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Assessment of nutritional value of overnight soaked cooked rice over unsoaked cooked rice

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| Article History: | ABSTRACT |
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| Received on: 13.04.2018 Revised on: 22.06.2018 Accepted on: 25.06.2018 | For centuries, it has been a practice to consume overnight soaked rice in many South Indian families. Having known the health benefits of the soaked rice, the habit of consuming as a breakfast continued for generations. Due to globalization and increased affordability, this has been replaced with hot |
| Keywords: | breakfast and consumption of overnight soaked boiled rice was left behind. Soaked rice is rich in B6, B12 vitamins and is a source of beneficial bacteria |
| Beneficial, Energy, Minerals, Nutrients, Proteins, Rice, Soak | which helps in digestion and boosts immunity. The given samples of normal cooked rice and overnight soaked cooked rice are tested for carbohydrate, crude protein, fat/oil and fiber content. The rice which was overnight soaked cooked rice was found to have more nutrient content than unsoaked cooked rice. There is an increase in energy, protein, fat, carbohydrate, fiber content and minerals. Eating fermented rice for breakfast was an old custom among the farmers. It has been proved that overnight soaked cooked rice acts as a healthy breakfast and would play an important role in the health of today's young generation. |

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INTRODUCTION

China and many other Asian countries consume rice as their staple food. Rice is the major source of carbohydrate and energy in our diet. (Kumar *et al.*, 2011). Humans have been cultivating rice crops; rice was first cultivated approximately 8000 to 9000 years ago by people living in the Yangtze River valley in Chin (Higham and Lu, 1998, Liu *et al.*, 2007, Fuller *et al.*, 2010). Rice, a major food crop, is grown in a wide range of ecological conditions (Das *et al.*, 2018). Rice is the most preferred food of Asian countries and recently the consumption has increased in U.S also (Qi Sun *et* *al.*, 2010). Rice production requires various mechanical processing, rice is milled to remove its husk. Milled rice is the most preferred

worldwide. (Villegas *et al.*, 2007, Nanri *et al.*, 2010). Rice is the most preferred stable food of South Indians. Due to industrialization apart from milling rice is polished and refined for consumption. (Vlachos, Arvanitoyannis, 2008). Minerals like calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg) and phosphorus (P) are present along with some traces of iron (Fe), copper (Cu), zinc (Zn) and manganese (Mn) (Blaak *et al.*, 2012). Metabolic disorders are associated with the high consumption of polished rice by Asian Indians and Japanese (Murakami *et al.*, 2006).

Overnight soaked boiled rice is rich in essential minerals, vitamins and bioactive compounds which serves as a complete breakfast. The soaked cooked rice has B6, B12 vitamins. In olden days, farmers and labourers who did a lot of physical work ate soaked cooked rice for breakfast. Among south Indian families, it is a usual practice to cook rice with excess water. After straining the excess water, rice is ready for consumption. The excess boiled rice is usually soaked in water overnight and allowed to ferment. This soaked boiled rice becomes a delicious breakfast with fresh raw onions and green chilies for the next day. Some people prefer eating this rice by draining out excess water and along with yogurt and salt.

The lactic acid bacteria break down the antinutritional factors in rice and increases iron, potassium and calcium content by several thousand percentage points. This rice generates trillions of beneficial bacteria that help in digestion as they have many diseases fighting and immunity increasing agents. These bacteria in the intestines safeguard the internal organs and keep all organs immune and ready. Insoluble fiber and magnesium have been associated with lower risk of type 2 diabetes in prospective cohort studies (Salmeron et al., 1997, Salmeron et al., 1997, Meyer et al., 2000, Song et al., 2006, Van Dam et al., 2006, Weickert et al., 2006, Schulze et al., 2007). This rice helps in better digestion and wards off ageing, bone related ailments and muscular pains. Consuming this rice as break-fast keeps the body light and also energetic. Infections are prevented due to consuming this rice, as it improves the natural immunity. Hence this study aims at analysing and qualitatively comparing the nutritional values in overnight soaked cooked rice and normal cooked rice.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Preparation of sample

A measured amount of rice is taken and cooked. This rice is then soaked in water overnight. The same amount of rice is taken and cooked freshly the next day. Thus, the samples are prepared by this method and are ready to be tested for their nutritional values.

Analysis of carbohydrate

Total carbohydrate values in the tables are calculated by difference using the following formula for 100 g of food.

carbohydrate = 100 g - (g protein + g fat + g alcohol + g ash + g water).

