

ABSTRACT

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The main purpose of this project is to develop <sup>was</sup> a mixed fruit leather from guava and banana with banana as the base. Preliminary investigation was carried out on fruit purees of pure banana, pure guava, a combination of 2:1, 3:1 with seven (7) percent sugar and 4:1 with the proportion of banana being the variable were dried at temperatures of 70°C, 80°C and 90°C, using five hundred (500) parts per million (ppm) of sodium metabisulphite ( $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ ) as the preservative in a cabinet drier.

From the preliminary investigation moisture content and drying curves were determined of the leathers; pure banana, combination 2:1 and 3:1 which were dried at 70°C and 80°C.

The best leather which was selected by the rank method was subjected to laboratory analysis of total soluble solid, density and texture. A consumer evaluation test was carried out on the selected leather of a 3:1 combination dried at 80°C for eight (8) hours. From the results obtained the leather could be considered acceptable and having potential for commerce.