

# Antioxidant and Pasting Properties of Oat $\beta$ -Glucan Hydrocolloids

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## ABSTRACT

Four oat  $\beta$ -glucan enriched hydrocolloids (Nutrim10, C-Trim20, C-Trim30, C-Trim50), oat bran concentrate (OBC), and  $\beta$ -Glucan95 were investigated for antioxidant and pasting properties. C-Trim30 had the highest soluble phenolic content, followed by C-Trim20. The trend of antioxidant activity was similar with that of phenolic contents. The phenolic content of the extracts increased with increasing temperatures. The highest content of soluble phenolic compounds was found at temperatures up to 100°C for most samples regardless of solvent. Water extracts had significantly higher phenolic contents than extracts from 50% ethanol at 100°C for all samples with the exception of C-Trim30. However, the effect of temperature and solvent concentrations was not as apparent for antioxidant activity as that observed for phenolic content. In general, the differences in three different solvents were not as apparent. Significantly higher water holding capacities were found for C-Trim30 and C-Trim50 than the other samples while  $\beta$ -Glucan95 had substantially the highest paste viscosity followed by C-Trim50 and C-Trim30.

**Keywords:** Oat;  $\beta$ -Glucan; Hydrocolloids; Pasting Properties; Antioxidant Activity

## 1. Introduction

Oat bran has been widely reported to provide a vast range of human health benefits such as serum cholesterol lowering [1], reduced coronary heart disease [2], reduced symptoms of diabetes [3], reduced blood pressure [4], cancer prevention [5], and obesity [6]. A primary component of oat bran implicated for these health benefits is  $\beta$ -glucan; however, oat phenolic and other antioxidant compounds also provide health benefits as demonstrated for barley [7].

Oat bran hydrocolloids were prepared from oat bran concentrate (OBC) that contains natural dietary fibers with about 12% as  $\beta$ -glucan. Processed OBC produced oat bran hydrocolloids contain about 15% - 50%  $\beta$ -glucan depending on procedures used. Several oat bran hydrocolloids with enriched  $\beta$ -glucan were developed and patented for healthy and nutritional food products by the United States Department of Agriculture in Peoria, IL [8]. Oat bran hydrocolloids, Nutrim and C-Trim, were produced from OBC that was subjected to mechanical shear and steam jet-cooking procedures. OBC, Nutrim and C-Trim products containing 12 - 50  $\beta$ -glucan have beneficial effects on coronary heart disease prevention by the reduction of serum cholesterol and postprandial serum

glucose levels [9].

The antioxidant capacity of oats is contributed by the presence of tocopherols, tocotrienols, phytic acid, flavonoids, and non-flavonoid phenolic compounds including avenanthramides [10]. Oat antioxidants were reported to inhibit low-density lipoprotein oxidation and promote scavenging of reactive oxygen [1]. Avenanthramides have been implicated in inhibiting atherosclerosis [11]. Lignin and  $\beta$ -glucan of oat together exhibited cholesterol-lowering effect contributed to binding with bile acids [12]. The highest phenolic contents and antioxidant activities were extracted from defatted and air-classified OBC using 50% ethanol at 150°C with microwave-irradiation [13]. The total phenolic content in cereal extracts was reported in the order: buckwheat < wheat bran < oat expressed as gallic acid equivalent [14]. Most whole grain phenolics are in the bound form, such as corn (85%), wheat (76%), and oats (75%), whereas bound ferulic acid was significantly higher than free and soluble conjugated ferulic acid in corn, wheat, oats, and rice [5].

Various solvents have been evaluated for their potential to extract phenolic compounds and other components contributing to antioxidant activity. Methanol extraction of milled oat groats yielded higher total phenolics than isopropanol [15]. The highest antioxidant activity was found from methanol extracts among eight solvent com-

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binations involving ether, diethyl ether, petroleum ether, chloroform, dichloroethane and methanol [16]. The most effective solvent for extracting phenolic antioxidants from wheat bran was 50% acetone by comparison to 70% methanol or ethanol, and 100% ethanol [17]. An 80% methanol extraction of whole oats gave substantially higher total phenolic compounds and exhibited higher antioxidant capacity than water extracts [18] whereas 80% methanol or ethanol was found to be efficient for extracting phenolic compounds from barley [19,20].

