Curing Ingredients, Characteristics, Total Phenolic, and Antioxidant Activity of Commercial Indonesian Dried Meat Product (Dendeng)

T. Suryati*, M. Astawan†, H. N. Lioe‡, & T. Wresdiyati§

*Major Program of Food Science, Graduate School, Bogor Agricultural University
†Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, Bogor Agricultural University
‡Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology, Faculty of Veterinary, Bogor Agricultural University

Kampus IPB Darmaga, Bogor 16680, Indonesia
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ABSTRACT

Dendeng is Indonesian dried meat product that used spices rich in antioxidant component as ingredient. In addition, commercial dendeng usually use saltpet (nitrate/nitrite salt) as curing ingredient to inhibit rancidity and to produce stable red color. The aims of this study were to investigate composition of spices and saltpet added, characteristic, total phenolic, and antioxidant activity of commercial dendeng. This research was conducted through interview with some dendeng producers to get information about saltpet adding and spices composition used in their products. Then the interview results were verified by laboratory analysis. The results showed that spices and saltpet adding from some producers varied. The saltpet added in curing process produced inconsistent red color on commercial dendeng in this investigation. Total phenolic of dendeng from producers ranged from 42.47 to 102.0 mg GAE/100 g DM for raw dendeng, and 36.51 to 95.49 mg GAE/100 g DM for fried dendeng. Antioxidant capacity against DPPH ranged from 79.35 to 379.40 mg VCE/100 g DM for raw dendeng, and 94.30 to 559.40 mg VCE/100 g DM for fried dendeng. Antioxidant capacity of raw dendeng was influenced by phenolic content about 87.2%, but in fried dendeng was only 59.0%. In conclusion, dendeng has a significant antioxidant activity, even after frying, and saltpet addition was not effective to maintain stable red color in dendeng products.

Key words: dendeng (Indonesian dried meat), total phenolic, antioxidant activity, commercial dendeng characteristics

Kata kunci: dendeng, total fenol, aktivitas antioksidan, karakteristik dendeng komersial

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INTRODUCTION

Dendeng is traditional Indonesian dried meat product processed by added spices ingredient and drying. The ingredient added varied, but the dendeng that popular in Java has sweet and coriander flavor oriented predominantly. Bintoro et al. (1987) stated that the ingredient added in dendeng making was palm sugar, salt, coriander and caraway seed. Generally the ingredient of sweet dendeng that most popular in Java was palm sugar, white sugar, salt, garlic, coriander, galangal, sometimes tamarind, cumin and pepper was added also. Although there was no standard of ingredient for dendeng making, but the usual ingredient that used in dendeng making had antioxidant activity, such as garlic (Leelarungrayub et al., 2006; Gorinstein et al., 2008; Tangkanakul et al., 2009), coriander (Dragland et al., 2003; Tangkanakul et al., 2009), galangal (Vankar et al., 2006; Chan et al., 2008; Mahae & Chaiser, 2009; Tangkanakul et al., 2009), pepper and tamarind (Tangkanakul et al., 2009). Bioactive compound of garlic reported also had nitrite-scavenging and nitrosamine forming inhibition (Choi et al., 2007).

Dendeng making at industry level add saltpeter (nitrate salt) to inhibit rancidity and to produce the heat stable red color. Some research showed that ingredient and nitrate/nitrite salt on meat product besides affect color (Honikel, 2008) and flavor (Toldra et al., 2009), also affect oxidation lipid (Sebranek & Bacus, 2007; Toldra et al., 2009). Nitrite added at curing process could form reactive compound NO that could bind to myoglobin and produce heat stable cure color. The NO molecule itself can easily be oxidized to NO₂ in the presence of oxygen. This means an oxygen sequestering and thus the antioxidant action of nitrite in meat curing process (Honikel, 2008). Unfortunately, because of its reactivity, NO form could also react with amine primer and secondary form carcinogenic nitrosamine (Rostkowska et al., 1998; Honikel, 2008).

