

## Physicochemical, cooking quality and sensory characterization of yellow alkaline noodle: impact of mango peel powder level

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### Abstract

Mango peel comprises of 7-25% of mango fruit that contributes to the environmental pollution. Mango peel contains nutraceutical compounds that are useful as a functional ingredient to increase nutritional properties in Asian staple food, which in our case was yellow alkaline noodle. The objective of this research was to study the effect of mango peel powder at different levels (0%, 10%, 20%, and 30%) on the cooking, physicochemical and sensory properties of yellow alkaline noodles (YAN). Substitution of wheat flour with mango peel powder significantly increased 2 to 15 times fibre content in the YAN compared to control. Additionally, fat and carbohydrate were reduced by 8-45% and 6-25%, respectively. The lowest cooking quality was observed in YAN incorporated with 30% mango peel powder, which showed the highest cooking lost (20.45%) and the lowest cooking yield (163.7%). YAN with mango peel powder had decreased lightness (L\*) and yellowness (b\*). All of the texture profile was negatively affected by an increment of mango peel powder in YAN but showed no significant differences. Sensory attributes of YAN with the incorporation of mango peel powder up to 20% showed similar acceptance with the control. The YAN with 30% mango peel powder had significantly lower sensory acceptance of panelists than other YAN samples. The study suggests that mango peel powder substitution up to 20% is suitable to increase nutritional properties of YAN with minimal adverse effects on the cooking quality, textural properties and sensory attributes.

## 1. Introduction

The by-products of fruit processing is a huge concern because it contributes to environmental pollution as waste. Some of these waste can be processed into flour and used as functional ingredients in food applications (Sogi *et al.*, 2005). Asia accounts for 77% of global mango production with 35-60% by-products (peel and kernel). Mango peel consists of 7-24% of the total weight of mango fruit (Iqbal *et al.*, 2009; Kim *et al.*, 2012). It has much beneficial uses in food and pharmaceutical industries. Mango peel has high dietary fibre, pectin, polyphenols and carotenoids (Ajila *et al.*, 2010; Ajila and Prasada Rao, 2013; Siriamornpun *et al.*, 2016). Therefore, mango peel may improve the nutritional value of food products with lower nutritional value, for example, yellow alkaline noodles.

Being one of the staple foods in Asia, noodles are

rich in carbohydrate but lack of other essential nutritional components (Li *et al.*, 2012). Noodles are made from 60-70% white wheat flour that is low in essential nutrients (mostly minerals, vitamins and fibre) due to wheat milling (Choo and Aziz, 2010). Other minor ingredients in noodle-making are water and salt. Some noodles, like yellow alkaline noodles (YAN) has additional minor ingredient of alkaline salt that is combined with sodium chloride to give a distinct taste and yellow colour (Hatcher *et al.*, 2009). However, the rise in health-conscious consumers also increased the demand for wheat-based product with added nutritional value. Hence, the nutrients deficiency in YAN can be compensated by adding high nutritional value by-product of fruit processing, specifically mango peel.

Mango peel powder is used as a functional ingredient in a variety of food products such as biscuits, bread and sponge cakes (Aziz *et al.*, 2012). The

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incorporation of 2.5% and 5% mango peel powder improved the nutritional quality of macaroni without affecting its cooking quality, textural or sensory properties (Ajila *et al.*, 2010). In soft dough biscuits, mango peel powder enhanced phenolic content and carotenoid content, total dietary fibre, soluble dietary fibre and insoluble dietary fibre of the biscuits. However, the biscuits had higher breaking strength, whereas the crust colour and appearance of biscuit incorporated with up to 10% mango peel powder were similar as the control (Ajila *et al.*, 2008). Mango peel powder also reduced retrogradation and lipid oxidation of normal and glutinous rice flours due to the interactions of phenolic compounds with amylopectin molecules in mango peel powder, resulting in a softer texture of the rice flour food (Siriamornpun *et al.*, 2016).

With an exception to a study by Ajila *et al.* (2010), the studies on incorporation of mango peel powder in food were limited to only bakery products (Ajila *et al.*, 2008; Ashoush and Gadallah, 2011). Due to increasing demands of healthier Asian food products, it is of our interest to find the optimum amount of mango peel powder in YAN that will significantly improve the nutritional properties, but yet minimize the negative impact on the textural and sensorial properties. Hence, the objective of this study was to determine the physicochemical properties, cooking quality and consumer's acceptance on YAN added with different levels of mango peel powder. This study shows good potential in producing food with higher nutritional values by incorporating agricultural by-products, therefore, turning waste into health.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1 Materials

Ripe mangoes (*Mangifera indica* L.), variety of *Susu* (MA 224) were obtained from Seri Kembangan, Selangor. The ripening stage of mangoes was 7 days under natural condition for ripe green stage mango. Wheat flour, salt, sodium carbonate and cooking oil were obtained from a local grocery store. All chemicals used were reagent grade.