Recently, food products containing oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids have gained considerable interest by consumers for their health benefits. Oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids have numerous potential functional food applications as a source of  $\beta$ -glucan as well as a fat substitute for making reduced calorie food products. It was reported that a 5% dispersion of Nutrim10 had the same consistency as coconut cream in several Thai desserts [21]. In addition, fat in muffins and frozen desserts was replaced with Nutrim10, and the effect on their flavor and texture was evaluated [22]. A recent study showed that shortening in cakes could be substituted up to 40% by Nutrim10 without loss of cake quality [23]. Also, rheological and physical evaluation of jet-cooked oat bran has been studied in low calorie cookies with a successful replacement of 20% shortening by oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids [24].

Although studies of oat bran hydrocolloids in food applications and rheological properties were conducted, information on phenolic contents and antioxidant activities of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids has been limited. Also, the relationship between  $\beta$ -glucan contents and phenolic contents along with antioxidant activities needed more clarification. More fundamental studies on oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids were needed on paste viscosity since it has a great influence on final product quality. Therefore, this study was conducted to investigate the effectiveness of temperature and solvents on phenolic and other antioxidant compounds from OBC and oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids along with their water absorption and paste viscosities. These results could be valuable for developing and processing new functional foods having desirable texture and health benefits.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Samples

Oat bran concentrate was supplied by Quaker Oat. Nutrim10, C-Trim20, C-Trim30, C-Trim50 were obtained from VDF FutureCeuticals (Momence, IL). Beta-Glucan 95% is available from Megazyme International Ireland Ltd. (Wicklow, Ireland).

### 2.2. Processing Procedure

Oat bran concentrate: by sieving OBC (Lot 18608408);

Nutrim10: oat bran concentrate was jet cooked, solids were removed by sieve, and liquid was drum-dried (Lot 35503475N170);

C-Trim20: starch was removed from oat bran concentrate before jet-cooking, solids were removed by sieve, and liquid was drum-dried (Lot 1240000);

C-Trim30: starch was removed from oat bran concentrate before jet-cooking, solids were removed by centrifugation, and supernatant was drum-dried (Lot PP6-JC-SL-CL-DD-2);

C-Trim50: starch was removed from oat bran concentrate before jet-cooking, solids were removed by centrifugation, and the solids precipitated from supernatant by ethanol prior to freeze-drying (Lot PP6-JC-SL2-CS1-DS-FD2).

The  $\beta$ -glucan contents from FIA and Enzyme methods and molecular weight at peak were list in **Table 1** [25].

### 2.3. Sample Extraction

Sample (0.1 g) was suspended in solvent and then heated in a water bath at 23°C, 50°C and 100°C for 15 min with 10 ml of water or 50% ethanol respectively, mixing by Vortex in every five min using a vortex machine. For the solvent study, the extraction method was modified based upon a previous method [26,27]. Samples (0.5  $\pm$  0.01 g) were extracted with 10 ml of 70% acetone, 70% ethanol, 70% methanol (solvent: water, 70/30, v/v) in duplicate, respectively, for 2 h at room temperature in a water bath having a shaker.

### 2.4. Total Phenolic Content

Phenolic content was determined by the Folin-Ciocalteu colorimetric method as described previously with minor modifications [28,29]. To 100  $\mu$ L of extract, 7.9 mL of deionized water and 0.5 mL of Folin-Ciocalteu reagent (F9252, Sigma Aldrich, St Louis, MO) were added, mixed on a vortex mixer, and 1.5 mL of 1.85 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was added after 15 min. Absorbance of samples was measured at 765 nm after 2 h. Gallic acid was used as a standard, and the results were expressed as mg of gallic acid equivalents per g on dry base (d.b.). Each sample was analyzed in triplicate.

**Table 1. Processing condition,  $\beta$ -glucan content, and molecular weight at peak [25].**

Sample ID	Nominal	$\beta$ -glucan content (%)		MW at Peak
		FIA method	Enzyme method	
OBC	15	12.4	12.0	$1.5 \times 10^6$
Nutrim10	10	16.0	15.5	$3.0 \times 10^5$
C-Trim20	20	25.4	27.7	$2.6 \times 10^5$
C-Trim30	30	35.0	36.0	$2.7 \times 10^5$
C-Trim50	50	44.6	46.0	$4.4 \times 10^5$

## 2.5. Antioxidant Activity

Antioxidant activity procedure was modified based on a previous method by reacting 0.5 mL of extract with 0.5 mL of 200  $\mu$ M 2,2-diphenyl-1-picryl-hydrazyl (DPPH) in a cuvette for 40 min in dark followed by converting the cuvettes after adding reagent and prior to reading the absorbance at 515 nm [30]. Results were expressed as  $\mu$ mol of 6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-carboxylic acid (Trolox) equivalents per g (d.b.). Each sample was analyzed in triplicate.

