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**PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF COMMERCIAL FIBRES FROM  
DIFFERENT SOURCES: A COMPARATIVE APPROACH**

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**Running Title:** Characterization of different commercial fibres

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25 **ABSTRACT**

26 The lower intake of fibre and fibre-containing foods has refocused the food industry on the  
27 benefits of incorporating different fibres in the foodstuff. Nowadays, a whole range of fibres  
28 are available in the market, but sometimes a good choice becomes complicated due to their  
29 varied physico-chemical properties. In order to give some light when selecting fibres, a  
30 comparative study regarding some physical properties of commercial fibres from different  
31 sources is presented, with a view to increasing their use in food products, namely bakery  
32 products. Commercial fibres included in this study were hydroxypropylmethylcellulose,  
33 cellulose, locust bean gum, guar gum, inulin, galactooligosaccharides, oat and wheat fibres,  
34 and fibres extracted from apple and bamboo. Particle size distribution (PSD) of the dry  
35 commercial fibres ranged from around 10 to 334  $\mu\text{m}$ ; moreover PSD in wet (water and  
36 ethanol) form was also determined to have precise information about their behaviour when  
37 processing. Cereal fibres (oat 600 and wheat) exhibited the highest values for hydration  
38 properties (swelling, water holding and water binding capacity). Only the hydrocolloids  
39 (HPMC, locust bean gum and guar gum), with the exception of cellulose, yielded highly  
40 viscous solutions during the heating-cooling cycle; moreover oat 600 and apple fibre  
41 developed viscous solutions after cooling. HPMC, locust bean gum and guar gum  
42 significantly augmented the four SRC values, thus those hydrocolloids affected the relative  
43 contributions to water absorption of proteins, carbohydrates, damaged starch and pentosans.  
44 Fibre sources and degree of replacement significantly affected the SRC values for the four  
45 solvents in all the fibre groups, with the exception of lactic acid SRC in the case of cereal  
46 fibres. Differences in fibres effect on wheat flour quality can be easily detected by assessing  
47 solvent retention capacity, which can give information on the end use functionality of the  
48 wheat flour.

49 **Key words:** fibres, physico-chemical properties, hydration, particle size, viscosity.

50

## 51 INTRODUCTION

52 Substantial research carried out over the last three decades supports the beneficial role of the  
53 dietary fibre (DF) in health and nutrition pertaining to reduction in chronic ailments like  
54 cardiovascular disease, certain forms of cancer and constipation (Schaafsma, 2004; Lairon et  
55 al., 2005). The insoluble fraction of fibres has been related to the intestinal regulation,  
56 whereas soluble fibres are associated to the decrease in cholesterol levels and the absorption  
57 of intestinal glucose (Rodríguez, Jiménez, Fernández-Bolaños, Guillén, & Heredia, 2006).  
58 Hence, DF have gained popularity as food ingredients that provide health benefits (Redgwell  
59 & Fischer, 2005; Collar, 2008). Increasing consumer awareness about the potential  
60 therapeutical role of the DF has prompted the search of new DF sources. Numerous fibres  
61 have been isolated and characterized from completely different sources, and incorporated into  
62 different food products (Abdul-Hamid & Siew Luan, 2000; Chau, Wen & Wang, 2006). In  
63 fact, nowadays many fibre- enriched products have been launched to the market (Collar,  
64 2008). Fibres have been incorporated in wide variety of foods, like dairy, meat or fish, but  
65 bakery products are the preferred source of DF (Abdul-Hamid & Siew Luan, 2000; Sanchez-  
66 Alonso, Haji-Maleki & Borderias, 2007).

67 The physiological functions of the DF are often attributed to their physico-chemical  
68 properties, water holding capacity, swelling, rheological and fat binding properties and  
69 susceptibility to bacterial degradation or fermentation (Dikeman & Fahey, 2006). In fact, the  
70 beneficial healthy effect exerted by soluble fibre, lowering cholesterol and the rate of glucose  
71 absorption and post-prandial plasma glucose concentrations, has been associated to their  
72 viscosity (Dikeman et al., 2006). Physico-chemical properties of DF also play a fundamental  
73 role in their functionality, which has limited their use as food technological agents. The  
74 emergence of new fibre sources and also the new processing methods for improving their  
75 functionality have widened the applications of fibres in food industry (Chau et al., 2006), and

76 open new possibilities for designing fibre enriched products and for generating new textures  
77 in a range of applications.

78 Fibres can modify the consistency, texture, rheological properties and sensory characteristics  
79 of the fibre supplemented food products (Collar, Rosell, Muguerza & Moulay, 2008). In  
80 bakery products, the addition of fibres modifies the breadmaking performance of wheat  
81 dough, affecting mixing properties, rheological behaviour and viscometric pattern (Wang,  
82 Rosell & Benedito, 2002, Rosell, Santos & Collar, 2006, Collar, Santos & Rosell, 2006,  
83 2007), due to their interaction with the large polymers (starch and proteins) present in the  
84 system (Rojas, Rosell & Benedito, 1999; Symons & Brennan, 2004; Rosell & Foegeding,  
85 2007). In general, DF incorporation into water-flour systems could interfere with the protein  
86 association and its further aggregation during heating, likely occupying the space of the  
87 proteins in the gluten network; and concerning starch behaviour DF affects pasting  
88 characteristics of starch such as peak viscosity, breakdown and final viscosity. Those effects  
89 are also extended to bakery products where delayed endothermic transition temperatures for  
90 both gelatinisation and retrogradation phenomena except for the peak temperature of  
91 retrogradation have been described (Santos, Rosell & Collar, 2008). Water holding capacity,  
92 particle size distribution and apparent viscosity are repeatedly described as crucial fibre  
93 properties with a significant influence in food technology (Nelson, 2001).