### 2.2 Preparation of mango peel powder

Mangoes were peeled, washed using water and evenly spread on the tray. The mango peels were dried at  $50.0 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$  by using a smoke dryer for 24 hrs. The dried mango peels were finely ground into powder by using a dry blender (Model MX-GM1011, Panasonic, Malaysia) and sieved through a  $150\ \mu\text{m}$  sieve.

### 2.3 Preparation of yellow alkaline noodle

Four formulations of YAN were prepared (Table 1). Wheat flour was substituted by 0% (control), 10%, 20% and 30% mango peel powder. Firstly, wheat flour and mango peel powder were sieved together and mixed at low speed for 20 s using a mixer (Kitchen Aid, USA). Then, salt and sodium carbonate were dissolved in water and added into the flour mixture, mixed for 1 min at a low speed and followed by an intermediate speed for 4 mins. The dough was divided into sections and each section was passed through two rotating rollers (Shule, Changzhou, Jiangsu, China) to form a sheet. The sheet was folded and passed through the rollers six times before cutting it into noodle strands. Then, the noodle was cooked in boiling water ( $98.0 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ ) for 50 s. The noodle was immediately cooled under tap water for 1 min, drained and cooled to room temperature.

Table 1. Formulation of yellow alkaline noodle (YAN)

Ingredients	Substituted mango peel powder in YAN (%)			
	0	10	20	30
Wheat flour (g)	651	551	451	351
Mango Peel Powder (g)	-	100	200	300
Water (mL)	300	300	300	300
Salt (g)	17	17	17	17
Sodium carbonate (g)	17	17	17	17
Cooking oil (mL)	15	15	15	15

### 2.4 Nutritional analysis

Moisture content, crude fibre, protein, fat and ash were analysed based on AOAC 977.11, AOAC 962.09, AOAC 955.04, AOAC 960.39 and AOAC 923.03, respectively (AOAC, 2016). The carbohydrate content of the noodles was calculated by subtracting 100% with moisture content, crude fibre, protein, fat and ash.

### 2.5 pH

The pH of YAN was measured according to Yeoh *et al.* (2014). Cooked YAN (10 g) was mixed with deionized water (100 mL) for 5 mins and left to stand for 30 min. Then, the mixture was filtered and the pH of the filtrate was measured using a pH meter (Mettler-Toledo, S40 SevenMultiTM, Switzerland).

### 2.6 Cooking quality

#### 2.6.1 Cooking yield

The cooking yield was determined according to Tan *et al.* (2016). The partially cooked YAN (10 g) was placed in deionized water (150 mL) and boiled for 4 mins (optimal cooking time). Then, water was drained, and YAN was left to cool for 15 mins before weight measurement. The cooking yield was calculated using

the following equation:

$$\text{Cooking yield (\%)} = (\text{WA}/\text{WB}) \times 100$$

Where WA is the weight of noodles after cooking (g) and WB is the weight of noodles before cooking (g).

### 2.6.2 Cooking loss

The cooking loss was determined according to Tan *et al.* (2016). Pre-dried 250 mL beaker was cooled in a desiccator and weighed. The water from cooking yield measurement was poured into the pre-dried beaker and dried in an oven at 105°C for 24 hrs or until a constant weight was achieved. The beaker containing the dried residue was weighed after cooling in a desiccator. The cooking loss was calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Cooking loss (\%)} = ((\text{WR}-\text{WB})/\text{WS}) \times 100$$

Where WR is the total weight of beaker and dried residue (g), WB is the weight of pre-dried beaker (g), and WS is the weight of noodle before cooking (g).

### 2.7 Colour measurement

Colour of freshly cooked YAN was analysed using colorimeter (Konica Minolta, CM3500d, Japan) by placing the measuring head at the individual piece of noodles. The colour was measured as lightness (L\*), redness (a\*), and yellowness (b\*) hues.

