# QUALITY IMPROVEMENT OF MANUKA HONEY THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING

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## ABSTRACT

The quality of honey is known to be compromised when it goes through thermal processing due to its negative impact on the unstable and thermolabile honey components which originated from the nectar and bees themselves. This present work is undertaken to access the use of an emerging food preservation technique known as "High Pressure Processing" for treating honey, as an alternative to the conventional thermal processing. In this thesis, honey quality has been addressed by measuring the effects of high pressure processing parameters (pressure, time and temperature) on nutritional properties of honey, namely total phenolic content and antioxidant activity. Honey samples, contained in small pouches, were subjected to different pressures (200-600 MPa) at close to ambient temperatures (25-33°C) for different holding times (10 to 30 min). Thermal processing (49-70°C) was also carried out for comparison purpose. Results demonstrated that high pressure processing operated at 600 MPa for 10 min has capability to increase significantly the total phenolic content and antioxidant activity by 47% and 30%, respectively. Besides, the result showed that high pressure processing can maintain the natural colour of honey which relates directly to consumer perception, while retaining its shear-thinning behaviour and viscosity with no significant changes (p > 0.05). High pressure processing can also control hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF) concentration in honey during process within the standard limit, 16.93 to 18.76 mg/kg (which is below than the maximum allowed limit of 40 mg/kg). This work also reveals that high pressure processing can enhance antibacterial activity of Manuka honey significantly. It shows an increase in the percentage inhibition of Staphylococcus epidermidis from  $64.15 \pm 5.86\%$  to  $84.34 \pm 7.62\%$  when honey was subjected to 600 MPa. Storage studies for one year at room temperature (25°C) demonstrated that high pressure-treated samples have a good retention to the physicochemical, nutritional and rheological properties of honey throughout storage, which confirms that the positive effect of high pressure on honey is not a temporary effect. Whereas, an insight study on the safety part showed that the Saccharomyces cerevisiae cell varied linearly with ° Brix, indicating that food compressibility has a significant role in the microbial inactivation.

Dedicated to my parents and family for their endless love

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going."

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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ABSTRACT			ii
DEDI	iii		
ACK	iv		
TABI	LE OF	CONTENTS	V
LIST	OF FIG	GURES	X
LIST	OF TA	BLES	xiii
NOM	ENCLA	ATURE	XV
CHAI	PTER 1	: Introduction	1
	1.1	Introduction	2
	1.2	Research objectives	3
	1.3	Thesis framework	4
CHAI	PTER 2	2: Literature Review	6
	2.1	Honey: A natural sweetener and its valuable properties	TNAM
	2.2	Production, Collection and Process of Honey	14
	2.3	Conventional Thermal Treatment of Honey Processing	16
	2.4	Alternative Thermal Processing Methods for Honey	22
		2.4.1 Microwave heating	22
		2.4.2 Infrared heating	23
	2.5	Non-Thermal Processing Methods for Honey	24
		2.5.1 Ultrasound	24
		2.5.2 Ultraviolet	25
		2.5.3 Membrane filtration	26
	2.6	High Pressure Processing	27
		2.6.1 Evolution of High Pressure Processing	27
		2.6.2 General Principle of High Pressure Processing and	
		Adiabatic Heating of Compression	30
		2.6.3 High Pressure Processing Equipment	33
		2.6.4 Impact of high pressure on food quality	36
		2.6.5 Inactivation of microorganisms under pressure	42
	2.7	Advantages and Limitation of HPP	45
		2.7.1 Advantages	45

		2.7.2 Limitation	46
CHA	PTER 3	3: High pressure processing (HPP) of honey for the improvement of	
		nutritional value	47
		Chapter Abstract	48
	3.1	Introduction	49
	3.2	Material and methods	51
		3.2.1. Honey sample preparation	51
		3.2.2. High pressure processing (HPP) equipment	51
		3.2.2.1. HPP of honey	52
		3.2.2.2 Ambient temperature HPP	52
		3.2.2.3. Combined HPP-thermal processing of honey	52
		3.2.3. Thermal processing of honey	52
		3.2.4. Total phenolic content (TPC) determination	53
		3.2.5. Statistical analysis	53
	3.3	Results and discussion	54
		3.3.1. Total phenolic content (TPC) of unprocessed Manuka honey	54
		3.3.2. High pressure processing (HPP) of Manuka honey	56
		3.3.3. Combined HPP and thermal processing of Manuka honey	58
		3.3.4. Thermal processing of Manuka honey	60
		3.3.5. Comparison of HPP, HPP-thermal and exclusively thermal	
		processing of Manuka honey	61
	3.4	Conclusions	62
CHA	PTER 4	1: High-Pressure Processing of Manuka Honey: Improvement of	
		Antioxidant Activity, Preservation of Colour and Flow Behaviour	63
		Chapter Abstract	64
	4.1	Introduction	65
	4.2	Material and Methods	67
		4.2.1 Honey Samples Preparation	67
		4.2.2 Processing of Honey	67
		4.2.2.1 High Pressure Processing Equipment	67
		4.2.2.2 HPP of Honey at Ambient Temperature	68
		4.2.2.3 Combined HPP–Thermal Processing of Honey	68
		4.2.3 Thermal Processing of Honey	68
		4.2.4 Quality Determination	69

