

Effect of gum arabic (*Acacia senegal*) addition on physicochemical properties and sensory acceptability of roselle juice

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Abstract

Roselle has a brilliant red colour, high in vitamins and has a unique flavour that makes it suitable for juice production. Meanwhile, Gum Arabic (GA) is the edible dried exudate attained from stem and branch of *Acacia senegal* that contains high dietary fibre which can serve as prebiotic. Therefore, the application of GA into roselle juice might promote health benefits to consumers. GA is categorised as hydrocolloid and its application might affect important properties and acceptability towards the product. Hence, this study was conducted to investigate the effect of different concentrations of Gum Arabic (GA, *Acacia senegal*) addition (0%, 2%, 4% and 6%) on physicochemical properties and sensory acceptability of roselle juice. Increasing the GA concentration resulted in increased pH, total soluble solids, viscosity and turbidity values of roselle juice ($p < 0.05$). However, the addition of GA had reduced the total anthocyanin content in roselle juice. For colour analysis, the addition of GA significantly ($p < 0.05$) reduced the redness (a^*) and yellowness (b^*) properties. There was no significant difference in all attributes for sensory evaluation except for colour attribute. In conclusion, the addition of GA up to 6% into roselle juice caused an increase in pH, total soluble solids, viscosity and turbidity, but no effect to the sensory attributes.

1. Introduction

The awareness of a healthy lifestyle and dietary intake has attracted the attention of consumers towards functional food products. The functional food market had increased due to the foods itself that provide a convenient way to maintain optimum health by offering health benefits which can help to prevent particular diseases (Lau *et al.*, 2013). Functional food products usually were added with functional ingredients, for instance, vitamin E, fibre, calcium, probiotics and prebiotics (Lau *et al.*, 2013). Nowadays, the product that was targeting on gut health like probiotics and prebiotics has gained more attention.

Prebiotic is the substance that indigestible in the small intestine, moves to the colon and used by gut bacteria, thus providing a health benefit that can maintain health (Gibson *et al.*, 2017). The intake of prebiotic can be a dietary strategy to alter the concentration of gastrointestinal microbiota such as Bifidobacteria that can promote health benefits, which consequently may prevent disease. It was reported that

prebiotic is capable of preventing cancer and constipation, remove cholesterol, reduce cardiovascular disease risk and act as an immunopotentiator (Patel and Goyal, 2012; Al-Sheraji *et al.*, 2013).

One of the potential prebiotic is Gum Arabic (GA) which is acquired from stems and branches of *Acacia senegal* (L.) Willdenow or *Acacia seyal* (fam. Leguminosae) tree (Idris, 2017; Mariod, 2018). It is rich in dietary fibre, indigestible in the stomach and small intestine and thus was fermented in large intestine by the surrounding bacteria (Phillips and Phillips, 2011). Therefore, it shows that GA poses prebiotic characteristic that capable of increasing the Bifidobacteria when it was fermented in large intestine. Besides, it has been reported that intake of GA at an optimal dose of 10 g daily is capable of providing prebiotic effects to consumers (Cherbut *et al.*, 2003; Calame *et al.*, 2008).

Considering the health benefits of prebiotic and increased demand for functional foods by consumers, fruit juice has been recommended and is suitable for the

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functional food production due to its bioactive components, and meets the demands on healthy, tasty and practical products (Gomes *et al.*, 2017). Few studies have been carried out to develop fruit juice with prebiotic properties. Previously, a study by da Silva *et al.* (2014) has suggested the development of cashew juice with oligosaccharides as a potential new functional beverage. Other than that, in a previous study, the addition of FOS (oligofructose and inulin) in apple and orange juice resulted in no significant difference with the control sample during the sensory evaluation, suggesting that the beverages with prebiotics were acceptable by the panellist (Ghavidel *et al.*, 2014). However, the majority of previous studies used oligofructose and inulin as prebiotic. There are limited studies used GA as a prebiotic source.