### 2.8 Texture profile

Texture profile analysis of YAN was determined using a texture analyzer (Stable Micro Systems, TA-TX2, UK). The analysis was performed with a cylindrical probe (diameter 35 mm) to compress the samples to 50% of their original height. The crosshead pre-test speed was set at 5 mm/s, while the test speed and post-test speed were set at 1 mm/s. The clearance between top compression plate and the base was set at 20 mm and a 5 kg maximum load cell was used. Two strands of cooked noodle samples were placed parallel on the middle of the compression plate, and two

continuous compressions were carried out.

### 2.9 Sensory evaluation

Hedonic test was carried on YAN based on the 9 - point hedonic scale (1 - extremely dislike, 5 - neither like or dislike, 9 - extremely like) (Li *et al.*, 2013). A total of thirty untrained panellists from Universiti Putra Malaysia with the age range of 20-35 were served in a randomized order with 5 cm pieces of each YAN formulations. They were instructed to rinse their mouth after each sampling. The YAN was evaluated on the taste, colour, hardness, smoothness, springiness, appearance and overall acceptability.

### 2.10 Statistical analysis

The means were expressed from three replicates unless stated otherwise. The results were analysed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA), followed by Tukey's test using the confidence level of 0.95 ( $p < 0.05$ ). The statistical analyses were conducted using Minitab version 17 for Windows.

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1 Effect of mango peel powder on the nutritional composition of YAN

Table 2 shows that mango peel powder had significantly higher ash (14 times), fat (1.5 times) and crude fibre (86 times) than wheat flour. The fibre in mango peel powder was mainly from cellulose, hemicellulose and pectin (Sogi *et al.*, 2013). On the contrary, protein and carbohydrate in mango peel powder were significantly lower than the wheat flour. The nutritional composition of mango peel powder was similar with those reported by Aziz *et al.* (2012) but differed in terms of fat, protein and carbohydrate in mango peel powder from *Badami* and *Raspuri* varieties (Ajila *et al.*, 2008). The difference was probably due to the varietal difference, climate differences, topographic locations, soil type, fruit maturity stage and the agronomic practices (Imran *et al.*, 2013).

With exception to ash and protein, other

Table 2. Compositions of mango peel powder, wheat flour and yellow alkaline noodles

Composition	Mango Peel Powder	Wheat Flour	Substituted mango peel powder in YAN (%)			
			0	10	20	30
Moisture (%)	10.66±0.03 <sup>d</sup>	10.99±0.90 <sup>d</sup>	52.93±3.38 <sup>c</sup>	55.33±0.84 <sup>bc</sup>	59.70±1.95 <sup>ab</sup>	64.33±2.42 <sup>a</sup>
Ash (%)	2.88±0.17 <sup>a</sup>	0.20±0.06 <sup>c</sup>	0.54±0.14 <sup>b</sup>	0.57±0.14 <sup>b</sup>	0.60±0.04 <sup>b</sup>	0.65±0.14 <sup>b</sup>
Fat (%)	3.43±0.99 <sup>a</sup>	2.24±0.61 <sup>ab</sup>	2.65±0.54 <sup>a</sup>	2.43±0.54 <sup>a</sup>	2.23±0.43 <sup>a</sup>	1.46±0.31 <sup>b</sup>
Protein (%)	1.04±0.47 <sup>c</sup>	8.44±1.04 <sup>a</sup>	5.02±0.84 <sup>b</sup>	4.92±0.66 <sup>b</sup>	4.46±0.49 <sup>b</sup>	3.83±1.84 <sup>b</sup>
Crude Fibre (%)	10.36±3.98 <sup>a</sup>	0.12±0.03 <sup>b</sup>	0.05±0.00 <sup>c</sup>	0.11±0.03 <sup>c</sup>	0.41±0.20 <sup>b</sup>	0.76±0.09 <sup>a</sup>
Carbohydrate (%)	71.63±3.81 <sup>b</sup>	78.02±0.99 <sup>a</sup>	38.81±4.36 <sup>c</sup>	36.63±1.13 <sup>cd</sup>	32.59±2.77 <sup>cd</sup>	28.98±3.89 <sup>d</sup>

Values are expressed as mean ± standard deviation. Same alphabet superscript in the row are not significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ). Except moisture, other compositions are dry basis.

compositions in YAN had significant changes with an increment of mango peel powder in YAN (Table 2). Replacement of wheat flour with 30% mango peel powder showed prominent changes in YAN compared to 10% and 20% mango peel powder in YAN. Moisture content in YAN was 17.7% higher than control at 30% substitution. This was attributed to the high water absorption capacity of pectin in the mango peel powder (Goswami *et al.*, 2017). On the contrary, fat content in YAN substituted with 30% mango peel powder reduced significantly by 45% compared to control. According to Mellema (2003) and Ho and Che Dahri (2016), the moisture content in food affected the fat uptake of the food because water molecules in YAN act as a protective barrier that prevents fat absorption from oil coating of YAN. This phenomenon was observed in YAN with 30% mango peel powder that depicted the highest moisture and lowest fat contents than other samples.