			4.2.4.1 Antioxida	ant Activity	69
			4.2.4.2 Colour		70
			4.2.4.3 Rheologi	cal Behaviour and Viscosity	70
		4.2.5	Statistical Analys	sis	71
	4.3 Re	esults ar	d Discussion		72
		4.3.1	Effect of Process	es on Honey Antioxidant Activity	72
		4.3.2	Effect of Process	es on Colour of Honey	75
		4.3.3	Effect of Process	es on Honey Flow Behaviour	77
	4.4 Co	onclusio	ns		81
CHA	PTER 5	5: High	<b>Pressure Process</b>	ing (HPP) of Manuka honey: Brown pigment	;
		forma	tion, improveme	nt of antibacterial activity and	
		hydro	xymethylfurfura	l content	82
		Chapt	er Abstract		83
	5.1	Introd	uction		84
		5.2	Material and Me	thods	86
		5.2.1	Honey samples p	preparation	86
		5.2.2	Processing honey	TUN /	86
			5.2.2.1 H	igh Pressure Processing (HPP) equipment	86
			5.2.2.2 H	PP of honey at ambient temperature	87
			5.2.2.3 C	ombined HPP- thermal processing of honey	87
			5.2.2.4 TI	hermal processing of honey	87
		5.2.3	Brown pigment		88
		5.2.4	Antibacterial ac	tivity	88
		5.2.5	Hydroxymethyl	furfural, HMF content	89
		5.2.6	Statistical analy	sis	90
	5.3 Re	esults ar	d discussion		91
		5.3.1	Influence of trea	atments on brown pigment formation	91
		5.3.2	Influence of trea	atments on antibacterial activity	94
		5.3.3	Influence of trea	atments on hydroxymethylfurfural content	96
		5.3.4	The relationship	b between the brown pigment formation,	
			antibacterial act	ivity, antioxidant activity and	
			hydroxymethylf	furfural	98
	5.4	Concl	usions		99

CHA	PTER 6	5: High l	Pressure Pro	ocessed Manuka Honey: Change in Nutritiona	1
		and Rl	heological P	roperties over One Year Storage	100
		Chapte	er Abstract		101
	6.1	Introdu	iction		102
	6.2	Materia	al and Metho	ds	103
		6.2.1	Honey sam	ples preparation	103
		6.2.2	High Press	ure Processing (HPP) equipment	103
			6.2.2.1	HPP of honey at ambient temperature	104
		6.2.3	Monitoring	g changes in honey properties during storage	
			of one year		104
		6.2.4	Physicoche	emical Analysis	104
			6.2.4.1	Moisture content, total soluble solids and total	
				solids	105
			6.2.4.2	pH measurement	105
			6.2.4.3	Electrical conductivity	105
		6.2.5	Nutritional	properties analysis	105
			6.2.5.1	Antioxidant activity	106
			6.2.5.2	Total Phenolic Content	106
			6.2.5.3	Brown pigment	106
		6.2.6	Rheologica	al behaviour and viscosity	106
		6.2.7	Statistical a	analysis	107
	6.3	Results	s and Discuss	sion	108
		6.3.1	Changes in J	physicochemical properties	108
		6.3.2	Changes in a	nutritional properties: antioxidant activity, total	
			phenolic con	ntent and brown pigment formation	109
		6.3.3	Changes in a	rheological properties and viscosity	114
	6.4	Conclu	isions		118
CHA	PTER 7	7: An ins	sight on the	relationship between food compressibility and	
		microb	oial inactiva	tion during high pressure processing	119
		Chapte	er Abstract		120
	7.1	Introdu	iction		121
	7.2	Materia	als and Meth	od	123
		7.2.1	Saccharom	vyces cerevisiae strain and growth medium	123