In a previous study, Niamah *et al.* (2016) studied the usage of Gum Arabic as prebiotics in yoghurt production. The study reported that the viability of probiotic bacteria was increased after production when 1% of GA was added to the yoghurt. Moreover, the study also revealed that the addition of 1% GA improved the nutritional value by increasing the percentage of total solids, carbohydrate and protein. Besides, Nami *et al.* (2016) also reported that the utilisation of GA gels exhibited better potential for encapsulation of probiotic bacteria in yoghurt due to its prebiotic potentials. However, these studies only carried out on yoghurt and limited studies have been conducted on fruit juice, especially in roselle juice.

Nowadays, roselle has been enticing the attention of food and beverage manufacturers because of its health benefits to the consumers. Roselle has been proven to rich in nutrients like vitamins and polyphenol that might promote antioxidant properties (Jabeur *et al.*, 2017; Riaz and Chopra, 2018). The roselle calyces extract was found to promote health benefit as an anticancer and capable of reducing the chronic disease for instance hypertension, diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular disease (McKay *et al.*, 2010; Akim *et al.*, 2011; Mardiah *et al.*, 2014; Formagio *et al.*, 2015). Thus, it demonstrated that roselle juice could be an excellent carrier in developing functional beverages with GA as a prebiotic source. However, as GA is categorised as a hydrocolloid, its addition may affect the physicochemical characteristics and organoleptic properties of the juice.

Therefore, the objective of this study was to evaluate the physicochemical properties and sensory acceptability of roselle juice with addition of GA at different concentration level.

2. Materials and methods

2.1 Materials and preparation of roselle juice

Fresh roselle calyx from UMKL variety was obtained from a local producer. The calyces were washed with clean water, decored (seeds removal) and air-dried before storage at frozen temperature (-20°C) until further used. Frozen calyces were ground for 1 min using a food blender (Panasonic MX-337, Malaysia) with roselle calyx to water ratio of 1: 20. Then the sample was extracted by heating at 60°C for 15 min. The roselle extract was filtered using a muslin cloth and allowed to cool at room temperature (24°C). Roselle juice was prepared by adding the roselle extract with 4% xylitol and 0.03% stevia as sweetener. Then, the GA powder (*A. senegal*) was added at a concentration of 0% (control), 2%, 4% and 6% before the pasteurisation process. The juice was pasteurised at 90°C for 30 s and hot-filled into an amber glass bottle before cooled rapidly to room temperature by immersing in an icy water bath.

2.2 Physicochemical analysis

2.2.1 Titratable acidity and pH value

The titratable acidity of each sample was determined by the titration method. About 20 mL of each sample was titrated with 0.1N NaOH until reaching the endpoint of pH 8.2±0.2 using a pH meter (Thermo Scientific Orion Star A111, USA). The total acidity of sample was expressed as a percentage of malic acid in prebiotic roselle juice (Mgaya-Kilima *et al.*, 2014). For pH value determination, it was obtained by using a calibrated pH meter (Thermo Scientific Orion Star A111, USA) at 25°C.

2.2.2 Total soluble solid

The total soluble solid content of prebiotic roselle juice was measured by using a refractometer (Milwaukee MA871, USA) at 20°C. The result was expressed as degree Brix (°Brix).

2.2.3 Viscosity

The viscosity of sample was determined using a rotatable viscometer (Brookfield DV-II+ Pro, USA) with no. 2 spindle at 100 rpm (Saxena *et al.*, 2014). The position and setting of the viscometer were adjusted to obtain a precise measurement. Prior to the experiment, the spindle was immersed for 30 s in the sample for equilibrium. The reading was taken when it became stable, basically after 10 s of rotation or at 10th, 11th and 12th cycle (Oke *et al.*, 2010). The measurement of viscosity was expressed in millipascal-second (mPas).

