

## ABSTRACT

The feasibility of the dehydration of Roselle concentrate (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*, var. "early dwarf") was studied by two drying methods: spray and foam-mat drying. The sugars, sucrose, glucose and lactose were used as drying aids in both processes. For foam-mat drying, egg albumen and methylcellulose were used as foaming agents.

It was found that sugars had little or no effect on the physical properties, of the dried Roselle concentrate. Egg albumen produced a workable foam for foam-mat drying, while methylcellulose was used as a film stabiliser to aid in the drying process. Spray drying offered the best overall features for the dehydration of the Roselle concentrate.

The final product dried by either of the two methods was judged fully acceptable when submitted to a panel of 20 people. No discrimination was reported either between sugars or between drying processes.

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