94

95 The aim of this study was to characterize commercial fibres obtained from different sources  
96 concerning their physico-chemical properties (hydration properties, particle size distribution,  
97 shape and viscosity) to wide their application in the design of new food formulations, namely,  
98 bakery products.

99

## 100 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

101 Commercial fibres included in this study were classified into four different categories of DF,  
102 hydrocolloids, oligosaccharides, cereal fibre and fruit-tree fibre sources. Hydrocolloids  
103 included hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC K4M) from Dow Chemical (USA), guar gum  
104 from Carob SA (Spain), locust bean gum (Palgum) from Carob SA (Spain) and cellulose  
105 powder (Vitacel L) from Barentz Campi y Jové SL (Spain). Oligosaccharides category  
106 consisted of inuline (FOS) and polydextrose (GOS, Litesse II) from Danisco Sweeteners  
107 (Danisco USA). Cereal fibres comprised fibres from wheat (Vitacel WF600) and oat (Vitacel  
108 HF). Falling within the category of fruit and tree fibres, apple (Vitacel AF) provided by  
109 Barentz Campi y Jové SL (Spain) and bamboo fibre (Vitacel BAF) from Barentz Campi y  
110 Jové SL (Spain) were selected. Dietary fibre composition of those commercial fibres is  
111 depicted in Table 1. Commercial blend of Spanish wheat flours of 14.35 % moisture, 0.69 %  
112 ash content, 14.76 % protein, 80 Gluten Index, and Chopin Alveograph parameters: Energy of  
113 Deformation=  $306 \times 10^{-4}$  J, and curve configuration ratio = 0.68 were used. All chemical  
114 reagents were of analytical grade.

115

#### 116 **Fibre chemical characterization and colour**

117 Moisture, protein, ash and fat were determined following the corresponding ICC methods  
118 (1994). Carbohydrates were calculated by difference.

119 The color of the commercial fibres was measured directly in the powder at three different  
120 locations by using a Minolta colorimeter (Chroma Meter CR-400/410, Konica Minolta,  
121 Japan) after standardization with a white calibration plate ( $L^* = 96.9$ ,  $a^* = -0.04$ ,  $b^* = 1.84$ ).

122 The color was recorded using CIE- $L^*$   $a^*$   $b^*$  uniform color space (CIE-Lab), where  $L^*$   
123 indicates lightness,  $a^*$  indicates hue on a green (-) to red (+) axis, and  $b^*$  indicates hue on a  
124 blue (-) to yellow (+) axis. Whiteness was determined using the following formula:  
125 whiteness=  $100 - [(100-L^*)^2 * a^{*2} b^{*2}]^{1/2}$ , according to [Park \(1995\)](#).

126

#### 127 **Hydration properties**

128 Hydration properties included swelling, water holding capacity and water binding capacity  
129 (Nelson, 2001). Swelling or the volume occupied by a known weight of fibre was evaluated

130 by mixing 5g ( $\pm$  0.1 mg) of commercial fibre powder with 100mL distilled water and  
131 allowing it to hydrate during 16h. Water holding capacity defined as the amount of water  
132 retained by the sample without being subjected to any stress was determined suspending 5g ( $\pm$   
133 0.1 mg) of commercial fibre powder with 100mL distilled water and let them to hydrate  
134 overnight; then the hydrated solid was weighed after removing the excess of water and values  
135 were expressed as grams of water per gram of solid. Water binding capacity or the amount of  
136 water retained by the fibre after it has been subjected to centrifugation was measured as  
137 described the AACC method ([1994, 56-30](#)).

138

### 139 **Particle size distribution**

140 Particle size distribution was determined using a MasterSizer® Laser Diffraction Particle Size  
141 Analyzer (Malvern Instrument Ltd, Malvern, England) equipped with MS 15 Sample  
142 Presentation Unit (Refractive Index 1.590) for hydrated samples and PS 65 for dry samples.  
143 Distributions were made in triplicate for each sample, using 10 to 20 g sample weight for dry  
144 particle size distribution and 1 to 2 g in an aqueous suspension for hydrated particle size  
145 distribution. Size distribution was quantified as relative volume of particles in size bands  
146 presented as size distribution curves (Malvern MasterSizer Micro software v 5.40). PSD  
147 parameters recorded included specific surface area, largest particle size ( $D_{90}$ ), mean particle  
148 volume ( $D_{50}$ ), smallest particle size ( $D_{10}$ ), Sauter mean diameter ( $D[3,2]$ ) and mean particle  
149 diameter ( $D[4,3]$ ) as described previously ([Afoakwa, Paterson & Fowler, 2008](#)).

150

### 151 **Apparent viscosity**

152 Apparent viscosity was determined using the rapid viscoanalyzer (RVA) (Newport Scientific  
153 model 4-SA, Warriewood, Australia) by following the ICC Approved Standard 162 (ICC,

154 1996). Commercial fibre powders (3.5g) were suspended in 25 mL distilled water. Viscosity  
155 related parameters were obtained from the recorded plots (Collar, 2003).

156

### 157 **Solvent retention capacity**

158 Solvent retention capacity (SRC) defined as the weight of solvent held by wheat flour after  
159 centrifugation was determined as described in AACC method (1994, 56-11). The results are  
160 expressed as percent of flour weight, on a 14% moisture basis. Four solvents are  
161 independently used to produce four SRC values: water SRC, 50% sucrose SRC, 5% sodium  
162 carbonate SRC, and 5% lactic acid SRC.