2.2.4 Turbidity

The turbidity of roselle juice was determined according to Sreenath and Santhanam (1992) by measuring the absorbance of samples at 650 nm using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Merck Spectroquant Pharo 300 Spectrophotometer, Germany). Distilled water was used as blank and the result was expressed as absorbance at 650 nm (A_{650nm}).

2.2.5 Total anthocyanin content

The anthocyanin content in roselle juice was determined by pH differential method according to method by Lee (2005). Prior to the analysis, two pH buffers, which was potassium chloride buffer (pH 1.0) and sodium acetate buffer (pH 4.5) was prepared. For the analysis, approximately 3 mL of sample was placed in two different test tubes and diluted to 15 mL with the corresponding buffer. Then, the solutions were vortexed at 2000 rpm for 1 min and equilibrated in the dark for 20 mins. The absorbance was measured at wavelength of 520 nm and 700 nm by UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Merck Spectroquant Pharo 300 Spectrophotometer, Germany). Distilled water was used as blank. Then, the total anthocyanin content in the sample was calculated according to the following formula and was expressed as mg cyanidin-3-glucoside equivalent/100 mL sample (mg/100 mL):

$$\text{Total anthocyanin content} = \frac{A \times Mw \times DF \times 1000}{\epsilon \times L}$$

Where Mw = molecular weight (MW) of cyanidin-3-glucoside (449.2 g); DF = the dilution factor; ϵ = the molar extinction coefficient for cyanidin-3-glucoside (26,900 L/mol/cm); L = the path length of the spectrophotometer cell (1.0 cm); and A = the difference of sample absorbance between pH 1.0 and 4.5 calculated with the following equation:

$$A = (A_{520} - A_{700})_{pH1.0} - (A_{520} - A_{700})_{pH4.5}$$

2.2.6 Colour

Colour measurement was carried out using a chromameter (Konica Minolta Chroma Meter CR-400, Japan) calibrated with a standard white tile. An amount of 25 mL of the sample was placed in a glass petri dish, covered with a protective cap and the colour measurement was taken. The colour parameters were recorded at room temperature, according to CIE L^* , a^* and b^* colour values. The L^* value indicates lightness, a^* value represents greenness to redness while yellowness (b^*) value measures blueness to yellowness of the sample.

2.3 Sensory acceptability

Sensory acceptability test was conducted for roselle juice with different concentrations (0%, 2%, 4%, and 6%) of GA addition. A total of fifty untrained panellists consist of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) students and staffs were involved in the evaluation. Each of panellist was served with approximately 30 mL of juice (for each formulation) and was asked to evaluate according to five sensory attributes for instance colour, odour, viscosity, taste and overall acceptability. The acceptability of prebiotic roselle juice was evaluated using a 5-point hedonic scale anchored by: 1 = 'Dislike extremely'; 2 = 'Dislike moderately'; 3 = 'Neither like nor dislike'; 4 = 'Like moderately'; 5 = 'Like extremely' (Granato *et al.*, 2010).

2.4 Experimental design and statistical analysis

The experiment was conducted using a complete randomised design (CRD) with a one-way treatment structure. Each sample was prepared in three independent replication and the results were expressed as mean values and standard deviation (SD). One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was performed at 95% confidence level. Then, the significant differences between means were then analysed by Fisher's Least Significance Difference Test. Data were analysed using Minitab 19.0.

3. Results and discussion

3.1 Physicochemical properties of roselle juice

3.1.1 Titratable acidity and pH value

Roselle juice with 0% (control), 2%, 4% and 6% of GA were analysed for titratable acidity by titration method. Titratable acidity determines the concentration of total acid in a sample such as malic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid and lactic acid and it is usually expressed as a percentage of the predominant organic acid (Tyl and Sadler, 2017). According to Al-Wandawi (2015), Jabeur *et al.* (2017) and Jung *et al.* (2013), roselle calyx had been found to have a high percentage of malic acid as compared to other types of acid. Therefore, the titratable acidity in the current study was expressed in percentage of malic acid (% Malic Acid). The result for titratable acidity of roselle juice with GA addition is summarised in Table 1.