The crude fibre in YAN increased significantly with the replacement of 20% and 30% mango peel powder. The result was expected because mango peel powder showed fibre content of 10.36%, as compared to wheat flour of only 0.12%. The trend was similar to Ajila *et al.* (2010), where insoluble dietary fibre and total dietary fibre in macaroni increased significantly with an increasing amount of mango peel in the formulation. According to Ajila *et al.* (2008), mango peel is rich with fibre that consists of 19.0% soluble dietary fibre, 32.1% insoluble dietary fibre and 51.2% total dietary fibre. The crude fibre in YAN showed a negative correlation with carbohydrate results. Higher amount of fibre is often associated in decrease of carbohydrate content, as depicted in the result. The YAN with 30% mango peel powder showed a significant 25.3% decrease of carbohydrate compared to control.

### 3.2 Effect of mango peel powder on the cooking quality and pH of YAN

Cooking quality of YAN was reflected by the cooking loss and cooking yield of YAN (Table 3). With the increased substitution of mango peel powder, cooking loss also showed a significant increase, whereas cooking yield was prominently lower at 30% substitution of mango peel powder. The inversed correlation of cooking and cooking yield was also observed by Ajila *et al.* (2010) that replaced wheat flour with mango peel powder in macaroni. Similarly, incorporation of linseed into noodle showed an increase in the cooking loss of noodle (Zhu and Li, 2019). Diminished cooking quality of YAN with 30% mango peel powder was confirmed when it had optimum cooking time of only 2 mins, as compared to the control of 3.38 mins.

Replacing wheat flour with mango peel powder

caused two major compositional changes that negatively affected the cooking quality of YAN. The first change was dilution of protein content in YAN, as observed in Table 2. The protein dilution caused lower amount of gluten formation during production of YAN that affected the stability of structural density and water holding capacity of YAN. Cooking loss was correlated with the structural densities of surfaces, where the soluble solids were eluted from the surface into the cooking water (Kang *et al.*, 2017). The second compositional change in YAN was the significant increase in fibre content (Table 2). According to (Ajila *et al.*, 2010), fibre in mango peel powder changes the gluten protein network and disrupts protein-starch matrix. They also claimed that fibre caused uneven distribution of water within the matrix due to the competitive hydration tendency of fibre. These two compositional changes caused YAN incorporated with mango peel powder to be less resilient towards heat and leached out more soluble solids.

Typically, the pH of YAN is in alkaline range due to the addition of sodium carbonate. Alkaline reagents function to give the favourable yellow colour (Kubomura, 1998) and increase the chewiness and hardness of noodles (Shin and Kim, 1993). Significant reduction of pH occurred with an increasing amount of mango peel added into YAN. The decrease was due to the acidity of mango peel powder with the pH of 4.0 (Banerjee *et al.*, 2016) which was lower than pH of wheat flour that ranges from 6.0 to 6.8 (Moss *et al.*, 1986). The previous study found that the addition of banana pulp and banana peel flour also reduced the pH of YAN (Foo *et al.*, 2011) due to the lower pH of banana pulp and banana peel flour.

### 3.3 Effect of mango peel powder on the colour of YAN

YAN is favourable as yellow-coloured noodles that are achieved by the addition of alkaline reagents in the noodle-making process. In this study, the alkaline reagent used was sodium carbonate (Table 1). But substituting wheat flour with mango peel powder affected the overall colour characteristics of YAN (Figure 1). With a higher amount of mango peel powder in YAN, lightness and yellowness decreased significantly, especially at 30% substitution. However, redness increased significantly at 10% substitution, then reduced gradually with 20% and 30% substitution. At 10% mango peel powder in YAN, the brown colour of mango changed the yellow colour of YAN to red hue. But as the amount of mango peel powder increased in YAN, the brown colour of YAN intensified, therefore reducing the redness. Similarly, Ajila *et al.* (2008) observed decreased lightness and yellowness in biscuits that were incorporated with 0-20% mango peel powder. They claimed that the polyphenols in mango peel were

oxidized by polyphenol oxidase and peroxidase possible, consequently changing the yellow mango peel powder into brown colour. Hence, the brown colour affected the overall colour changes in YAN.

