

Drying and dehydration technologies: a compact review on advance food science

Abstract

Foods (mostly fruits and vegetables) are dried and dehydrated to increase their usable lifetime, storage stability and minimize processing requirements and enhance transportability. Preservation techniques of foods are mostly based on drying through sunlight/solar energy methods, causing quality degradation and product contamination. Energy utilization and nature of dried items are basic parameters in the choice of drying process. An ideal drying system for the arrangement of value dried out items is savvy as it shortens the drying time and makes least contamination the item. To diminish the energy use and operational cost new measurements came up in drying procedures. This paper represents basic review on food drying techniques along with two drying methods of cranberries (microwave-vacuum and microwave-convective) and their merits and demerits regarding the quality of dried product and the process performance are evaluated.

Keywords: micro-convection, food engineering, convective food drying, heat engineering, preservation techniques, heat pump dehumidifier, superheated steam; mw-vacuum drying framework

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Introduction

Foods grown from the ground are critical wellsprings of fundamental dietary supplements, for example, vitamins, minerals and fiber. Since the dampness substance of new foods grown from the ground is over 80%, they are delegated profoundly perishable wares.¹ Keeping the product fresh is the best way to keep up its wholesome esteem, yet most storage techniques require low temperatures, which are difficult to maintain all through the distribution/supply chain. Then again, drying is an appropriate option for post-harvesting particularly in South-Asian countries like Bangladesh, India, and China etc. where exist ineffectively established low temperature dispersion and handling options. It is reported that more than 20% of the world perishable food products are dried to increase shelf-life of realistic usability and advance food security.² Organic products, vegetables and their items are dried to improve capacity dependability, limit bundling prerequisites and diminish transport weight. Regardless, in India scarcely any segment of perishables are dried which prompts huge misfortune as far as cash and work other than soak ascend in costs of wares amid the off season.

Drying of foods grown from the ground has been essentially expert by convective drying.³ There are various investigations that have tended to the issues related with ordinary convective drying. Some essential physical properties of the items have changed, for example, loss of shading, difference in surface, concoction changes influencing flavor and supplements and shrinkage.⁴ Plus, convective drying gives little extension for earlier re-hydration to additionally preparing subsequent to drying for a negligible quality.⁵ The high temperature of the drying procedure is an imperative reason for loss of value. Bringing down the procedure temperature has extraordinary potential for enhancing the nature of dried items.^{6,7} However in such conditions, the working time and the related cost end up noticeably unsuitable. To lessen the operational cost distinctive pre-medicines and new strategy for low temperature and low energy drying techniques are developed. A concise audit of late improvement (recent years) will be talked about in the accompanying areas.

Types of drying

Heat pump drying

The utilization of heat pumps for drying has been contemplated since the mid 1950s; however the thought was mechanically attainable, it was not monetarily alluring because of the low fuel costs winning around then. By setting the evaporator of a heat direct in the fumes stream, the air leaving the dryer is cooled (in this way recuperating the sensible heat segment) and afterward dehumidified (to recoup the dormant heat) by the refrigerant. The heat in this manner added to the refrigerant is then rejected at the condenser of the heat pump to the surge of air entering the dryer, along these lines raising its temperature. At the point when the air leaving the dryer is recycle, the additional advantage of dehumidification of the drying air is likewise acknowledged, expanding its capability to accomplish better drying. Hogan et al.,⁸ contemplated warm pump helped grain drying and presumed that the techniques were valuable because of their lower energy utilization in contact with electrically pre-heated units.⁸ Basically, heat pumps were utilized to lessen the energy utilization of dryers and it is currently all around concurred that heat pump dehumidifier (HPD) helped drying systems to have energy reserve units.^{9,10} One of the primary focal points of HPD drying is the maintenance of value and its effective application to drying esteemed heat delicate materials. Kohayakawa et al.,¹¹ depicted an investigation in which mango cuts were dried in a HPD dryer and the energy utilization of this framework was contrasted and a theoretical electrically warmed dryer.¹¹ Figure 1 shows a typical schematic of industrial heat pump arrangement.