Carbohydrate calculated in this manner includes dietary fiber, as well as other components of a food that are not protein, fat, alcohol, ash, or water. (Klensin *et al.*, 1989).

Determination of crude protein

Protein concentration was estimated by Kjedahl method. Ten grams of the sample was weighed and transferred into a Kjedahl flask. Strong acid is added to the food to digest it. During digestion with strong acid food releases nitrogen. The released nitrogen is estimated by suitable titration. The concentration of the nitrogen determined by titration is used to analyse the concentration of protein in the food.

Determination of fat/oil

Ten grams of the ground sample was weighed and transferred into thimbles of a Soxhlet extractor containing 250ml of petroleum ether. The sample was boiled with petroleum ether. Lipids are soluble in organic solvents. Therefore, the lipids in food extract starts dissolving in petroleum ether. The extraction process was continued for 5 to 6 hours. After extraction the solvent was removed and placed in the oven for drying. The weight of the dried and left out sample was recorded. The percentage oil content was calculated as:

% crude fat = weight of dish + contents after drying - weight of empty evaporating dish×100 weight of sample taken for analysis

Determination of fiber content

Two grams of the ground sample was weighed and placed into a conical flask. The sample was extracted by stirring with petroleum ether, to remove fat. After the removal of fat, the sample was boiled with hot sulphuric acid for 40 minutes. It is followed by filtering the extract with fine muslin cloth. The filtrate was washed several times to make sure it is not acidic. Boiling of the extract was repeated with Sodium hydroxide for 40 minutes. The percentage of crude fiber present in the food sample was calculated as,

% crude fibre = $\frac{\text{weight of insoluble matter} - \text{weight of ash} \times 100}{\text{weight of sample}}$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When the soaked and unsoaked rice were compared on the basis of their nutritional values, it was found that the energy content of the soaked cooked rice was higher having the value 349 kcal when compared to unsoaked cooked rice having the value 343 kcal. When these samples were tested for protein, the soaked cooked rice was found to have higher level of protein i.e. 8.1 g and the unsoaked cooked rice had 7.2 g of protein. The unsoaked cooked rice was estimated to have 0.4 g of Fat whereas the soaked cooked rice was found to have higher content of Fat i.e. 0.6 g. The carbohydrate content of the unsoaked cooked rice was calculated to be 78.5 g whereas the carbohydrate content of soaked cooked rice was found to be 77.1 g showing that the unsoaked cooked has higher carbohydrate content. The fiber content of the unsoaked cooked rice was estimated as 2.2 g whereas the fiber content of the soaked cooked rice was higher having the value 2.7 g. The study also showed that the soaked cooked rice had higher mineral content of value 0.9 g than unsoaked cooked rice having 0.7 g of minerals.

| soakeu anu unsoakeu nee | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | Cooked | Socked | |
| Parameters | Basmati | Basmati | |
| | Rice / 100g | Rice / 100g | |
| Energy (Kcal) | 343 | 349 | |
| Protein (g) | 7.2 | 8.1 | |
| Fat (g) | 0.4 | 0.6 | |
| Carbohydrate (g) | 78.5 | 77.1 | |
| Fiber Content (g) | 2.2 | 2.7 | |
| Minerals (g) | 0.7 | 0.9 | |
| | | | |

Table 1: Estimation of nutritional value of soaked and unsoaked rice

The rice which was overnight soaked cooked rice was found to have more nutrient content than unsoaked cooked rice. There is an increase in energy, protein, fat, carbohydrate, fiber content and minerals. Nutrients are components in foods that an organism uses to survive and grow (Amina Mehrin Bano et al., 2016). Consuming soaked rice as breakfast keeps the body light and also energetic. It is proved that; a beneficial bacterium gets produced in abundance for the body. Iron deficiency is one of the most common nutritional deficiencies worldwide (Trishala et al., 2017), and so iron consumption is very important. Stomach ailments decrease when this soaked rice is consumed in the morning, as, excessive and harmful heat retained in the body is neutralized. This overnight soaked cooked rice helps in curing all types of ulcers in the body. This heals allergy induced problems and also dermal ailments. Fresh infections are kept at bay due to consuming the overnight soaked cooked rice. As this rice is rich in fiber content it helps in good bowel movement, and refreshes our body and mind.

CONCLUSION

Eating fermented rice for breakfast was an old custom among the farmers and labours. It has been proved that the overnight soaked cooked rice acts as a healthy breakfast and would play an important role in the health of today's young generation.

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