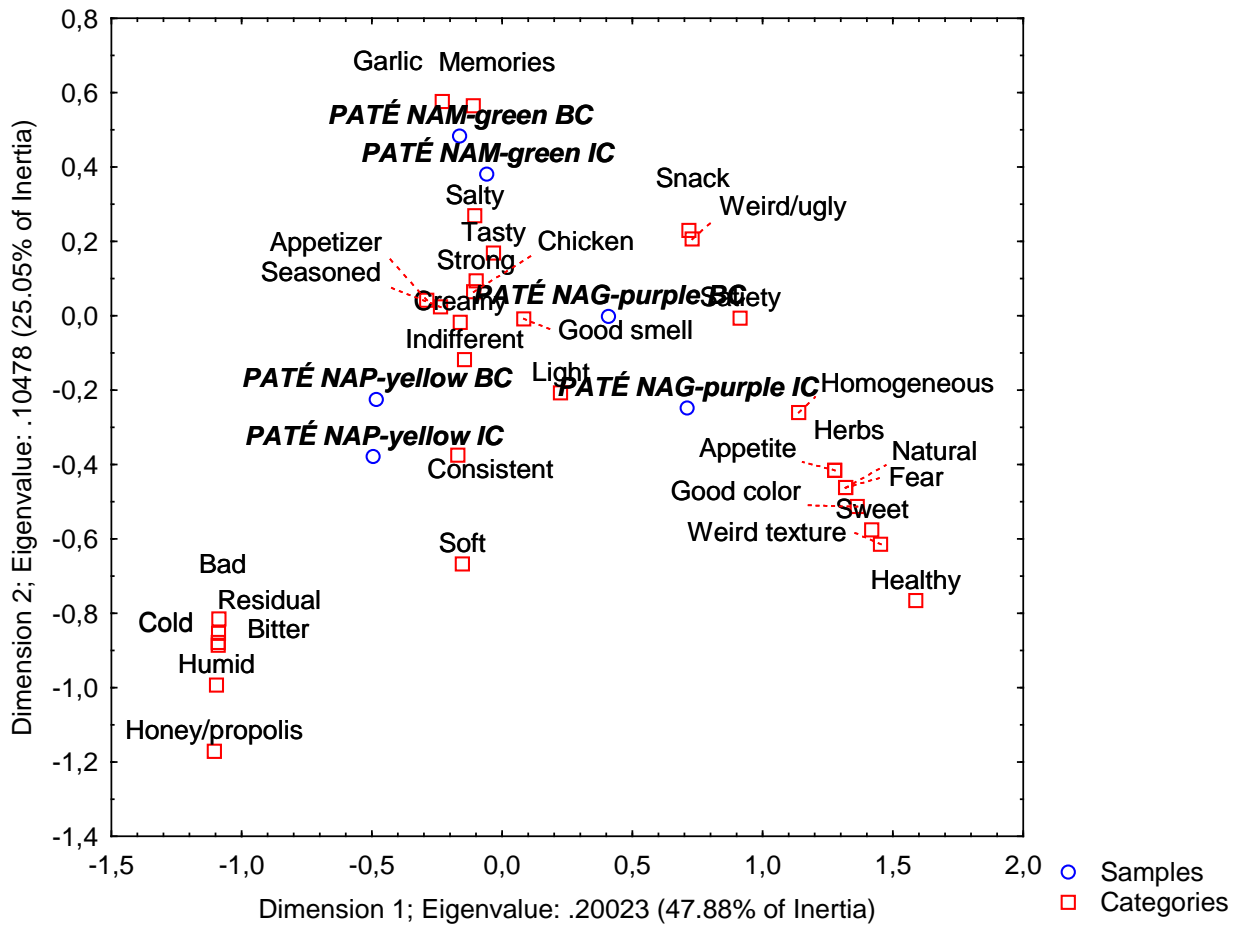
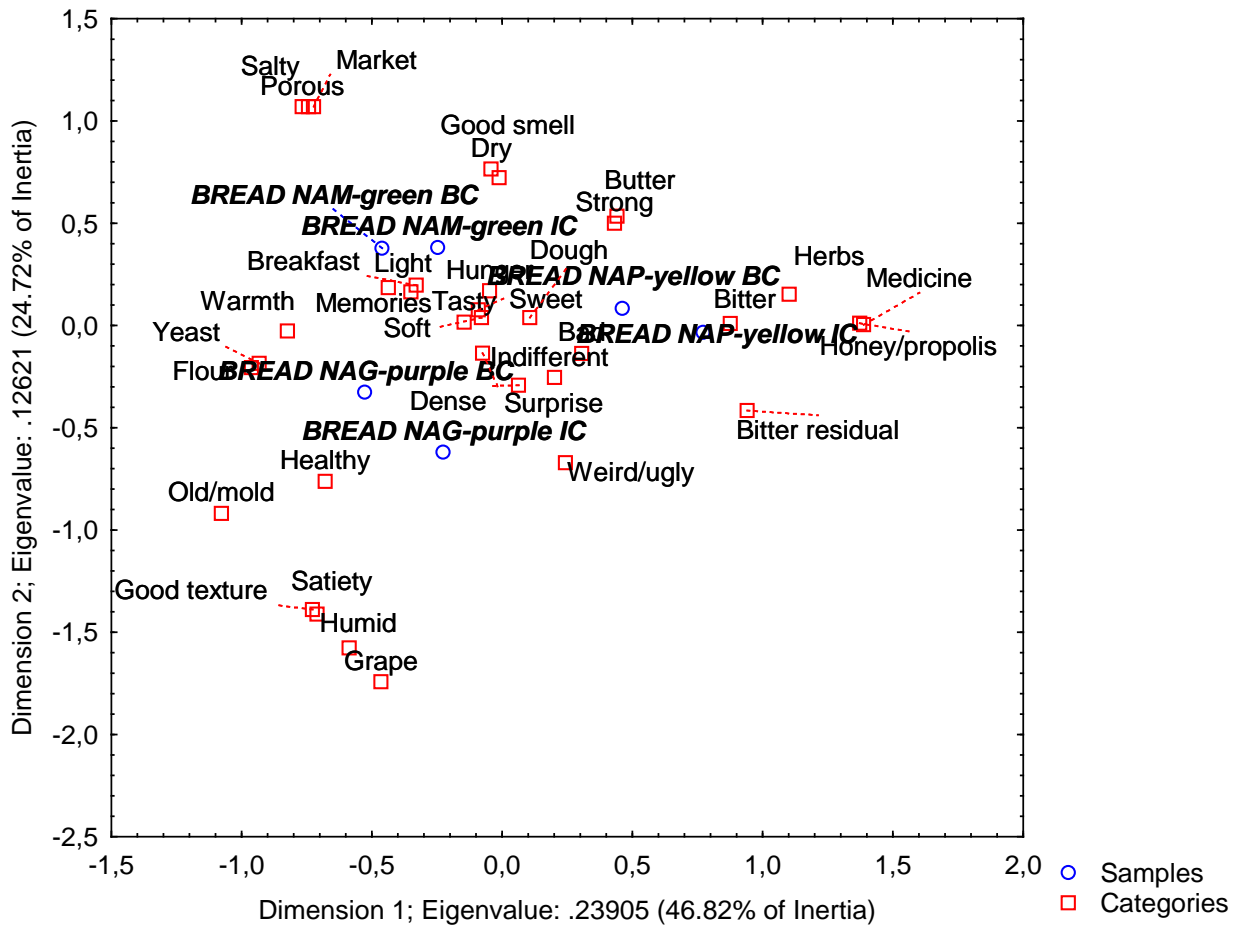


Fig. 4



1 **Fig. 5**

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