## 2.6. Water Holding Capacity

The water-holding capacity was determined according to a modified procedure from an earlier study [31]. Samples (2 g) were mixed with 25 ml of deionized water, mixed using a vortex to make a suspension, held for 2 h, and followed by centrifugation at 1590 g for 15 min. The supernatant was decanted and the residue weight measured. Each treatment was replicated twice. Water-holding capacity was calculated by the following equation:

$$\text{Water holding capacity (\%)} = \frac{\text{Sample weight after centrifugation} - \text{dry sample weight}}{\text{dry sample weight}} \times 100$$

## 2.7. RVA Measurements

Pasting properties of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids were measured using a Rapid Visco Analyzer (RVA-4, Perten Scientific, Springfield, IL). Samples (2.24 g d.b.) were made up to a total weight of 28 g with deionized water in a RVA canister (8% solids, w/w). Suspensions were equilibrated at 50°C for 1 min, heated to 95°C at a rate of 6.0°C/min, maintained at 95°C for 5 min, and cooled to 50°C at rate of 6.0°C/min and held at 50°C for 2 min. For all test measurements, a constant paddle rotating speed (160 rpm) was used throughout the entire analysis except for 920 rpm in the first 10 s to disperse sample. Each sample was analyzed in duplicate.

## 2.8. Statistical Analysis

Standard deviation is reported for all measurements in tables and error bars in figures.

Data were analyzed using SAS software using analysis of variance with Tukey's multiple comparison adjustment to determine significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) between treatments [32].

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Phenolic Contents and Antioxidant Activities

#### 3.1.1. Differences between Samples

C-Trim30, followed by C-Trim20, appeared to have the

highest soluble phenolic content using the same extraction conditions for all samples tested (**Table 2**). OBC and Nutrim10 had relatively lower  $\beta$ -glucan content (12.0% & 15.5%) than C-Trim30 (36.0%) and C-Trim50 (46.0%, **Table 1**) by enzyme method. The total soluble phenolic contents in OBC (5.30 mg/g, 6.01 mg/g) and Nutrim10 (5.80 mg/g, 6.06 mg/g) at room temperature were lower than C-Trim30 and C-Trim20 but comparable with that of C-Trim50 (5.74 mg/g, 5.46 mg/g) as showed in **Table 2**. The results suggest that the phenolic compounds were probably not related to  $\beta$ -glucan contents.

A similar trend was observed for antioxidant activity as that of phenolic contents in this study. C-Trim30 had the highest antioxidant activity, followed by C-Trim20 and others. C-Trim50 and Nutrim10 had similar antioxidant activity, but comparatively lower antioxidant activity than C-Trim30 and C-Trim20. Interestingly, OBC had a higher phenolic content than C-Trim50. Perhaps these results may be contributed by some components of OBC since some oat bran cell walls were excluded from C-Trim50 by centrifugation and alcohol precipitation during processing. Studies have reported that the phenolic compounds are primarily bound to cell walls for most cereal grains [5]. In addition, OBC did not undergo hydrothermal-shearing, so the antioxidant activities could be reduced by oxidation during processing of C-Trim50. Antioxidants could be lost during oil processing procedure [33]. Furthermore, severe hydrolysis in extraction may alter structures that no longer represent the real antioxidant activity. Also, the measurement of the true "total antioxidant activity" is still a challenge because of the diverse polarity of antioxidants and the fact that most of them are covalently bound to an insoluble matrix [34]. Total phenolic content has been reported to be higher in oat hulls than groats [35] but total antioxidant capacity was higher in oat groats [36]. Perhaps these prior references may partly explain the low antioxidant activities in oat hydrocolloids since they are produced from processed oat bran.