163

### 164 **Scanning electron microscopy**

165 The microstructure of the commercial DF was analysed by scanning electron microscopy  
166 (SEM). Powder samples were mounted on metal stubs and sputter-coated with 100-200Å  
167 thick layer of gold and palladium by Ion Sputter (Bio-Rad SC-500). Sample analysis was  
168 performed at an accelerating voltage of 10kV with a SEM Hitachi 4100 from the SCSIE  
169 Department of the University of Valencia.

170

### 171 **Statistical analysis**

172 All data were presented as mean values of at least three replicates  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD)  
173 and analyzed by nonparametric one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) using Tukey test  
174 ( $p < 0.05$ ). When ANOVA indicated significant  $F$  values, multiple sample comparison was also  
175 performed by Tukey HSD test in order to detect significant differences.

176

## 177 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 178 **Chemical composition of commercial fibres**

179 Eleven commercial DF were used in this study, and their physico-chemical properties  
180 compared. They contained different proportions of soluble and insoluble dietary fibres,  
181 according to the supplier composition (Table 1). HPMC, locust bean, guar gum, inulin and  
182 GOS were considered soluble fibres, whereas cellulose, oat 401, oat 600, wheat and bamboo  
183 contained mainly insoluble fibre. Fibre from apple was composed by 25:75 soluble: insoluble  
184 fibres.

185 Regarding the chemical composition (Table 2), the fibres tested contained very low fat  
186 content, the highest amount was observed in locust bean and bamboo, which had a fat content  
187 of 1.03 and 1.98%, respectively. Ash content varied from 0.01 % observed in GOS to 1.48 %  
188 obtained in oat 600. Only higher ash content values were determined in guar gum and oat 401.  
189 Wider range was observed in the protein levels that varied from 0.05% (HPMC and GOS) to  
190 6.94% (locust bean). Nevertheless, only locust bean , guar gum and apple fibre showed  
191 protein levels higher than 1%.

192 Chemical composition of the commercial fibres tested revealed their readiness to be used as  
193 food ingredients with very low content on ash and fat, and variable content of proteins. In  
194 consequence, the carbohydrate content of all the fibres tested was very high, ranged from 82  
195 to 98%, with the exception of locust bean that contained around 79% carbohydrates.  
196 Compared to previously reported results, an increase in fibre purity is observed, for instance  
197 apple fibre composition was reported 2.45, 1.27 and 7.25% for fat, ash and protein content,  
198 respectively (Chen, Rubenthaler, Leung & Baranowski, 1988).

199

## 200 **Color of commercial fibres**

201 The color parameters of the fibres are showed in Table 3. Lightness values ( $L^*$ ) of the fibres  
202 ranged from 85.4 to 88.5; with the exception of locust bean gum and apple fibre that showed  
203 lower lightness values (80.5 and 54.0, respectively). Lightness of ingredients plays an



204 important role in bakery products due to consumer preferences. In fact, numerous efforts have  
205 been devoted to lighten the color of the grains and grains products (Metzger, 2003).  
206 The hue green ( $-a^*$ ) varied from 2.2 to 0.22, whereas apple fibre showed the highest redness.  
207 The brownish values showed great disparity among the different fibres, having the cellulose  
208 the lowest value and the highest value was observed in the apple fibre . The hue yellow ( $b^*$ )  
209 had great variation, but two main groups could be distinguished. Fibres having  $b^*$  values  
210 higher than ten (between 10 and 20) comprised apple, oat 401, GOS and guar gum. In  
211 addition, the other fibres had values ranged from three to nine, having the highest value the  
212 locust bean gum, whereas cellulose showed the lowest  $b^*$  value. Whiteness was calculated in  
213 order to have better picture of the overall color of the fibres tested. According to whiteness  
214 values (Park, 1995), fibres could be grouped into four sets, the higher whiteness values (85-  
215 90) were observed in HPMC, cellulose, inulin, oat 600, wheat and bamboo fibres,  
216 intermediate (78-80) whiteness values were observed in locust bean and guar gum, and lower  
217 whiteness values (67-72) were obtained for GOS and oat 401. Apple fibre was again an  
218 exception, showing negative value of whiteness.

219

## 220 **Particle size distribution and microstructure**

221 Particle size distribution is of major importance, determining both fibre technological  
222 functionality and fibre role in the digestive tract (transit time, fermentation, faecal excretion).  
223 The shape, and consequently the size of the fibres, depends on degree of processing and also  
224 it may vary during transit in the intestine tract as result of digestion processes. Special  
225 attention has been paid to the effect of particle size on breadmaking performance, where  
226 fibrous materials have been associated to reduced gas retention and fine bran related to low  
227 bread volume, dark crumb color, smooth crust appearance and reduced gritty mouthfeel  
228 (Zhang & Moore, 1999). Although for fibres characterization and comparative purposes size