As can be seen in Table 1, the titratable acidity values of all samples were between 0.12 ± 0.01 and $0.13 \pm 0.01\%$ of malic acid. These values were found to be lower than values reported by Mgaya-Kilima *et al.* (2014) and Cisse *et al.* (2012) in roselle extract with the values of 1.92 ± 0.00 and $19.00 \pm 7.00\%$ of malic acid, respectively. The difference in the titratable acidity value

Table 1. Physicochemical properties of roselle juice with different percentages of Gum Arabic (GA)

Properties	A	B	C	D
Titratable acidity (% Malic Acid)	0.12±0.01 ^a	0.12±0.01 ^a	0.13±0.01 ^a	0.13±0.01 ^a
pH	2.59±0.04 ^d	3.20±0.02 ^c	3.45±0.02 ^b	3.61±0.02 ^a
Total Soluble Solid (°Brix)	5.2±0.3 ^d	6.8±0.3 ^c	8.5±0.2 ^b	10.5±0.3 ^a
Viscosity (mPas)	11.6±0.00 ^d	14.93±0.23 ^c	20±0.40 ^b	25.07±0.61 ^a
Turbidity (Abs _{650nm})	0.2±0.007 ^c	0.257±0.03 ^b	0.276±0.01 ^b	0.413±0.02 ^a
Total anthocyanin content (mg/100 mL)	83.74±2.17 ^a	72.8±1.04 ^b	67.19±1.13 ^c	63.04±2.19 ^c

Each value is expressed as mean ± standard deviation (n = 3). Different superscripts in the same row indicate significant differences (p<0.05); A: 0% GA; B: 2% GA; C: 4% GA; D: 6% GA.

is possibly due to the difference in roselle varieties and the methods of preparation in terms of their roselle to water ratio, extraction procedure and the preservatives added to the juice. The previous study extracted the roselle juice at ratio of 1: 10 and 1:15 (roselle calyx: water) and added preservatives such as potassium sorbate, sodium benzoate, and citric acid into the juice which might possibly contribute to the increase of titratable acidity values (Cisse *et al.*, 2012; Mgaya-Kilima *et al.*, 2014).

Besides, the addition of GA did not have a significant effect on titratable acidity of roselle juice. A similar result was reported by Nwaokoro and Akanbi (2015) who found that the addition of hydrocolloids such as xanthan gum and carboxyl methylcellulose (CMC) into tomato carrot juice does not significantly affect the titratable acidity value. Other than that, a previous research works on cow milk whey beverages also showed no changes in titratable acidity when 2% of hydrocolloid CMC or high methoxyl pectin (HMP) was added (Talpur *et al.*, 2016). Therefore, this can be assumed that the addition of GA did not cause any substantial changes in titratable acidity, may due to the fact that addition of GA does not contribute to the total acid in the juice.

Other than that, Table 1 also shows the pH of roselle juice with different concentrations of GA addition. Although the titratable acidity values were determined similar for all samples, however, the pH values were significantly different between each other. The result demonstrated that increasing the concentration of GA from 2% to 6% produced less acidic property of the juice. The increase in pH is expected due to the pH of GA itself (pH 4.5) was higher than pH of roselle extract (pH 2.6) where its addition into roselle juice may contribute to increasing the pH of the final product (Idris, 2017). Similarly, a previous study by Shukri *et al.* (2014) also found that addition of hydrocolloids such as guar gum and xanthan gum significantly increased the pH of *tapai pulut* (fermented glutinous rice) ice cream due to the properties of the hydrocolloid that act as a stabiliser and thus stabilised the pH when in acidic condition.