	7.2.2	Honey inoculation and packaging	123
	7.2.3	Preparation of honey samples with different concentration	124
	7.2.4	High pressure processing equipment and operation	124
		7.2.4.1HPP of honey samples	124
	7.2.5	Thermal processing of honey	125
	7.2.6	Saccharomyces cerevisiae cells enumeration	125
	7.2.7	Compressibility measurement	126
	7.2.8	Statistical analysis	126
7.3	Result	s and Discussion	127
	7.3.1	Compressibility and ° Brix during high pressure processing	127
	7.3.2	The combined effect of compressibility and sugar protective	
		nature on the inactivation of Saccharomyces cerevisiae	132
7.4	Conclu	isions	137
CHAPTER	8: Concl	usions, Recommendation and Implication of the Project	138
8.1	Conclu	isions	139
8.2	Recom	nmendations for Future Work	141
8.3	Implic	ations of the Project	142
Publications	s and Pre	esentations Based on Thesis Work	143
	Publica	ations	144
	Presen	tations (Oral)	146
References			147

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1:	(a) Production quantity of natural honey in world from 1961 to 2009	
	(b) Global honey production by select country and region (FAO).	7
Figure 2.2:	Average composition of honey (the data is summarized from Alvarez-Suarez	
	et al., 2010, Jeffrey and Echazaretta, 1996 and Olaitan et al., 2007).	9
Figure 2.3:	The production of honey from nectar (adapted from Grane and Kirk	
	Visscher, 2007).	14
Figure 2.4:	Innovative processing which includes alternative thermal processing (1-2)	
	and non-thermal processing (3-5) provide an approach to honey safety and	
	preservation that are designed to retain the natural and as fresh properties of	
	honey.	15
Figure 2.5:	The flow of conventional process in honey production.	16
Figure 2.6:	A brief history of high pressure food processing.	28
Figure 2.7:	Industrial scale high pressure machines used worldwide and total vessel	
	volume used for different food products; not including 15 dismantled	
	machines installed before 2003. Total number in production in April 2013:	
	212. Global HPP food production in 2012: 350,000,000+ kg (Purroy, 2013).	29
Figure 2.8:	Typical plot of pressure, temperature and time during high pressure	
	processing of honey using QFP 2L-700 Laboratory Food Processing	
	System (Avure Technologies, Columbus, OH, USA).	33
Figure 2.9:	A typical high pressure processing system for treating food.	34
Figure 2.10:	(A) Direct system for generation of high isostatic pressure and (B) Indirect	
	system.	35
Figure 2.11:	(a) QFP 2L-700 Laboratory Food Processing System (Avure Technologies,	
	Columbus, OH, USA), (b) 2-litre pressure vessel and (c) schematic diagram	
	of the system.	36
Figure 3.1:	Total phenolic content of honey samples after treated with HPP at different	
	pressure and time in comparison to unprocessed.	57
Figure 3.2:	Total phenolic content of honey samples after treated with HPP (600 MPa)	
	for different temperature and time in comparison to unprocessed.	59
Figure 3.3:	Total phenolic content of honey samples after thermal treatments, for	
	different temperature and time in comparison to unprocessed.	61
Figure 3.4:	The changes in TPC for three different types of treatment at various	

	temperatures for 10 min as compared with unprocessed. The samples were	
	subjected to HPP at 600 MPa.	62
Figure 4.1:	Antioxidant activity (%) of Manuka honey for different processes. All the	
	processes had the duration of 10 min.	73
Figure 4.2:	Correlation between antioxidant activity of HPP treated Manuka honey (600	
	MPa at ambient temperature) and its total phenolic content.	74
Figure 4.3:	Flow curves of (a) unprocessed sample and HPP- treated samples at ambient	
	temperature and (b) combined HPP-thermal and thermal treated Manuka	
	honey.	78
Figure 4.4:	The viscosity curves as a function of shear rate. (a) Unprocessed and	
	HPP-processed Manuka honey at ambient temperature	79
Figure 5.1:	Percentage increase of brown pigment and hydroxymethylfurfural content in	
	HPP- treated honey sample (ambient temperature) at different pressure in	
	comparison to combined HPP-thermal and thermal treatment for 10 min	
	treatment time.	93
Figure 5.2:	Percentage inhibition of S. epidermidis at different concentration of Manuka	
	honey.	94
Figure 5.3:	Percentage inhibition of S. epidermidis in HPP- treated (200, 400 and 600	
	MPa) and thermally treated Manuka honey (50, 60 and 70°C) for 10 min.	
		95
Figure 5.4:	Percentage increase of HMF in HPP- treated honey sample (ambient temp)	
	at different pressure and different processing time	97
Figure 6.1:	Changes in (a) total phenolic content, (b) antioxidant activity and (c) brown	
	pigment formation in $(\Box)$ untreated and $(\blacksquare)$ HPP-treated honey during 12	
	months storage.	110
Figure 6.2:	Percentage increase in A) antioxidant activity, B) total phenolic content and	
	C) brown pigment formation of untreated and HPP-treated honey during 12	
	months storage	112
Figure 6.3:	Flow curves of (a) untreated honey and (b) HPP-treated honey at different	
	storage time. The storage time is indicated as $\blacklozenge = 0$ month; $\blacksquare = 5$ months; $\chi =$	
	11 months and $\blacktriangle = 12$ months.	114
Figure 6.4:	Effect of storage time on apparent viscosity of (a) untreated (b) HPP-treated	
	Manuka honey during storage, starting at shear rate of 0.1 s <sup>-1</sup> .	116