229 of dry fibres is of interest, they can vary during food processing and some components  
230 involved in cohesiveness of the fibre matrix may be solubilised ([Guillom & Champ, 2000](#)).  
231 Therefore, in the present study, fibres size was determined in dry and wet forms, since some  
232 fibres swell in water and their particle size increase, besides alcoholic suspensions were also  
233 used for assessing particle size distribution in order to eliminate possible artifacts due to non-  
234 fibre components of the commercial powders. The particle size distribution (PSD) of the  
235 different commercial powders is presented in Tables 4, 5, 6. Commercial fibres showed great  
236 variation in specific surface area, Sauter mean diameter ( $D[3,2]$ ), mean particle diameter  
237 ( $D[4,3]$ ), the largest mean and the smallest particles size. Very wide variation of PSD was  
238 observed in dry and wet dispersion using  $D_{90}$  (90% finer than this size). The  $D_{90}$  has been  
239 used to characterize chocolate powder because its correlation to sensory properties ([Afoakwa  
240 et al., 2008](#)). The highest particle size (compared using  $D_{90}$ ) in dry dispersion was observed in  
241 GOS, followed by locust bean gum, HPMC and apple fibre. In contrast, bamboo fibre was the  
242 smallest one followed by cellulose (Table 4). Oat fibre 401 had smaller PSD than oat 600 and  
243 significant higher specific surface area, which was readily evident when comparing their  
244 shapes (Figure 1). Oat 401, like locust bean gum, guar gum, apple fibre and HPMC contained  
245 particles of very irregular shape, showing structures with rounded edges (Figure 1).  
246 Conversely, oat 600, cellulose, wheat and bamboo fibre showed fibrous structures with thread  
247 like particles of different sizes. Inulin was comprised of granular particles with numerous  
248 aggregates with modular shape, whereas the other oligosaccharide (FOS) contained more  
249 angular particles with sharp edges (Figure 1). The volume histograms showed the particle size  
250 dispersion of the commercial fibres in dry and wet dispersion (Figure 2). Cellulose showed  
251 narrow unimodal distribution accompanied of two very small populations located at lower and  
252 higher PS (Figure 2A). HPMC, locust bean gum, guar gum, inulin, oat 600, wheat fibre and  
253 bamboo fibre showed narrow unimodal distribution for particle size (only data corresponding

254 to inulin showed, Figure 2B); whereas wide unimodal distribution was obtained for GOS, oat  
255 401 and apple fibre (showed oat 401).

256 When particle size was determined in wet form, some variations were observed in the  
257 distribution. Using ethanol as dispersant (Table 5), insoluble fibres decreased the smallest  
258 particle size ( $D_{10}$ ), likely due to the solubilization of some contaminant components or the  
259 dispersion of some fibre aggregates; in opposition, soluble fibres, regardless guar gum,  
260 increased the smallest particle size, presumably due to their partial swelling in ethanol. This  
261 effect was particularly significant in the case of oligosaccharides (inulin and GOS), which  
262 showed a dramatic increase of the largest PS ( $D_{90}$ ) in ethanol. In water only the PSD of the  
263 insoluble fibres were determined (Table 6), observing a noticeable increase of the largest PS  
264 in oat 600, apple and bamboo fibres, surely due to swelling. This result confirmed the absence  
265 of soluble material in the commercial fibre powders. There is no general agreement about the  
266 more suitable particle size of the fibres for breadmaking products. Some studies concluded  
267 that smaller fibre particle size gave better baking performance ([Sangnark & Noomhorm,](#)  
268 [2003](#)), while other reports described the detrimental effect of fine fibre particles on bread  
269 quality ([Zhang & Moore, 1999](#)). Only in the case of cellulose a study has been focussed on  
270 the effect of particle size of cellulose granules, concluding that granules above the size of 154  
271  $\mu\text{m}$  were recommended for obtaining normal breadmaking properties ([Seguchi et al., 2007](#)).  
272 However, the PSD of the dry commercial fibres included in this study ranged from around 10  
273 to 334  $\mu\text{m}$ , which might be considered as fine particles according to those previous studies.

274

### 275 **Hydration properties**

276 Hydration properties were determined on the commercial powders that contained insoluble  
277 fibres. Cereal fibres (oat 600 and wheat) exhibited the highest values for swelling, water  
278 holding and water binding capacity (Table 7). Swelling values were comprised within the

279 range 5.5 and 11.9 mL/g reported by [Guillon et al. \(2000\)](#) when listed the hydration  
280 characteristics of fibres with different particle size; and the same occurred for the water  
281 binding capacity that varied from 3.5 to 6.8 g water/g dry pellet. Oat 401, which has lower  
282 particle size distribution and higher specific surface area than oat 600, showed the lowest  
283 values for swelling and water holding and water binding capacities. Apple fibre also showed  
284 higher swelling and water holding capacity than those of cellulose and bamboo. Concerning  
285 the water binding capacity, cellulose showed higher value than the apple fibre and bamboo  
286 fibre. Typically, a reduction in the particle size of the dietary fibres has been associated to  
287 lower ability to retain water and oil binding capacity ([Zhang et al., 1997](#); [Sangnark et al.,](#)  
288 [2003](#)); although it has been also speculated that in the absence of matrix structure a reduction  
289 in the particle size might expose large surface area, and simultaneously more polar groups  
290 with water binding sites, to the surrounding water ([Chau et al., 2006](#); [Rosell et al., 2006](#)). In  
291 the present study, no relationship between hydration properties and PSD was detected; indeed  
292 bamboo fibre had the smallest PSD without showing great hydration properties. This result  
293 agrees with previous findings that no significant correlation was found between the particle  
294 size of inuline (Fibruline), Fibrex (sieve openings 150µm), and pea cell walls fibre (Exafine  
295 sieve openings 200-500µm, Swelite sieve openings 100-200µm) and their hydration  
296 properties ([Rosell et al., 2006](#)). Certainly, not only fibre size determines its hydration, also  
297 chemical structure and shape play an essential role ([Robertson & Eastwood, 1981](#)). Therefore,  
298 general assumption about relationship between PSD and hydration can be only established  
299 within fibres subjected to different processes for particle reduction ([Chau et al., 2006](#)), and in  
300 turn, effect of particle size on water sorption cannot be generalized and must be assessed for  
301 each type of fibre ([Strange & Onwulata, 2002](#)).