3.1.2 Total soluble solid

Total soluble solid (TSS) is referred to the sum of solids that dissolved in a solution, primarily the sugar like sucrose, fructose and glucose, fruit acids and other soluble solids like pectins and minerals (Magwaza and Opara, 2015). As shown in Table 1, the TSS was significantly (p<0.05) increased with the increase of GA concentration in roselle juice. The result of the present study is in accordance with the finding of previous researchers who reported that the addition of hydrocolloid (carboxymethyl cellulose or Arabic gum) had increased the TSS value in soursop velva (Parnanto *et al.*, 2018). The TSS may increase due to the structure of the hydrocolloid, which consists of linear and water-soluble polysaccharides as well as simple sugars that can increase the TSS value (Parnanto *et al.*, 2018). In the current study, increased TSS of the juice with different concentrations of GA was mainly due to the composition of GA that consists of L-arabinose, D-galactose, D-glucuronic acid and L-rhamnose (Dauqan and Abdullah, 2013; BeMiller, 2019).

3.1.3 Viscosity

Viscosity is an important parameter that can affect the quality and consumer acceptance of juice (Nayak *et al.*, 2017). Table 1 shows that the viscosity of roselle juices increased (p<0.05) in line with the increase of GA. A similar trend was observed by Aghajanzadeh *et al.* (2017), who found that as the concentration of xanthan gum increased from 0.1 to 0.2%, the viscosity of watermelon juice was increased as well. The increase of juice viscosity might be attributed to the structure of gum that has long branches with bulky arrangement which capable in creating hydrogen bond with the water molecules, causing the increase of hydrodynamic volume, and thus forming viscous solution (Montenegro *et al.*, 2012; Akkarachaneeyakorn and Tinrat, 2015).

3.1.4 Turbidity

Turbidity is the cloudiness and haziness of a liquid that occurred due to the colloidal and suspended polysaccharides like starch, pectin and hemicellulose components (Pinelo *et al.*, 2010; Bajaj and Manhas,

2012). In the current study, the addition of GA into roselle juice showed a significant effect on juice turbidity (Table 1). Sample D with the highest addition of GA (6%) exhibited the highest turbidity value and this was reported to relate with its viscosity as well. Similarly, a study by Aghajanzadah *et al.* (2017) also reported that the addition of 0.1 – 0.2% xanthan gum into watermelon juice resulted in increase of cloudiness of the juice.

In roselle juice, the original turbidity might be contributed by the colloid polysaccharides particles like pectin and the partially dissolved insoluble components that suspended in juice (Pinelo *et al.*, 2010; Kumar, 2015). The increase of juice turbidity with GA addition might be due to the electrostatic force between the cloud particles of the juice and GA molecule when added into the juice. The cloud particles in the juice usually were surrounded by negative charges (Yamasaki *et al.*, 1964), while the GA molecules also were reported to have negative charges (Yamasaki *et al.*, 1964; Espinosa-Andrew *et al.*, 2007). Therefore, the addition of GA into the juice might cause electrostatic repulsion forces between the negative-charged particles and GA molecules. Hence, the aggregation of the molecules in the juice can be avoided and thus maintained the suspension of the particles in the juice, resulting in higher turbidity and cloud stability. Besides, when compared with the viscosity property, the juice with higher turbidity was found to have higher viscosity as well. A similar result was reported by Akkarachaneeyakorn and Tinrat (2015) when evaluating the effect of hydrocolloids addition in mulberry juice, suggesting the linear relationship between viscosity and turbidity.

