

SORGHUM MALTING

Luke Mugode

Post Harvest Food Processing and Nutrition
National Institute for Scientific and Industrial
Research

Lusaka, Zambia

E:mail: Imugode3 I @yahoo.com

DEFINITION OF MALTING

Malting is defined as the germination of grain in moist air under controlled conditions

OBJECTIVES OF MALTING

Main objectives of malting sorghum

To mobilise (develop) the endogenous amylase, protease and other enzymes of the grain

Objective cont,.... By means of these enzymes

☐ To modify (alter) the constituents of the grain during malting so that the constituents are readily solubilised. ... E.g. during souring and mashing processes of opaque beer brewing in order to produce a fermentable medium (wort).

Objective Cont,....

By means of these enzymes to solubilise the unmalted cereal grain (starchy adjunct) during the mashing process of opaque beer brewing.

Malting Process

Malting as consisting of three stages:

- 1. Steeping (soaking)
- 2. Germination
- 3. Drying or kilning

Steeping

The cleaned and graded grain is immersed in water until an appropriate grain moisture content is reached, then the excess water is drained away.

Germination

The steeped grain is allowed to germinate under controlled conditions.

Drying

The germinated grain is dried at 50°C, so that growth is stopped. The germ dies and a shelf-stable product is produced

Milling

Sorghum malt is milled coarsely after removing shoots and roots

Distinction between malt and grain

| Sorghum malt | Sorghum grain |
|---|---|
| High in alpha- amylase and relatively high in beta-amylase activity (Diastatic Power) | No alpha- or beta- amylase activity |
| Moderately high in protease activity | Low protease activity |
| Starch modified and more readily solubilised during brewing | Starch not modified |
| High in free amino nitrogen (FAN) and fermentable sugars | Very low FAN and low fermentable sugars |
| Malt flavour | Grain flavour |

| Malt | Grain |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| High in free amino | Very low FAN |
| nitrogen (FAN) | |
| Moderately high in | Very low |
| fermentable sugars | fermentable sugars |
| Vitamins and | Vitamins and |
| minerals more | minerals less readily |
| readily solubilised | solubilised during |
| during brewing | brewing |
| Malt flavour | Grain flavour |

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