#### 3.1.2. Effect of Extraction Temperature

The phenolic contents of extracts increased with increasing temperatures for both water and 50% ethanol extracts (**Table 2**). The extraction temperature up to 100°C resulted in the highest solubilized phenolic compounds for most samples regardless of solvent. Overall, no significant differences were found in total phenolics between 23°C and 50°C, except for C-Trim20 extracted by 50% ethanol. Increase in phenolic contents at elevated temperatures using water bath and microwave have been previously reported for oat and buckwheat products [13,37]. Extrusion cooking of oats at 200°C increased vanillic, ferulic and coumaric acids but decreased sinapic acid and unaltered syringic acid [18]. Autoclaving oats resulted in en-

**Table 2. Phenolic contents and antioxidant activities of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids at different temperatures.**

	°C	Phenolic Content		Antioxidant Activity	
		Water	Ethanol (50%)	Water	Ethanol (50%)
OBC	23	5.30 ± 0.01 <sup>B,d</sup>	6.01 ± 0.14 <sup>A,ef</sup>	3.95 ± 0.17 <sup>A,cbd</sup>	4.29 ± 0.21 <sup>A,d</sup>
	50	5.66 ± 0.06 <sup>B,d</sup>	6.20 ± 0.12 <sup>A,f</sup>	4.16 ± 0.07 <sup>B,bc</sup>	4.73 ± 0.01 <sup>A,cd</sup>
	100	8.27 ± 0.11 <sup>A,c</sup>	7.56 ± 0.03 <sup>B,d</sup>	4.28 ± 0.32 <sup>B,b</sup>	5.68 ± 0.19 <sup>A,b</sup>
Nutrim10	23	5.80 ± 0.13 <sup>A,d</sup>	6.06 ± 0.09 <sup>A,ef</sup>	2.63 ± 0.06 <sup>A,e</sup>	2.73 ± 0.20 <sup>A,e</sup>
	50	5.81 ± 0.03 <sup>B,d</sup>	6.06 ± 0.02 <sup>A,ef</sup>	2.70 ± 0.23 <sup>A,e</sup>	2.65 ± 0.15 <sup>A,e</sup>
	100	8.49 ± 0.01 <sup>A,c</sup>	6.65 ± 0.10 <sup>B,e</sup>	2.90 ± 0.11 <sup>A,ed</sup>	2.89 ± 0.20 <sup>A,e</sup>
C-Trim20	23	7.87 ± 0.16 <sup>A,c</sup>	7.72 ± 0.17 <sup>A,d</sup>	5.06 ± 0.04 <sup>A,b</sup>	4.69 ± 0.05 <sup>B,cd</sup>
	50	8.17 ± 0.14 <sup>A,c</sup>	8.23 ± 0.04 <sup>A,c</sup>	4.94 ± 0.36 <sup>A,b</sup>	4.54 ± 0.18 <sup>A,d</sup>
	100	11.59 ± 0.13 <sup>A,a</sup>	9.70 ± 0.05 <sup>B,b</sup>	4.96 ± 0.04 <sup>A,b</sup>	5.24 ± 0.25 <sup>A,cb</sup>
C-Trim30	23	10.39 ± 0.33 <sup>A,ab</sup>	9.55 ± 0.04 <sup>A,b</sup>	6.57 ± .21 <sup>A,a</sup>	6.80 ± 0.08 <sup>A,a</sup>
	50	10.85 ± 0.11 <sup>A,a</sup>	10.63 ± 0.04 <sup>A,a</sup>	6.57 ± 0.06 <sup>B,a</sup>	7.18 ± 0.13 <sup>A,a</sup>
	100	11.53 ± 0.28 <sup>A,a</sup>	10.97 ± 0.22 <sup>A,a</sup>	6.59 ± 0.01 <sup>B,a</sup>	6.89 ± 0.08 <sup>A,a</sup>
C-Trim50	23	5.74 ± 0.06 <sup>A,d</sup>	5.46 ± 0.07 <sup>B,h</sup>	1.75 ± 0.06 <sup>A,c</sup>	1.73 ± 0.01 <sup>A,f</sup>
	50	8.25 ± 0.04 <sup>A,c</sup>	5.59 ± 0.06 <sup>B,h</sup>	2.95 ± 0.54 <sup>A,cd</sup>	1.76 ± 0.05 <sup>A,f</sup>
	100	9.23 ± 0.08 <sup>A,cb</sup>	5.72 ± 0.13 <sup>B,gh</sup>	2.96 ± 0.04 <sup>A,cd</sup>	2.06 ± 0.08 <sup>B,f</sup>