302

303 Hydration properties significantly determine the fate of DF in regulating colonic function and  
304 also account for some of their physiological effects (Guillon et al., 2000). In fact, high water  
305 binding capacity of DF is related to low digestibility, high volume and weight of feces in *in*  
306 *vivo* experiments (Wisker, Daniel & Feldheim, 1996; Huang, Sheu, Lee, Chau, 2008).  
307 Moreover, high water retention capacity has been associated to reduction in the gelatinization  
308 of starch, which is relevant to human nutrition where the degree of starch gelatinization can  
309 affect the postprandial sugar availability in foods (Symons et al., 2004). Additionally, liquid  
310 retention is of concern to the food industry because it influences ingredients functionality,  
311 product yield and shelf stability, being particularly important in the case of baked goods,  
312 where water takes part in the phenomena associated to starch gelatinization, protein unfolding  
313 and yeast activation during mixing and baking (Rosell et al., 2006; Collar et al., 2007).

314

### 315 **Apparent viscosity**

316 Fibres contribute to the viscosity of food systems (Dikeman et al., 2006). Viscosity of the  
317 commercial fibres were determined using the rapid viscoanalyzer, since it is a very sensitive  
318 and descriptive of the processing effects caused by water content and thermal and mechanical  
319 input (Whalen, Bason, Booth, Walker & Williams, 1997). Only the hydrocolloids (HPMC,  
320 locust bean gum and guar gum), with the exception of cellulose, yielded highly viscous  
321 solutions during the heating-cooling cycle (Table 8), although they showed distinct behavior.  
322 HPMC increased its viscosity during heating till reached 51°C, where the gelation process  
323 takes place (Rosell et al., 2007), and an accentuated decrease of the viscosity is observed that  
324 continued till the end of holding period at 95°C; on the subsequent cooling till 50°C a  
325 recovery of the viscosity was observed indicating the thermo-reversibility of the gel. Locust  
326 bean gum gave high initial viscosity that increased with the temperature, only a decrease in  
327 viscosity was observed a short period during cooling from 95°C to 70°C (results not showed),

328 but further cooling rose again its viscosity. In the case of guar gum, it gave a viscous  
329 suspension that did not change during heating and showed a significant viscosity increase  
330 during cooling till 50°C. Some viscosity was also developed by apple fibre and oat 600,  
331 showing the same pattern than guar gum, that was increasing viscosity only after heating and  
332 cooling. It has been reported that apple fibre undergoes irreversible changes during heating,  
333 likely due to aggregation of some macromolecules that is responsible of the increased  
334 viscosity after cooling, and no gelation is produced after heating and cooling (Chen et al.,  
335 1988). In contrast, oat 401 did not increase viscosity, the reduction of the particle size resulted  
336 in decreased apparent viscosity (Dikeman et al., 2006). A small decrease of viscosity could be  
337 envisaged in the rest of the fibres during heating and cooling, likely due to the thermal and  
338 shear constraints. It has been described that inulin also forms gel, but only at concentrations  
339 greater than 15% in water at room temperature (Nelson, 2001; Meyer, 2004), which are much  
340 higher than the one used in the present study (around 3%). Although cereal fibres, and fruit  
341 derived fibres can vary viscosity, plant derived gums are the most widely used as thickening  
342 agents to increase the viscosity in food systems (Nelson, 2001). Considering the effect of  
343 soluble fibres on the glycaemic response is mostly dependant on their capacity to increase the  
344 viscosity of the digest in the gastrointestinal tract (Guillon et al., 2000; Dikeman et al., 2006),  
345 hydrocolloids would be the most effective fibres for controlling that response.

346

### 347 **Solvent retention capacity**

348 It is clear that fibre functionality in food formulations derived from its interaction and spatial  
349 arrangement within the biopolymers system (Redgwell et al., 2005), thus to determine the  
350 potential functionality of the commercial fibres in bakery products the four solvent retention  
351 profile has been evaluated. This method has been conceived to produce a combined pattern of  
352 the four SRC values to establish a practical flour quality/functionality profile that is very

353 useful for predicting baking performance and specification conformance, showing high degree  
354 of correlation between SRC methods and other quality parameters (Gaines, 2000). Generally,  
355 lactic acid SRC is associated with glutenin characteristics, sodium carbonate SRC is related to  
356 levels of damaged starch, and sucrose SRC with pentosan characteristics. Water SRC is  
357 influenced by all of those flour constituents. This method has been selected to obtain an  
358 overall picture of the effect of different commercial fibres on wheat flour quality concerning  
359 its potential in breadmaking performance (Table 9, 10). The replacement of wheat flour by  
360 increasing amounts of commercial fibres (5 and 10%) significantly modified the SRC profile  
361 of the wheat flour, that effect was significantly dependent on the fibre source and fibre degree  
362 (Table 9). The fibre source x fibre degree effects were highly significant for all four solvents  
363 in all the fibre groups, with the exception of lactic acid SRC in the case of cereal fibres (Table  
364 9). Therefore, differences in fibres effect on wheat flour quality can be easily detected by  
365 assessing solvent retention capacity, which can give information about the end use  
366 functionality of the wheat flour, since SRC values have been correlated to surgar-snap cookie  
367 bake tests and alveograph tests (Guttieri, Bowen, Gannon, O'Brien & Souza, 2001). Fibre  
368 SRC behaviour responded to the classification initially suggested (hydrocolloids, prebiotics,  
369 cereal fibres, and fruit and tree sources of fibres). With the exception of hydrocolloid group  
370 (Table 10), a relatively narrow range of SRC values were obtained for all the solvents, and  
371 lactic acid SRC was the least affected value; thus considering the positive correlation between  
372 lactic acid SRC and protein quality (Guttieri et al., 2001; Guttieri & Souza, 2003), fibres (with  
373 the exception of hydrocolloids) exerted a minor action on protein quality. Fibres acting as  
374 prebiotics showed the least effect on SRC, being carbonate SRC and water SRC the most  
375 affected values showing a concentration dependent decrease with respect to wheat flour  
376 values, and that effect was higher in GOS than inulin. Fibres from cereals, tree and fruits  
377 induced a slight increase of sucrose SRC, carbonate SRC and water SRC, and apple fibre

378 promoted the highest effect. The largest effect on the four SRC values was caused by  
379 hydrocolloids, regardless cellulose that showed similar effect to cereal fibres. HPMC, locust  
380 bean gum and guar gum significantly increased the four SRC values, being particularly great  
381 the effect produced by HPMC on water SRC and the locust bean gum on sucrose SRC,  
382 carbonate SRC and lactic acid SRC. Therefore, those hydrocolloids were affecting the relative  
383 contributions to water absorption of proteins, carbohydrates, damaged starch and pentosans.

