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### BAKERY SPECIALTY WITH ADDITION OF NETTLE - OBTAINING AND CHARACTERIZATION

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### Abstract

In this work we obtained a bakery specialty enriched with nettle. The use of nettle as an additive is justified by nutritional and nutraceutical properties, being notable for its fiber, mineral and vitamin content, as well as antioxidant compounds. The optimal recipe has been established for the use of pureed nettle at a percentage of 10%. The bakery specialties obtained were sensory characterized, presenting a very good acceptability, the smell and taste being better appreciated than in the control group. Moisture and porosity were higher (43.1% and 75.9% respectively) in the fortified samples than in the control (41.4% and 75% respectively). The level of total polyphenols (12.95 g gallic acid / g) of the nettle-fortified variant was close to that of the control variant (12.07 g gallic acid / g). The DPPH free radical scavenging activity was superior, the RSA for the control was 36.11%, and 50.51% in the fortified variant. The proximate composition showed a reduction in carbohydrate (42.5%) and protein content (9.62%), but an increase in fiber content (4.37%) of the fortified version. Nettle has been proven once again to be a valuable ingredient for the development of enriched foods with improved nutritional and functional properties.

### Introduction

The biological activity of nettle has been investigated in numerous studies showing that the plant and its extracts have antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, antiulcer, hypolipidemic activities (Gülçin *et al.*, 2004; Kukric *et al.*, 2012; Orčić *et al.*, 2014; Upton, 2013; Žeković *et al.*, 2017). Nettle is also an important source of minerals (Ca, Fe, Mg, P, K, Na) and vitamins (C and B complex). It also contains a relevant amount of protein, chlorophyll and carotenoids such as  $\beta$ -carotene and lutein. Nettle leaves are also rich in polyphenols, mainly flavonoids and phenolic acids (Maietti *et al.*, 2021). The use of their nettle leaves for the purpose of fortifying some food products is more recent. Various recipes have been formulated for pasta with nettle leaves (Maietti *et al.*, 2021), bread (Đurović *et al.*, 2020; (Wójcik, 2021).

### Results and discussions



### Material and method



### Conclusions

- the recipe was optimized so as to establish a balance between the technological characteristics and quality, sensory and physical-chemical properties;
- the addition of nettle in buns led to an increase in antioxidant activity and polyphenol content;
- the degree of acceptability of nettle buns was very high, which indicates that the evaluated products have a high chance of reaching the market;
- the proximate composition showed improvements in the dietary fiber content, but also a decrease in the carbohydrate content in the version with nettle;
- nettle leaves are a valuable ingredient for the development of fortified foods with improved nutritional and functional properties.