3.1.5 Total anthocyanin content

Anthocyanin is the water-soluble pigment responsible for the red colour of roselle juice. The anthocyanin content of roselle juice was ranged from 63.04±2.19 to 83.74±2.17 mg/100 mL of the sample (Table 1). The amount of anthocyanin content in roselle juice without GA (83.74±2.17 mg/100 mL) was lower than reported in elderberry juice (96.4±4.8mg/100 mL) and mulberry concentrate (223.3mg/100 mL) as reported by Casati *et al.* (2015) and Kara and Ercelebi (2013), respectively. Nevertheless, the value was higher than reported in blackcurrant juice, pomegranate juice and roselle juice in previous studies (Turfan *et al.*, 2011; Ibrahim and Mazuki, 2013; Dobson *et al.*, 2017). The different in anthocyanin content in the juices may be due to the difference in their composition, pH value and production process which may affect the anthocyanin content.

GA was reported to enhance the stability of

anthocyanin due to its structure as a highly branched heteropolymer of sugar with a small amount of protein that interacts with anthocyanin by hydrogen bond and forming non-covalent complexes (Mahdavi *et al.*, 2016; Chung *et al.*, 2016). According to Table 1, the current finding revealed that the addition of different concentrations of GA resulted in significant ($p < 0.05$) decreased of anthocyanin content in the juice. The decrease in anthocyanin content with GA addition showed the instability of this pigment when the gum was added, causing loss of anthocyanin pigments. A possible explanation for this result may be due to the “overcrowding” of the GA molecules in the drink when added at higher concentration. This reduced the interaction between anthocyanin and the glycoprotein of GA (Dror *et al.*, 2006) that responsible to the anthocyanin stability. A similar trend was observed by Chung *et al.* (2016) who found that the anthocyanin stability decreased when 2.5–5.0% of GA was added into a model beverage that contained purple carrot anthocyanin.

3.1.6 Colour

The colour profile of roselle juice with different concentrations of GA addition was reported as L* value (lightness), a* value (redness and greenness) and b* value (yellowness). As can be seen in Figure 1, there was no significant difference between the samples with different GA concentrations on L* attribute. This finding was supported by Pieczykolan and Kurek (2019) who also found no significant ($p > 0.05$) difference in lightness value of microcapsules containing anthocyanin from chokeberry with GA addition. Figure 1 also demonstrated that the redness and yellowness parameters decreased with increasing concentration of GA. The addition of GA at a minimum of 2% and 4% into roselle juice had reduced the yellowness and redness properties of roselle juice, respectively. The similar trend was also observed by Lachowicz *et al.* (2018) who found that the a* and b* of chokeberry juice were significantly decreased with guar gum addition. Previous studies had reported that the decrease of redness in juice might cause by the degradation of anthocyanin pigments in the samples, thus affect the redness property (Buvé *et al.*, 2018; Liu *et al.*, 2018). As supported in section 3.1.5, the present study also found a reduction in anthocyanin content when GA was added. Hence, the degradation of anthocyanin and losing the red pigments might be the main reason of colour degradation of roselle juice.

3.2 Sensory evaluation

Figure 2 presents the mean scores for the sensory assessment of roselle juice with GA addition at different concentrations. The acceptability of the juices was

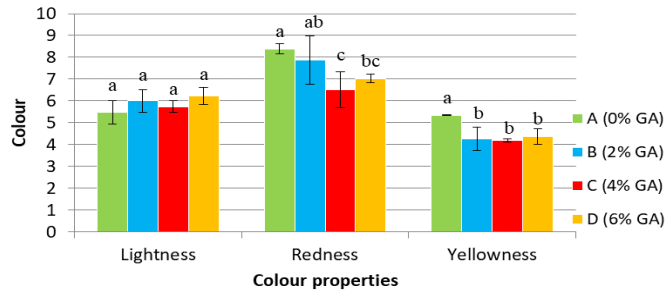


Figure 1. Colour intensity of roselle juice with different concentration of Gum Arabic (GA) (n=3). Different letters above the bars indicate significant difference at the level of $p < 0.05$ within the sample.

analysed for their colour, odour, viscosity, taste and overall acceptability attributes on a 5-point hedonic scale. The result showed that all the samples obtained mean hedonic scores within the acceptability range with a score of equal or above 3.5 for all attributes. The statistical analysis of the sensory evaluation also revealed that there was no significant difference ($p > 0.05$) between the samples in all attributes except for the colour attribute ($p < 0.05$).