384

385

386 Commercial fibres belonging to different categories (hydrocolloids, oligosaccharides, cereal  
387 fibres, and fibres from trees or fruits) showed varied physical enclosed particle size, shape,  
388 hydration and viscosity. Particle size distribution of the dry commercial fibres ranged from  
389 around 10 to 334  $\mu\text{m}$ ; moreover PSD in wet (water and ethanol) form was also determined to  
390 have precise information about their behavior when processing. Cereal fibres (oat 600 and  
391 wheat) exhibited the highest values for hydration properties (swelling, water holding and  
392 water binding capacity) and it was not possible to establish a correlation between PSD and  
393 hydration, thus water sorption cannot envisaged from particle size and must be assessed for  
394 each type of fibre. The four solvent retention (SRC) profile was assessed for determining the  
395 fibres role on flour quality/functionality profile that is very useful for predicting baking  
396 performance. The replacement of wheat flour by increasing amounts of commercial fibres (5  
397 and 10%) significantly modified the SRC profile of the wheat flour, that effect was  
398 significantly dependent on the fibre source and fibre degree. Differences in fibres effect on  
399 wheat flour quality can be easily detected by assessing solvent retention capacity, which can  
400 give information about the end use functionality of the wheat flour.

401

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406

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503 performance and quality. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 79, 805-809.  
504

505 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

506

507 **Figure 1.** Scanning electron micrographs (x 200 magnification) of different commercial  
508 fibres. A: HPMC, B: cellulose, C: locust bean gum, D: guar gum, E: inulin, F: GOS, G: oat  
509 401, H: oat 600, I: wheat fibre, J: apple fibre, K: bamboo fibre.

510

511 **Figure 2.** Particle size distribution of several commercial fibres in dry or wet (water, ethanol)  
512 suspension. A: cellulose, B: inulin, C: oat 401.

513

514

515 **Table 1.** Dietary fibre composition of the commercial fibres tested. Data from suppliers.  
 516

<b>Fibers</b>	<b>Total dietary fiber (g/100g)</b>	<b>Soluble (g/100g)</b>	<b>Insoluble (g/100g)</b>
HPMC	100	100	0
Cellulose*	98	1	97
Locust bean	78	78	0
Guar gum	85	85	0
Inulin**	97	97	0
GOS+	90	90	0
Wheat*	97	2.5	94.5
Oat 401*	90	5	85
Oat 600*	96	3	93
Apple*	60	15	45
Bamboo*	97	0	97

\* AOAC method

\*\* AOAC method 997.08

+ HPLC

517  
 518

519

520 **Table 2.** Proximate chemical composition of commercial fibres from different sources.

521

Fibers	Chemical composition (g/100g, as is)				
	Moisture	Fat	Ash	Proteins	Carbohydrates*
<b>HPMC</b>	3.17 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	0.21 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00	96.53 ± 0.44
<b>Cellulose</b>	5.88 ± 0.01	0.15 ± 0.00	0.14 ± 0.00	0.43 ± 0.02	93.40 ± 0.51
<b>Locust bean gum</b>	12.21 ± 0.01	1.03 ± 0.02	1.02 ± 0.00	6.94 ± 0.07	78.79 ± 0.34
<b>Guar gum</b>	10.91 ± 0.03	0.38 ± 0.02	2.54 ± 0.01	3.82 ± 0.04	82.34 ± 0.01
<b>Inulin</b>	5.73 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	0.10 ± 0.01	0.21 ± 0.07	93.93 ± 0.10
<b>GOS</b>	1.97 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.00	0.05 ± 0.00	97.94 ± 0.25
<b>Oat 401</b>	6.61 ± 0.06	0.14 ± 0.03	4.08 ± 0.01	0.75 ± 0.00	88.43 ± 0.75
<b>Oat 600</b>	6.43 ± 0.00	0.04 ± 0.01	1.48 ± 0.00	0.14 ± 0.00	91.92 ± 0.53
<b>Wheat</b>	6.93 ± 0.00	0.10 ± 0.00	0.59 ± 0.00	0.10 ± 0.00	92.28 ± 0.81
<b>Apple</b>	5.87 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	1.38 ± 0.01	4.82 ± 0.00	87.90 ± 0.54
<b>Bamboo</b>	7.06 ± 0.00	1.98 ± 0.14	0.24 ± 0.00	0.09 ± 0.00	90.63 ± 1.02

522 \* calculated by difference

523 \* calculated by difference.