Previous research about dendeng generally was the laboratorium research. Buckle & Purnomo (1986) reported browning on dendeng at laboratorium scale. Muchtadi et al. (1987) evaluated the nutritional value of dendeng. Legowo et al. (2002) reported effect of betel leaf juice soaking on rancidity and sensory characteristic of dendeng. Chemical and microbiology analysis of dendeng samples from supermarket in Jakarta, Surabaya and Solo was reported by Bintoro et al. (1989). Spices used in dendeng need to be deeper investigated, therefore can explain the spices usage in dendeng as one of Indonesian heritage. This research intent was on exploring composition of spices and saltpeter added, characteristic, total phenolic, antioxidant activity (radical DPPH scavenging activity and antioxidant capacity against DPPH) of commercial dendeng from some producers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data Collecting and Sampling Method

Information of spices and samples were collected from seven selected producers from West (producer of dendeng JT-1, JT-2, JT-3) and Central (producer of dendeng JT-1, JT-2, JT-3) Java, Indonesia. Samples produced at last batch from each producer when interview were analyzed to verify with interview results.

Sample Preparation

Dendeng obtained from some producers were stored in ambient temperature for a week, and then were stored in refrigerator for 3 weeks. Samples were evaluated in the form of raw and fried. Fried dendeng samples were prepared by soaking in water for 5 min before frying, and then after 15 min, 250 g of sample was fried in 2 L boiling vegetable oil (not over 150 °C) for 1.5 min. Vegetables oil only used for once frying. Raw and fried samples were extracted, except for color analysis: a value, were blended and homogenized. All of samples were stored at -25 °C for further analysis.

Analysis of a Color Value, Moisture Content and pH

Intensity of red color (a color value), pH and moisture content were measured as characteristic variables of dendeng. Intensity of red color was measured using chromameter Minolta and manifested as “a” color value. Moisture content was analyzed by using AOAC method (2005). Value of pH was analyzed by meat pH meter Hanna.

Analysis of Total Phenolic and Antioxidant Activity

Raw and fried dendeng were extracted using method described by Tangkanakul et al. (2009) with some modification in extraction stage. Amount of 1 g fried dendeng was extracted twice by 2.5 ml methanol for 24 hr at room temperature. Filtrate from both extraction was mixed and added with methanol until volume reach 10 ml. Extracts were stored in -25 °C until further use for analysis of total phenolic, scavenging activity on radical DPPH (from Sigma Aldrich) and antioxidant activity. Analysis of total phenolic, scavenging activity on radical DPPH and antioxidant activity were done based on procedure described by Tangkanakul et al. (2009). Antioxidant activity was determined as antioxidant capacity measured based on calibration curve inhibition of vitamin C at some concentration on radical DPPH.

Data Analysis

Interview and laboratory data were analyzed by using descriptive analysis. Data correlations were made between total phenolic and antioxidant capacity.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Curing Ingredients and Characteristics of Dendeng from some Producers

The kind and amount of spices added in dendeng industries varied among producers. Percentage of spices added in dendeng from the producers ranged from 1.67% to 22.0% (Table 1). The spices generally added were garlic, coriander, and galangal. Some producers added dif-
different spices such as: shallot, pepper, tamarind, cumin, cinnamon and lime. Saltpeter as nitrate salt added in curing process ranged from 1 to 5333 mg/kg, and 3 of producers stated did not use saltpeter in their dendeng making. Based on Indonesian regulatory (PERMENKES RI No.722/MenKes/Per/IX/88), the maximum level of nitrate salt allowed in meat processing was 500 mg/kg. Therefore 2 producers namely dendeng JB-2 dan JB-3 producers still used saltpeter above the maximum level allowed.

The red color intensity, moisture and pH of raw dendeng from Central Java producers were higher than those from West Java (Table 2). These facts probably correlated with dendeng drying time between these two places. Based on interview results, the dendeng producers from West Java dried their dendeng only one day (approx. 8 hr) in hot weather, while the dendeng producers from Central Java dried their dendeng for 3 d (approx. 24 hr) in hot weather. After frying process, the moisture of dendeng generally increased that was caused by soaking in the water before frying. The red color intensity of dendeng after frying decreased (Table 2), because frying process in dendeng produced non enzymatic browning as a result of Maillard reaction (Buckle & Purnomo, 1986; Zamora & Hidalgo, 2010). Sugar addition, especially white sugar, as dominant ingredient on dendeng processing caused Maillard reaction to be more intensive.