It is accounted for that the HPD dryer has favorable position of 22 to 40% decrease in the power utilization. Hawlader et al.,¹² examined dried apple, guava and potato pieces in a HPD dryer utilizing nitrogen and carbon dioxide to supplant air. The evacuation during drying appeared profitable to the items, which indicated lesser caramelizing. Moreover, the porosity and rehydration attributes of the item were predominant contrasted and material dried under vacuum.¹² Gabas

et al.,¹³ considered drying of apple chambers in a heat pump dryer and contrasted it and items got from an electrically pre-heated dryer. The HP dryer utilized 40% less energy contrasted and the electrical warmer and at a quicker rate of drying.¹³ Alves-Filho et al.,¹⁴ made a research on dried green peas in a fluidized bed warm draw dryer under barometrical stop drying conditions and acquired items with elevated amounts of rehydration capacity, floatability and alluring shading qualities.¹⁴ Uddin et al.,¹⁵ contrasted warm pump drying and microwave and stop drying of guava, mango and honeydew melon.¹⁵

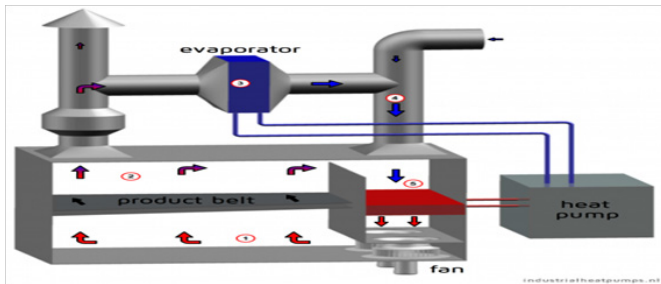


Figure 1 Heat pump drying for industry.

Superheated steam drying

Drying with superheated steam (SS) without air in a medium made completely out of steam. The capacity of SS to dry sustenance material is because of the expansion of sensible heat to raise its temperature over the relating captivated temperature at a given weight. It is not necessary to exhaust the evaporated water from the produce until the pressure develops beyond certain limit. Figure 2 portrays a graphical presentation of the system stated.

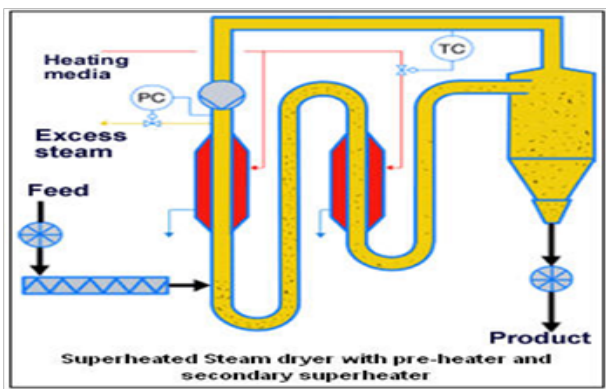


Figure 2 Superheated steam drying.

The immense preferred standpoint is that reusing of drying technique is conceivable, given extra sensible heat is included. Furthermore, any regular convection and conduction dryer could be effortlessly changed over to utilize superheated steam.¹⁶ Settled bed, fluidized bed, streak, impingement, pneumatic and splash dryers are utilizing super-warmed steam innovation for quality drying of produces.

Superheated Steamed (SS) fluidized drying

Trials demonstrate that SS drying could be adequately utilized for some, items like corn starch, potato starch and for making other results. In any case, particles those are too substantial or fine courses

are difficult to dry in a fluidized bed. The model was created in view of diffusivity hypothesis and utilizations various presumptions. Among them are:

- i. Buildup of water vapor on tests happens beneath the breaking point of water
- ii. The greater part of the heat moved into the specimen surface is utilized for vanishing when the example temperature is equivalent to the breaking point
- iii. Breaking point of water changes the weight in the neighborhood purpose of test
- iv. General heat exchange coefficient on the specimen surface incorporates warm radiation from the drying medium
- v. Drying process is finished when the temperature of test is higher than the breaking point of water.¹⁷

Figure 3 relays a schematic which depicts the stated system. This process is widely used on food industries.

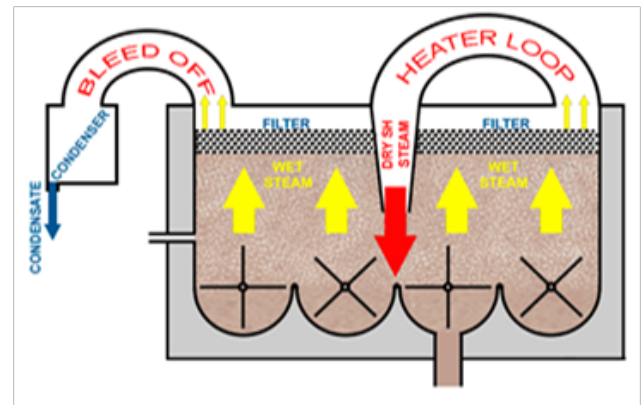


Figure 3 SS fluidized drying process for industries.