For colour attribute, roselle juice with 2% of GA (sample B) attained significantly ($p < 0.05$) higher acceptability score than the sample with 4% and 6% of GA (sample C and D, respectively). Meanwhile, there was no significant difference between sample B and control sample (sample A) in colour attribute. A similar result was obtained by Kiiru *et al.* (2018) when evaluating formulation of goat milk mozzarella cheese with the addition 2%, 3% and 4% *A. senegal* powder. The authors noted that colour acceptability score was the least for cheese containing 4% *A. senegal*. As discussed in section 3.1.6, significant reduction of redness intensity was presented by roselle juices containing 4% and 6% GA. Hence, this finding might be the main reason for the lower acceptance score for these juices.

The current sensory acceptability test also demonstrated that there was no significant ($p > 0.05$) difference for the level of odour acceptability score of roselle juices containing GA as compared to the control sample. This might due to the properties of GA that is odourless and its addition in the food product does not affect the odour of the product (Featherstone, 2015). Besides, for the viscosity attribute, no significant difference ($p > 0.05$) was observed between the samples. Although previous result (viscosity property) showed that increasing the concentration of GA resulted in increasing the juice viscosity, however, sensory acceptability test showed all samples obtained similar acceptability scores between each other. Hence, this indicated that all panellists could accept the viscosity differences of roselle juice

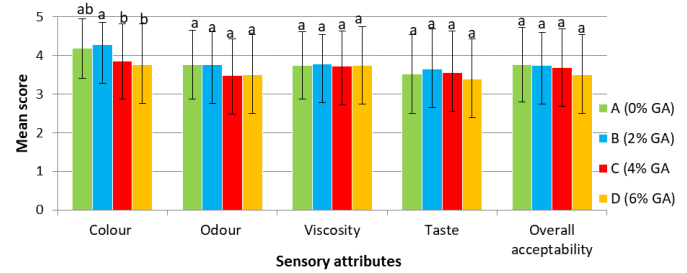


Figure 2. Sensory acceptability mean scores of prebiotic roselle juice with different concentration of Gum Arabic (GA) (n=50). Different letters above the bars indicate significant difference at the level of $p < 0.05$, within the same attribute.

For taste attribute, different concentrations of GA addition in roselle juice also acquired similar acceptance level for all samples. This finding might be due to the tasteless characteristic of GA (Mohammed, 2015). A similar result was found by Elseed (2017), who reported that the addition of *A. senegal* powder in cow milk yoghurt did not significantly affect the taste of the samples during the sensory evaluation.

Finally, overall acceptability attributes gained equal acceptability score for all roselle juices regardless of their lower colour acceptance level obtained for sample with 4% and 6% of GA. Therefore, this finding showed that the addition of 2% to 6% of GA is applicable and considered had no impact on the organoleptic properties of roselle juice.

4. Conclusion

The result of the current study revealed that the physicochemical properties of roselle juice were affected by the addition of GA except for titratable acidity. The increase of GA concentration resulted in an increase of pH, total soluble solids, viscosity and turbidity of roselle juice. However, the addition of GA had reduced the anthocyanin content of roselle juice. Besides, the addition of GA at a minimum of 2% and 4% also decreased the redness (a^*) and yellowness (b^*) properties of roselle juice, respectively. For sensory acceptability test, the addition of GA into roselle juice showed no effect on consumer acceptability except for colour attribute. Hence, this study revealed that roselle juices with GA addition were equally accepted as the juice without GA with more than 70% degree of likeness, suggesting their acceptability in the future market. As a summary, this study indicated that gum arabic (*A. senegal*) has the potential to be used as an alternative prebiotic source in food and beverage application, especially in the development of prebiotic roselle juice.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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