The saltpeter usage to produce consistent red color in dendeng was not proved in this research. Pink color as specific color of meat cured was formed by reaction between NO from nitrite or nitrate salt and meat myoglobin (Honikel, 2008). This fact was shown by dendeng JB-2 and JB-3, although the amount of saltpeter added was higher, but the red color intensity produced was lower than dendeng without saltpeter, such as dendeng JT-1 and JT-4. The red color intensity of dendeng JT-1 dan JT-4 was

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Red Color Intensity (a)</th>
<th>Moisture (%)</th>
<th>pH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>JB-1</td>
<td>Raw: 7.88, Fried: 8.89</td>
<td>Raw: 33.09, Fried: 31.87</td>
<td>5.46, 5.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>JB-2</td>
<td>Raw: 8.01, Fried: 5.57</td>
<td>Raw: 18.78, Fried: 23.29</td>
<td>5.51, 5.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>JT-1</td>
<td>Raw: 11.18, Fried: 5.57</td>
<td>Raw: 15.03, Fried: 20.65</td>
<td>5.24, 5.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: JB-1, JB-2 and JB-3 are dendeng from West of Java; JT-1, JT-2, JT-3, JT-4 and JT-5 are dendeng from Central of Java.

Table 1. Curing ingredients used by some dendeng producers in Java

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curing ingredients</th>
<th>JB-1</th>
<th>JB-2</th>
<th>JB-3</th>
<th>JT-1</th>
<th>JT-2</th>
<th>JT-3</th>
<th>JT-4</th>
<th>JT-5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spices (%)</td>
<td>18.13</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>13.32</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>7.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shallot (%)</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic (%)</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coriander (%)</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galangal (%)</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8.30</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamarind (%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepper (%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon (%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumin (%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lime (%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt peter (mg/kg)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,333.00</td>
<td>5,333.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm sugar (%)</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>6.70</td>
<td>33.30</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White sugar (%)</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>6.70</td>
<td>33.30</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking salt (%)</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>asf</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data based on interview with 7 dendeng producers. JB-1, JB-2 and JB-3 were dendeng from West of Java; JT-1, JT-2, JT-3, JT-4 and JT-5 were dendeng from Central of Java; asf= at sufficiently; percentage of ingredient based on meat weight.
not different with dendeng JT-2, JT-3 and JT-5 that used salt peter in their manufactured (Table 2). This fact could be related with NO formation from salt peter component and its interaction with antioxidant from spices. If NO form in dendeng was stabilized by antioxidant from spices, meat myoglobin could not react with NO, and the pink color as specific color of meat cured could not be formed.

**Total Phenolic and Antioxidant Activity on Raw and Fried Dendeng from Some Producers**

Total phenolic content of dendeng from some producers (Figure 1) did not correlate with percentage of spices added (Table 1). This was probably caused by the differences in total phenolic of each spices used. Dendeng JB-1 had the highest total phenolic content, followed by dendeng JT-1, JT-5, JT-3, JT-2, JT-4, JB-3, and JB-2. Although dendeng JB-1 used lower percentage spices than dendeng JT-2 and JT-3, but the spices added, such as shallot, galangal and coriander had phenolic content higher than garlic (Tangkanakul et al., 2009) used predominantly at dendeng JT-2 and JT-3. This explained why the dendeng JB-1 had the highest total phenolic.

![Figure 1. Total phenolic content of dendeng (■: raw and □: fried) from some producers. JB-1, JB-2 and JB-3 were dendeng from West of Java; JT-1, JT-2, JT-3, JT-4 and JT-5 were dendeng from Central of Java.](image)

The activity of raw dendeng to scavenge radical DPPH was higher than fried dendeng (Figure 2). This fact showed that frying process decreased the activity of dendeng spices to scavenge radical DPPH. The mechanism could be explained that the frying process induced lipid oxidation (Baardseth et al., 2005; Choe & Min, 2007) that produced radical compounds as primer product of the reaction (Min & Ahn, 2005). These radical compounds could react with antioxidant compounds contained in dendeng that gave benefit as the inhibiting of lipid oxidation.