Impingement drying with SS

Despite the fact that it is primarily utilized as a part of paper industries, in the food business, air impingement is utilized for heating and cooking of items, for example, potato chips, pizza, treats and level breads.¹⁸ Low fat potato chips can be set up by this strategy. A graphical presentation of the system is given below in Figure 4.

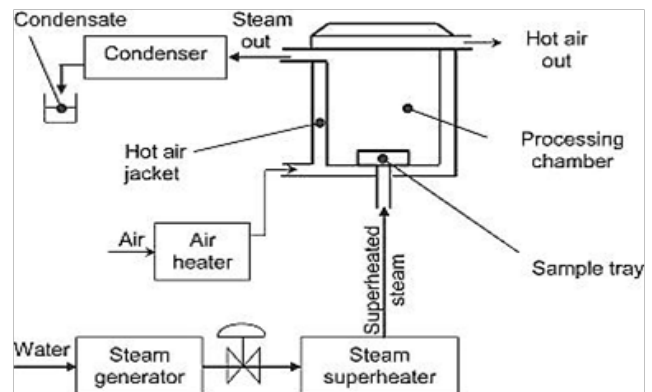


Figure 4 Impingement drying with Superheated Steam

SS prepared potato chips held more vitamin C and were preferred in surface over air dried examples. It is watched that mass exchange was following Fick's law of dissemination and heat exchange inside potato was considered to take after Fourier's law of heat conduction.¹⁹ In any case, consideration ought to be given to the impact of SS impingement drying on item quality including shrinkage, freshness and microstructure.

Microwave vacuum drying

Additionally drying upgrades can be gotten by utilizing sub-atmospheric pressure. Water vanishing happens at lower temperatures under vacuum, and subsequently the product handling temperature can be essentially lower, offering higher product quality. Numerous correlations have been made between MW-vacuum drying and different frameworks, for the most part concentrating on hot air and freeze drying.

Figure 5 depicts the following system very well. The MW-vacuum lack of hydration was first utilized for convergence of citrus juice.⁷⁻¹⁰ In the sustenance business, MW-vacuum drying is utilized for drying of pastas, powders, and numerous permeable solids. McDonnell Company has constructed a MW-vacuum drying framework (MIVAC) to dry grains; outright weight extending from 3.4 to 6.6kPa offers dampness vanishing at temperatures from 26 to 52°C. In any case, it was not industrially fruitful because of financial aspects. Dissipated water from the item in this MW-vacuum drying²⁰ framework is expelled for the most part by consolidating utilizing a cooling framework, nourished with water.²¹

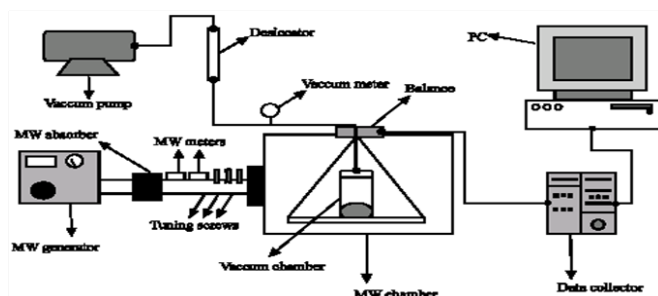


Figure 5 Microwave-vacuum drying of cranberry.

Drying energy performance

By analyzing the food drying performance it can be measured that the system of drying is economically feasible or not. Drying performance is depicted by the following equation:

$$DE = \frac{M_i (m_i - m_f)}{t_{on} P (1 - m_f)} \quad (1)$$

DE=Drying performance (kg of evaporated water/J of supplied energy)

t_{on} =Total time of MW power-on (s)

P=MW power input (W)

m_i, m_f =Initial and final moisture contents (ratios, wet basis)

M_i =Initial sample mass (kg)

Equation-(1) only considers the efficiency of MW systems; it

does not consider energy required to heat air, or energy required for vacuum pump.