- Figure 6.5: Percentage increase of viscosity of untreated and HPP-treated honey (600 MPa, 10 min, ambient temperature) at shear rate 0.1s<sup>-1</sup> during 12 months storage. 118 Figure 7.1: Compressibility of honey solution at different pressure levels as a function
- Saccharomyces cerevisiae cell survivor curves in honey (80° Brix) subjected Figure 7.2: to high pressure treatment (ambient temperature) at (i)  $\diamond = 200$ ;  $\Box = 400$  and  $\Delta = 600$  MPa. 129

of ° Brix after subjected to high pressure processing.

- Figure 7.3: Comparison of log reduction of Saccharomyces cerevisiae after pressure treatment at 600 MPa for 2 and 30 min and thermal treatment at 55°C for 10 min at different ° Brix.
- Effect of compressibility and ° Brix on inactivation of Saccharomyces Figure 7.4: cerevisiae subjected to pressure treatment at 600 MPa for 2 and 30 min. PERPUSTAKAAN TUNKU TUN AMINA

135

132

127

# LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1:	Honey export volumes, value and prices of New Zealand market from 2002	
	to 2013 (Farm Monitoring Report, 2013).	8
Table 2.2:	The characteristics of honey.	10
Table 2.3:	Commercial application of honey (Farm Monitoring Report, 2013).	13
Table 2.4:	The summary of effects of conventional thermal treatment on honey quality.	18
Table 2.5:	Overview of temperature increase during compression for some foods.	31
Table 2.6:	Application of high pressure processing and its effects on the qualities of	
	various types of food.	38
Table 3.1:	Total phenolic content from different types of honey obtained from previous	
	works in comparison with this study.	55
Table 4.1:	The values of $L^*$ , $a^*$ , $b^*$ and total colour difference (TCD) for HPP,	
	combined HPP-thermal and thermal treated Manuka honey.	76
Table 4.2:	Apparent viscosity of unprocessed and HPP treated Manuka honey (ambient	
	temperature, 10 min treatment) at shear rate 5.39 s <sup>-1</sup> .	80
Table 4.3:	Viscosity of combined HPP - thermally treated and thermally- treated	
	Manuka honey (10 min treatment) at shear rate 5.39 s <sup>-1</sup> .	80
Table 5.1:	Brown pigment formation and HMF content of untreated and treated honey	
	samples after 10 min treatment.	92
Table 5.2:	Correlation matrices for four variables (antibacterial activity, brown pigment,	
	HMF and antioxidant activity) of high pressure-treated honey using Pearson	
	correlation.	99
Table 6.1:	The physicochemical properties of untreated and HPP-treated Manuka honey	
	(600 MPa/ambient temperature/10 min) after 12 months storage at room	
	temperature (approximately 24°C). Values are presented as mean $\pm$ standard	
	deviation of two measurements.	109
Table 6.2:	Apparent viscosity of untreated honey and HPP-treated honey at shear rate	
	$0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$ during 12 months storage.	117
Table 7.1:	Correlation between compressibility (MPa <sup>-1</sup> ) and $^{\circ}$ Brix at different pressure	
	levels after subjected to high pressure processing. The data were reassembled	
	from Min et al. (2010).	128
Table 7.2:	° Brix effect of solute concentration on Saccharomyces cerevisiae cells in	

131

134

various types of medium during HPP.