The antioxidant activity that measured as antioxidant capacity of all dendeng, except JB-3, increased after frying (Figure 3). These data had different pattern with scavenging against DPPH data; because antioxidant activity was determined by calculating the sample weight and moisture. The antioxidant capacity of dendeng JB-1 either raw or fried was higher than others, except fried JT-5. Tangkanakul et al. (2009) divided the activity of antioxidant of products based on antioxidant capacity into four groups: very high (> 500 mg VCE/100 g), high (200-500 mg VCE/100 g), medium (100-200 mg VCE/100 g) and low (< 100 mg VCE/100 g). Based on that classification, the antioxidant activity of raw dendeng JB-1, JT-1, JT-3 and JT-5 were high; JB-3, JT-2 and JT-4 were medium; while JB-2 was low. These conditions changed after frying, in which dendeng JT-5 was very high; JB-1, JT-1 and JT-3 were consistent high; JB-3, JT-2 and JT-4 were medium; while JB-2 and JT-3 changed to medium and low respectively.

The antioxidant activity of fried dendeng generally increased from the raw ones, except for dendeng JB-3. This indicated that antioxidant activity of dendeng was not only caused by spices antioxidant component, but also could be caused by formation of antioxidant component from nitrate salt or nitrite generated from salt peter (Sebranek & Bacus, 2007; Honikel, 2008), and Maillard product that had antioxidant activity (Yilmaz & Toledo, 2005; Gu et al., 2010; Sun et al., 2010; Zhuang & Sun, 2011; Dong et al., 2012; Miranda et al., 2012). Antioxidant activity of dendeng JB-3 was only affected by antioxidant component from spices that could be compared with total phenolic and scavenging activity on DPPH that also decreased after frying. Salt peter added and Maillard reaction (Min & Ahn, 2005). These radical compounds could react with antioxidant compounds contained in dendeng that gave benefit as the inhibiting of lipid oxidation.

**Figure 2. Scavenging activity on DPPH of dendeng (■: raw and □: fried) from some producers. JB-1, JB-2 and JB-3 were dendeng from West of Java; JT-1, JT-2, JT-3, JT-4 and JT-5 were dendeng from Central of Java.**

**Figure 3. Antioxidant capacity of dendeng (■: raw and □: fried) from some producers. JB-1, JB-2 and JB-3 were dendeng from West of Java; JT-1, JT-2, JT-3, JT-4 and JT-5 were dendeng from Central of Java.**
product resulted in this dendeng were not contributed to its antioxidant activity. Based on Figure 1, 2 and 3, although the scavenging activity on DPPH decreased after frying, when total phenolic did not decrease significantly and used the optimum nitrate salt in curing process, the antioxidant activity would not decrease after frying.

Total phenolic compound affected significantly (P<0.01) antioxidant capacity of raw dendeng followed regression lineer: y = 4.350X – 88.39; with R² = 0.872 (Figure 4). Based on coefficient determination of the li-near regression implicated that 87.2% antioxidant capacity of raw dendeng was influenced by its total phenolic content, and 12.8% was influenced by others. The other factor could be NO from nitrate salt. Antioxidant activity of fried dendeng was different from raw dendeng, although regression linear between total phenolic and antioxidant capacity (Figure 5) was significant (P<0.01), but its coefficient determination was lower (R²= 0.590) than raw dendeng. This indicated that antioxidant capacity of fried dendeng, 59.0% was affected by its total phenolic, and 41.0% was affected by other factors. Coefficient determination of linear regression in raw and fried dendeng was strong indication that the antioxidant activity in dendeng was not only caused by spice added, but also could be caused by oxidized NO from saltpeter added and Maillard product in dendeng.


Toldra, F., M. C. Aristoy, & M. Flores. 2009. Relevance of nitrate and nitrite in dry-cured ham and their effects on aroma development. Grasas Y Aceites 60: 291-296 (Special Issue). http://dx.doi.org/10.3989/gya.130708