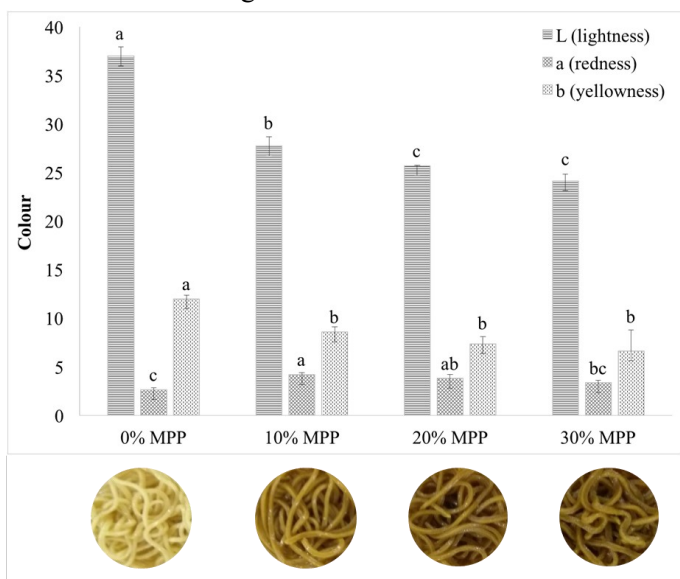


Figure 1. Colour measurements of yellow alkaline noodle (YAN). Values are expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. Same letter within bar for each treatment are not significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ).

### 3.4 Effect of mango peel powder on the texture of YAN

Table 3 shows the summary of the textural properties of YAN. Although the results showed no significant differences in all of the textural properties, the hardness showed an unusual trend. Substitution of mango peel powder up to 20% in YAN increased the hardness, but 30% mango peel powder reduced the hardness by 9% as compared to the control YAN. The same trend was observed in the chewiness of YAN. These results are likely to be related to the higher moisture in YAN supplemented with mango peel powder (Table 2). The fibre content in mango peel powder had more hydroxyl groups that probably caused higher water absorption (Sudha *et al.*, 2007), leading to extensive gluten structure that harden the texture of YAN. However, the higher amount of mango peel powder diluted the amount of gluten in YAN, weakening gluten-starch interaction and lowering viscoelasticity that softens the texture of YAN.

### 3.5 Effect of mango peel powder on the sensory attributes of YAN

Figure 2 presents the appearance, colour, hardness, smoothness, springiness, taste and overall acceptability of cooked YAN incorporated with mango peel powder. The sensory evaluation was performed using a 9-point hedonic scale. The parameter that scored higher than 5 were considered acceptable. Enriching YAN up to 20% mango peel powder showed no significant differences on all the sensory parameters. The high standard deviations showed that the panellists had a wider array of

preferences towards acceptability of YAN. However, it was notable that YAN with 30% mango peel powder had the lowest scores in all attributes. Appearance, colour and taste of YAN with 30% mango peel powder showed lower scores than 5 points.

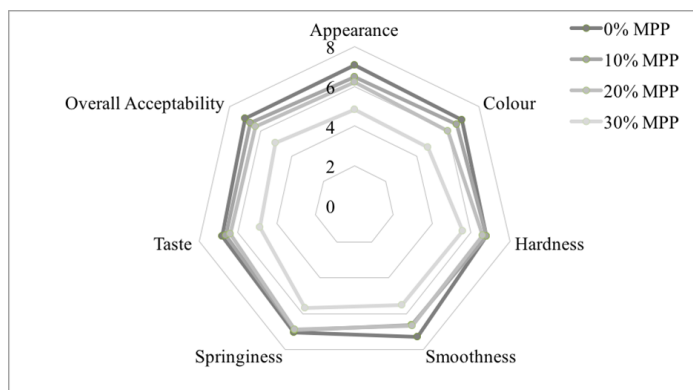


Figure 2. Sensory evaluation of yellow alkaline noodle (YAN) with 0-30% substituted mango peel powder (MPP).