524 Mean of three replicates ± standard deviation.

525



526 **Table 3.** Color tristimulus parameters' of different commercial dietary fibres <sup>a</sup>

527

Fibers	CIE-Lab			
	L*	a*	b*	Whiteness
<b>HPMC</b>	87.64 ± 0.62 de	-0.66 ± 0.14 ef	3.99 ± 0.07 c	87.99 ± 0.74 fg
<b>Cellulose</b>	88.50 ± 1.88 e	-0.54 ± 0.23 ef	2.85 ± 0.10 a	89.77 ± 1.81 g
<b>Locust bean gum</b>	80.51 ± 0.20 b	-0.46 ± 0.07 f	9.33 ± 0.06 g	79.86 ± 0.20 d
<b>Guar gum</b>	85.38 ± 0.71 c	-1.50 ± 0.01 b	10.24 ± 0.09 h	78.34 ± 0.41 d
<b>Inulin</b>	85.57 ± 0.37 c	-1.23 ± 0.06 c	7.04 ± 0.06 f	83.64 ± 0.48 e
<b>GOS</b>	85.97 ± 1.38 c	-2.16 ± 0.04 a	10.88 ± 0.12 i	71.86 ± 0.74 c
<b>Oat 401</b>	86.24 ± 0.97 cd	-2.21 ± 0.01 a	13.59 ± 0.19 j	67.16 ± 0.23 b
<b>Oat 600</b>	86.02 ± 0.19 c	-1.00 ± 0.06 d	6.43 ± 0.11 e	84.68 ± 0.09 ef
<b>Wheat</b>	85.65 ± 0.95 c	-0.22 ± 0.10 g	4.58 ± 0.06 d	85.78 ± 0.92 efg
<b>Apple</b>	53.95 ± 0.38 a	6.74 ± 0.17 h	20.22 ± 0.35 k	-39.26 ± 5.14 a
<b>Bamboo</b>	87.52 ± 0.15 de	-0.73 ± 0.23 e	3.45 ± 0.02 b	87.29 ± 0.11 fg

<sup>a</sup>Data are the mean values of three replicates ± SD.

528 Means sharing the same letter within a column were not significantly different (P<0.05) (n=3).

529

530 **Table 4.** Particle size distribution (PSD) of the commercial fibre powders.

PSD in dry dispersion						
Fibers	Specific surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	D <sub>10</sub> (µm)	D <sub>50</sub> (µm)	D[3,2] (µm)	D[4,3] (µm)	D <sub>90</sub> (µm)
HPMC	0.1	24.3	89.0	41.6	111.4	232.8
Cellulose	0.2	14.3	40.0	27.8	164.4	97.7
Locust bean gum	0.1	36.8	139.8	70.4	145.0	256.3
Guar gum	0.1	25.7	82.3	43.2	89.1	161.9
Inulin	0.2	17.6	75.9	31.4	85.0	165.6
GOS	0.2	7.2	68.3	35.4	189.9	334.3
Oat 401	0.4	6.7	40.4	14.0	51.0	112.0
Oat 600	0.2	16.2	52.3	28.6	62.6	125.2
Wheat	0.3	13.8	42.2	23.9	61.1	104.9
Apple	0.2	13.1	71.7	28.1	96.3	218.0
Bamboo	0.3	11.5	30.0	17.8	34.3	63.7

D<sub>10</sub>, D<sub>50</sub>, D[3,2], D[4,3] and D<sub>90</sub> represent 10%, 50%, Sauter mean diameter, mean particle diameter and 90% of all particles finer than this size, respectively.

531

532 **Table 5.** Particle size distribution (PSD) of the commercial fibres suspended in ethanol  
 533 solution.

534

<b>PSD in ethanol solution</b>						
<b>Fibers</b>	Specific surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	D <sub>10</sub> (μm)	D <sub>50</sub> (μm)	D[3,2] (μm)	D[4,3] (μm)	D <sub>90</sub> (μm)
HPMC	0.1	25.8	101.3	40.5	127.0	267.4
Cellulose	0.3	12.7	38.9	20.7	50.6	100.6
Locust bean gum	0.1	39.9	140.0	62.9	148.2	261.5
Guar gum	0.3	17.0	70.7	23.3	79.1	152.9
Inulin	0.0	86.1	155.9	140.9	170.7	277.6
GOS	0.1	31.0	169.0	49.9	211.6	458.2
Oat 401	0.5	5.9	36.4	12.1	49.1	110.2
Oat 600	0.3	12.8	48.6	19.4	62.2	124.4
Wheat	0.4	11.1	36.6	16.8	45.0	92.9
Apple	0.3	12.6	63.6	22.1	83.7	188.4
Bamboo	0.4	9.1	28.8	14.1	33.6	65.5

D<sub>10</sub>, D<sub>50</sub>, D[3,2], D[4,3] and D<sub>90</sub> represent 10%, 50%, Sauter mean diameter, mean particle diameter and 90% of all particles finer than this size, respectively.

535

536

537 **Table 6.** Particle size distribution (PSD) of the commercial fibres suspended in water.

538

<b>PSD in water solution</b>						
<b>Fibers</b>	Specific surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	D <sub>10</sub> (μm)	D <sub>50</sub> (μm)	D[3,2] (μm)	D[4,3] (μm)	D <sub>90</sub> (μm)
HPMC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cellulose	0.3	13.0	39.1	20.5	50.4	105.0
Locust bean gum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guar gum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inulin	-	-	-	-	-	-
GOS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oat 401	0.4	7.4	40.0	14.7	53.3	115.7
Oat 600	0.3	14.8	53.0	23.5	73.1	140.9
Wheat	0.3	12.6	40.2	19.4	50.3	103.7
Apple	0.2	15.3	87.0	34.6	125.0	285.9
Bamboo	0.4	11.3	32.4	16.4	38.7	75.6

D<sub>10</sub>, D<sub>50</sub>, D[3,2], D[4,3] and D<sub>90</sub> represent 10%, 50%, Sauter mean diameter, mean particle diameter and 90% of all particles finer than this size, respectively.

