Preparation and quality evaluation of indigenous gluten-free sweet dumpling (Modak) enriched with Asparagus racemosus

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- **Abstract**: Pregnant women require ensuring that their diet provides sufficient nutrients and energy for the foetus to develop and grow appropriately. Her diet needs to be balanced and nutritious - this involves the right balance of proteins, carbohydrates, and fats, and consuming an ample variety vegetables, and fruits. In present study an attempt was made to prepare an indigenous sweet snack, including modification and formulation of gluten free steamed dumpling (rice based steamed *Modak*). *Modak* is enriched with asparagus powder to propose a healthy snack for conceiving and lactating women as it promotes mammary secretion and helps in maintenance of foetal growth. Experimental modak stuffing includes fresh coconut, jaggery, anardana powder, asparagus powder and poppy seeds. For variable samples S_0 , S_1 , S_2 and S_3 (Asparagus powder at the rate of 0, 5, 10, 15%, respectively) sensory evaluation was carried out and ANOVA was applied to study the variance and to know the consumer preference, at the same time physicochemical, shelf life study and textural properties of resultant samples were analyzed. Based on sensory score it was concluded that 5% level fortification was accepted by consumer.
- Key words: Gluten free steamed dumpling, Asparagus racemosus, ANOVA, Textural analysis
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