Pressure and power level must be correctly chosen to maximize the efficiency. Drouzas et al.²² showed that the drying rate was significantly raised with increase of the pressure or the MW power level, but the final quality of dried banana slices was lower. The same trend was observed in Wadsworth et al.²³ drying efficiency (defined as the amount of water evaporated from the sample divided by the amount of MW energy entering the drying cavity) of parboiled rice was significantly influenced by both MW power level and dryer operating pressure. One way to counter disadvantages of MW drying such as non-uniform heating is to operate in a pulsed mode, by alternating between MW power-on and power-off. This permits better redistribution of the temperature and the moisture profile within the product during power-off times. For a given product, the MW power-on time and the pulsing ratio should be optimized. Pulsed application of MW energy combined with vacuum to dry cranberries has been found more efficient than continuous application.²⁴ In pulsed mode, shorter power-on time and longer power off time provided a higher drying efficiency, where the energy utilization coefficient (defined as a ratio of energy absorbed by the sample and energy absorbed by the same mass of distilled water) pulsed mode ranged from 0.53 to 0.95, and for continuous MW application it was significantly lower, ranging from 0.43 to 0.67. Concerning the quality properties, continuously dried samples had a higher redness and undesirable tougher texture than the samples dried with pulsed mode.

Influence on storage on quality

A huge loss of supplements happens in dried foods grown from the ground amid capacity. This misfortune relies upon capacity temperature, pH, and presentation to oxygen, porosity, light and nearness of natural acids. The degree of misfortunes relies upon the sort of vitamins and capacity conditions, for example, the presentation to oxygen and light.²⁵ Amid capacity of spaghetti, for instance, no loss of thiamine and niacin was watched yet riboflavin was defenseless to temperature, stockpiling period and light.

In a few circumstances the strategy for lack of hydration can likewise impact the loss of supplements. For example, Kaminski et al.²⁶ watched a quick debasement of carotenoids in solidified dried carrots. They watched that air-drying was more effective for carotene conservation when put away at encompassing temperature. Stop dried items are for the most part more permeable. This encourages oxygen exchange and advances fast oxidation of carotene.²⁶ Cinar²⁷ revealed that the most noteworthy shade misfortune was in carrot put away at 40°C (98.1%) while the least misfortune was in sweet potato kept at 4°C (11.3%) amid 45days of capacity.²⁷

Ways to reduce energy consumption

Routine care in operation ought to dependably frame a basic piece of yield dryer operation. Mix-drying, another most ideal approach to decrease the energy consumption expanding the through-put and enhances quality.²⁷ Improvement of vitality through scientific displaying is another critical approach to lessen vitality utilization.²⁸ Irregular drying and electro drying advances are likewise used to diminish vitality utilization. The utilization of microwave was found to majorly affect both the drying time and the vitality utilization.²⁹ The particular vitality utilization for the drying of grapes diminished from 81.15MJ/kg if there should arise an occurrence of convective

drying to 7.11–24.32 MJ/kg by joined microwave-convective drying.³⁰ Infrared-convective dryers lessen the vitality utilization of osmotically pre-treated examples of potato and pineapple. Warmth pump dryers and high electric field dryers have the immense potential for modern application, especially for high esteem crops as a result of prevalent nature of its items, effortlessness of plan and low vitality utilize.³¹

Conclusion

Numerous new measurements came up in drying innovation to diminish the vitality use and operational cost. Among the advances, osmotic lack of hydration, vacuum drying, solidify drying, SS drying, HPD drying microwave drying and shower drying are putting forth incredible breadth for the generation of best quality dried items and powders. Due to their specific and clinometric warming impacts, microwaves bring new attributes, for example, expanded rate of drying, upgraded last item quality and enhanced vitality utilization. The nature of microwave dried wares is regularly between air-dried and solidified dried items. In this way, savvy interchange frameworks like blend/half and half drying ought to be elevated to harvest the benefit of modern drying frameworks with least cost and straightforward advances. Mix drying with an underlying traditional drying process took after by a microwave complete or microwave vacuum process has demonstrated to decrease drying time while enhancing item quality and limiting vitality prerequisites. Notwithstanding, a few components ought to be mulled over when creating drying framework for the leafy foods. An ideal drying framework for the protection of foods grown from the ground ought to be practical, shorter drying time and with least harm to the item.

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Conflict of interest

There is no conflict of interest or business purpose in this research.

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