539

540 **Table 7.** Hydration properties of the commercial fibres used in this study

541

<b>Fibers</b>	<b>Swelling (mL/g)</b>	<b>WHC (g water/g solid)</b>	<b>WBC (g water/ g solid)</b>
<b>HPMC</b>	na	na	na
<b>Cellulose</b>	6.2 ± 0.60 b	5.57 ± 0.48 c	3.99 ± 0.20 de
<b>Locust bean gum</b>	na	na	na
<b>Guar gum</b>	na	na	na
<b>Inulin</b>	11.79 ± 0.79 f	11.05 ± 0.49 f	1.16 ± 0.09 a
<b>GOS</b>	na	na	na
<b>Oat 401</b>	4.98 ± 0.02 a	3.69 ± 0.16 a	3.11 ± 0.07 b
<b>Oat 600</b>	7.60 ± 0.20 e	6.89 ± 0.04 e	4.79 ± 0.05 f
<b>Wheat</b>	7.07 ± 0.07 cd	6.49 ± 0.12 de	4.15 ± 0.19 e
<b>Apple</b>	6.89 ± 0.11 c	6.12 ± 0.11 d	3.85 ± 0.02 d
<b>Bamboo</b>	5.69 ± 0.11 b	4.83 ± 0.03 b	3.45 ± 0.06 c

Mean of three replicates ± standard deviation

WHC: water holding capacity; WBC: water binding capacity.

na: not available

542 Means sharing the same letter within a column were not significantly different (P<0.05) (n=3).

543

544 **Table 8.** Viscometric parameters of different commercial fibres determined by using the rapid  
 545 viscoanalyzer (RVA).

546

<b>Fibers</b>	<b>Initial Viscosity (cP)</b>	<b>Peak viscosity (cP)</b>	<b>Visc at 95 (cP)</b>	<b>Visc at end 95 (cP)</b>	<b>Visc at 50 (cP)</b>	<b>Final Visc (cP)</b>
Wheat flour	0	2232	248	1572	1847	2433
HPMC	23200	24034	14733	1699	14501	21540
Cellulose	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locust bean gum	19067	23958	22505	23212	22332	24628
Guar gum	3667	4245	3155	3683	9196	11437
Inulin	2	11	-	-	-	-
GOS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oat 401	3	7	4	-	-	-
Oat 600	4	-	-	-	32	49
Wheat	0	17	-	-	-	-
Apple	2	75	27	66	215	256
Bamboo	3	22	-	-	5	-

547

548

549 **Table 9.** Single and second order interaction significant effects of dietary fibres from different  
 550 sources added at different degree of flour replacement to blends on the solvent retention  
 551 capacity.

Source Main effects	Solvent retention capacity			
	Carbonate %	Lactic acid %	Water %	Sucrose %
Source (SO)	***	***	***	***
Degree (DG)	***	***	***	***
SO x DG	***	***	***	***
Hydrocolloids (HC)	***	***	***	***
Degree (DG)	***	***	***	***
HC x DG	***	***	***	***
Prebiotics (PB)	***	***	***	***
Degree (DG)	***	**	***	***
PB x DG	***	*	***	***
Cereals (CR)	***	ns	***	*
Degree (DG)	***	*	***	***
CR x DG	**	ns	***	**
Trees & fruits (TF)	***	**	***	***
Degree (DG)	***	**	***	***
TF x DG	***	*	***	***

ns: no significant effect; \* significant effect at P<0.05; \*\* significant effect at P<0.01; \*\*\* significant effect at P<0.001.

552

553 **Table 10.** Least squares means with 95% confidence intervals of solvent retention capacity of  
 554 commercial fibres from different sources added at different degree of flour replacement to  
 555 blends.

Dietary fiber	Degree	Solvent Retention Capacity (%)			
		Water	Sucrose	Carbonate	Lactic acid
<b>HYDROCOLLOIDS</b>					
Cellulose	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	68.2 b	106.3 ab	77.9 a	107.7 ab
	10	67.6 b	117.0 c	78.6 ab	98.8 a
HPMC	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	89.9 e	197.2 g	109.6 d	164.0 e
	10	156.7 h	197.8 h	135.4 g	179.2 gh
Locust bean	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	84.6 d	153.3 d	129.3 f	173.3 efg
	10	90.6 ef	204.0 i	157.1 h	209.5 i
Guar gum	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	81.2 c	160.0 e	102.0 c	117.0 bcd
	10	98.4 g	160.7 ef	114.2 e	166.0 ef
<b>PREBIOTICS</b>					
Inulin	0	66.1 d	101.7 cd	78.2 e	110.7 d
	5	66.8 de	100.6 c	73.2 d	106.6 c
	10	63.7 c	101.3 c	67.3 b	112.8 de
GOS	0	66.1 d	101.7 cd	78.2 e	110.7 d
	5	59.5 b	95.0 b	69.1 c	100.6 a
	10	48.9 a	85.4 a	56.6 a	102.4 ab
<b>CEREALS</b>					
Oat 401	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 defg
	5	72.4 c	112.9 d	81.2 c	104.4 ab
	10	72.4 c	119.1 ef	82.2 cd	106.7 abcd
Oat 600	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 defg
	5	66.8 ab	104.6 bc	81.1 c	108.3 bcde
	10	76.3 e	121.0 efg	84.1 e	101.9 a
Wheat	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 defg
	5	66.4 a	104.4 ab	79.3 ab	104.5 abc
	10	73.2 cd	118.5 e	82.0 cd	110.3 cdef
<b>TREES &amp; FRUITS</b>					
Apple	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	70.2 c	108.9 c	102.2 d	115.2 d
	10	78.5 e	127.5 e	127.8 de	111.2 bc
Bamboo	0	66.1 a	101.7 a	78.2 a	110.7 bc
	5	66.5 ab	106.0 b	79.2 ab	109.7 b
	10	72.5 d	117.5 d	81.8 c	101.0 a

556

557 Means sharing the same letter within a column were not significantly different ( $P < 0.05$ )  
 558 ( $n=4$ ).

559