The result shows that a higher amount of mango peel powder was detrimental to the sensory attributes. These results are consistent with those of Ajila *et al.* (2010), who observed the lowest sensory evaluation scores of macaroni with the highest amount of mango peel powder incorporated (7.5%). In their case, taste and overall acceptability of the macaroni were significantly affected, whereas colour and texture were similar to the control. Although the latter study had similar trend with our study, the sensory attributes of macaroni in their study were not severely affected as YAN in our study, most probably because of the lesser amount of mango peel powder (7.5%) used. Another possible reason was that macaroni was prepared using durum wheat, a variety of wheat that has harder texture and higher protein content (12.3%) than the hard wheat flour (8.4% protein) used in our study.

The nutritional properties, cooking quality and texture profile of YAN with 30% mango peel powder in this study supported the low scores of all of the sensory parameters. Although nutritionally improved with higher fibre, lower fat and lower carbohydrate contents (Table 2), YAN incorporated with 30% YAN had the lowest protein content. Lacking protein in YAN leads to less formation of gluten, consequently producing noodles with weaker texture and lower resilient towards heat. This was observed in the cooking quality and texture profile of YAN (Table 3). All of these results were affecting the final outcome of the product - a less appealing appearance and low values in hardness, smoothness and springiness.

Colour showed the lowest score in YAN with 30% mango peel powder because consumers prefer the bright yellow colour of YAN (Tan *et al.*, 2016). The taste of

Table 3. The pH, texture profile and cooking quality of yellow alkaline noodle (YAN)

	Substituted mango peel powder in YAN (%)			
	0	10	20	30
pH	9.67±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	8.84±0.11 <sup>b</sup>	8.45±0.03 <sup>c</sup>	8.22±0.01 <sup>d</sup>
<b>Cooking quality</b>				
Cooking loss (%)	12.35±0.15 <sup>d</sup>	15.68±0.34 <sup>c</sup>	18.76±0.62 <sup>b</sup>	20.45±0.48 <sup>a</sup>
Cooking yield (%)	204.8±29.00 <sup>a</sup>	196.10±20.40 <sup>a</sup>	183.51±13.88 <sup>a</sup>	163.73±0.85 <sup>b</sup>
Optimum cooking time (min)	3.38±0.08 <sup>a</sup>	3.20±0.23 <sup>a</sup>	2.30±0.15 <sup>b</sup>	2.00±0.37 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Texture Profile</b>				
Hardness (g)	19209±1615 <sup>a</sup>	19497±2312 <sup>a</sup>	19588±2915 <sup>a</sup>	17478±4669 <sup>a</sup>
Adhesiveness (g.sec)	-668±229 <sup>a</sup>	-1042.2±58.6 <sup>a</sup>	-756±217 <sup>a</sup>	-542±174 <sup>a</sup>
Springiness	0.65±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.74±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.61±0.09 <sup>a</sup>	0.60±0.16 <sup>a</sup>
Cohesiveness	0.55±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.59±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.61±0.07 <sup>a</sup>	0.60±0.04 <sup>a</sup>
Chewiness	6853±1306 <sup>a</sup>	8564±1425 <sup>a</sup>	7416±2195 <sup>a</sup>	6608±3224 <sup>a</sup>

Values are expressed as mean ± standard deviation. Same alphabet superscript in the row are not significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ).

YAN with 30% mango peel powder was also expected to have a much lower preference among panellists due to the undesirable bitter taste of polyphenol that existed in mango peel powder. Ajila *et al.* (2008) showed the lowest score for the taste of biscuit with 20% mango peel powder, indicating the prevalence of polyphenol in mango peel powder as the cause. Assuming that all the panellists had similar prior experience in eating yellow noodles, the texture of YAN with 30% mango peel powder could also play a role in affecting the lower score given to taste because the overall chewing sensation of the mushier texture was not common in YAN. Taking into account all of the low scores given for YAN with 30% mango peel powder, it was expected that the overall acceptability of the sample was the lowest but was not significant than the other samples.

#### 4. Conclusion

Mango peel powder increased the fibre and lowered the fat and carbohydrate contents in YAN. The cooking quality, textural properties and sensory evaluation of YAN were acceptable up to 20% incorporation of mango peel powder. This study shows that usage of mango peel powder in Asian staple food has potential in improving the nutritional properties of the final product with good consumer acceptance. This will impart healthier food choices, consequently improving the health status of the community. For future research, a study on antioxidant properties of YAN is recommended, as mango peel powder was proven to have sufficient amount of polyphenols and carotenoids.

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