- Table 7.3: The changes in log reduction (Δ log reduction) of Saccharomyces serevisiae subjected to high pressure and thermal treatment with respect to different ° Brix.
- Table 7.4:Correlation matrices for ° Brix, compressibility and Saccharomyces<br/>cerevisiae cells reduction subjected to high pressure treatment (600 MPa,<br/>ambient temperature), obtained using Pearson correlation from Statistica<br/>version 11, Statsoft®.136

# NOMENCLATURE

AA	= antioxidant Activity
ANOVA	= analysis of variance
AU	= absorbance Unit
Abs	= absorbance
Abs <sub>control</sub>	= absorbance reading of the control
Abs <sub>sample</sub>	= absorbance reading of the sample
$A_{660nm}$	= absorbance at 660 nm
BPF	= brown pigment formation
CFU	= colony forming unit
Ср	= specific heat capacity
DHA	= dihydroxyacetone
DNA	= deoxyribonucleic acid
DPPH	= 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl
D-value	= decimal reduction time at specific temperature
FAO	= food and agriculture organization of the United Nations
GAE DER	= gallic acid equivalent
g	= gram
HHP	= high hydrostatic pressure
HMF	= hydroxymethylfurfural
HPP	= high pressure processing
Hz	= hertz
hrs	= hours
in	= inches
j	= joule
K <sub>4</sub> Fe (CN) <sub>6</sub> .3H <sub>2</sub> O	= potassium hexacyanoferrate in water

L	= litre
MGO	= methylglyoxal
MIC <sub>95</sub>	= minimum inhibitory concentration of at least 95% inhibition
MPa	= megapascal
MWCO	= molecular weight cut off
min	= min
mL	= mililitre
mS	= milisiemen
Ν	= number of microorganism
NaCl	= sodium chloride
Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	= sodium carbonate
No	= initial number of microorganisms
nm	= nanometers (wavelength)
ОН	= hydroxyl molecules
Р	= pressure
рН	= decadic logarithm of acid dissociation
psi	= pounds-force per square inch
R <sup>2</sup> PER	= linear regression coefficient/ coefficient of determination
r	= correlation coefficient
rpm	= revolutions per minute (measure of the frequency of a rotation)
S	= entropy
SD	= standard deviation
S.cerevisiae	= Saccharomyces cerevisiae
S. epidermidis	= Staphylococcus epidermidis
Т	= temperature
TCD	= total colour difference
TPC	= total phenolic content

T <sub>avg</sub>	= average temperature
T <sub>set</sub>	= setting temperature
t	= time
UF	= ultrafiltration
UHP	= ultra high pressure
UV	= ultraviolet
V	= volume
YPD	= yeasts peptone dextrose
Zn (CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub> .2H <sub>2</sub> O	O = zinc acetate in water
Z <sub>p</sub> - value	= Pressure required for one log reduction in the <i>D</i> -value.
°C	= degree centigrade
<	= less than
2	= greater than or equal to
±	= plus minus
%	= percentage
w/v	= weight/volume
μ	= micro
βPER	= thermal expansion coefficient
W	= watt
L*, a*, b*	= colour parameters: $L^*$ from 0: black to 100: white; $a^*$ from -80:
	green to +80: red; $b^*$ from -80: blue to +80: yellow.



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Nature of contribution by PhD candidate	Contribute to the idea, do all experimental works and do writing task.
Extent of contribution by PhD candidate (%)	80%

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Chapter 4

Fauzi, N., M. Farid, Filipa F.V.M. (2014). High-Pressure Processing of Manuka Honey: Improvement of Antioxidant Activity, Preservation of Colour and Flow Behaviour. Food and Bioprocess Technology 7(8): 2299-2307.

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Chapter 5:

N.A. Fauzi & M.M.Farid. High Pressure Processing (HPP) of Manuka honey: Brown pigment formation, improvement of antibacterial activity and hydroxymethylfurfural content

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Chapter 6

High Pressure Processed Manuka Honey: Change in Nutritional and Rheological Properties over One Year Storage

#### Contents submitted to journal publication and under review

Nature of contribution by PhD candidate	Contribute to the idea, do all experimental works and do writing task.			
Extent of contribution by PhD candidate (%)	80%			

#### **CO-AUTHORS**

#### Name

Nature of Contribution

Prof Mohammed Farid	As a main supervisor, contribute to the main idea, make a review and check the whole paper.		
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#### Certification by Co-Authors

The undersigned hereby certify that:

- the above statement correctly reflects the nature and extent of the PhD candidate's contribution to this work, and the nature of the contribution of each of the co-authors; and
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Prof Mohammed Farid

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Chapter 7

An insight on the relationship between food compressibility and microbial inactivation during high pressure processing

Contents submitted to journal publication and under review

80%

Nature of contribution by PhD candidate

Contribute to the idea, do all experimental works and do writing task.

Extent of contribution by PhD candidate (%)

#### CO-AUTHORS

#### Name

Nature of Contribution

As a main supervisor, contribute to the main idea, make a review and check the whole paper from beginning untill the paper get accepted.	
As a co-supervisor, assist in review and check the whole paper	
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# CHAPTER 1

# Introduction





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