Samples (0.1 g) were extracted with 10 ml of corresponding solvents; Values of phenol contents are reported in mg gallic acid equivalents/g sample; values of antioxidant activities are reported in  $\mu$ mol Trolox equivalents/g sample; The different capital-letter superscripts within row for respect test, or different lower-letter superscripts within column indicate the significance ( $p < 0.05$ ).

hanced  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -tocopherol,  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -tocotrienol, vanillin, ferulic and *p*-coumaric acid contents, but decreased avenanthramides [36]. The study of microwave irradiation on the stability of over 20 phenolic compounds found that all were stable at least for up to 20 min at 100°C [38]. These studies indicated that phenolic compounds are fairly stable, and also suggested that high temperature may disrupt the cellular structure and liberate more phenolic compounds.

In contrast, the effect of temperature on antioxidant activity was not as apparent as that observed for phenolic content (Table 2). Although the slightly increasing trends for antioxidant activities were observed for both water and 50% ethanol; a significant increase was only found for the antioxidant activities of the 50% ethanol extracts when temperature increased from 50°C to 100°C for OBC (Table 2). An earlier study confirmed that rutin and quercetin, two of the most common polyphenolic antioxidants in buckwheat, were unstable in phosphate buffer at 97°C in the presence of transition metal ions [39]. Moreover, high temperature may effectively solubilizes more phenolic compounds with no antioxidant activity, such as vitexin and isovitexin [40].

### 3.1.3. Effect of Ethanol Concentrations

Water and 50% ethanol were chosen for an optimum

extraction study. One hundred percent ethanol was not included in this study because 100% ethanol extracts revealed that it gave the lowest phenolic content compared to water and 50% ethanol at all temperatures of the heating method in a previous study [37]. Water tended to produce extracts with more total phenolic contents than 50% ethanol for C-Trim50 (Table 2) at all temperatures and comparable phenolic content with 50% ethanol for Nutrim10, C-Ttrim20, and C-Trim30. Water extracts had significantly higher phenolic content than extracts with 50% ethanol at 100°C for all samples with the exception of C-Trim30 (Table 2). These studies were in agreement with a prior study that 50% ethanol extracted substantially more phenolic compounds than water and 100% ethanol when using microwave irradiated or heated with water bath at all temperatures [37].

With respect to antioxidant activity, however, no consistent advantage of 50% aqueous ethanol over water was observed (Table 2) as antioxidant activities in water extracts were similar to that from 50% aqueous ethanol. These studies were in agreement with a previous study on extracts from distillers' dried grain [41].

### 3.1.4. Effect of Solvent Types

The methanol extract showed the highest antioxidant activity coefficient while the acetone extract showed the

highest total phenolics of catechin equivalents and the highest scavenging activity by the DPPH method [42]. Also, methanol was reported to extract lower molecular weight phenolic compounds than using hexane or aqueous acetone [43]. Another study on wheat suggested that 50% acetone would provide extracts with considerably higher antioxidant activity [17]. However, the differences in phenolic contents among the three solvent types were not very dramatic in this study. Using both 80% ethanol and 80% methanol extractions resulted in significantly higher soluble phenolic compounds than using 80% acetone for C-Trim30 (**Table 3**). Also, 80% ethanol extracted significantly higher soluble phenolic compounds than 80% methanol for OBC and 80% acetone for C-Trim20. No significant differences were found in this study for Nutrim10, C-Trim50 and  $\beta$ -glucan95 regardless of solvent types. Significantly higher antioxidant activities were found in the extracts using 80% ethanol and methanol compared to 80% acetone for the corresponding samples with the exclusion of C-Trim30 using 80% ethanol (**Table 4**). It implies that the antioxidants from oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids probably are more stable in ethanol and methanol than acetone. No detectable antioxidant activities were found in  $\beta$ -Glucan95 for all three solvents used.

### 3.1.5. The Comparison of Gallic Acid and Ferulic Acid as Standards for Phenolic Analysis

Ferulic acid plays a significant role in the plant cell walls because it forms bonding between polysaccharides and proteins [44]. Ferulic acid is a well known antioxidant with potential for food and medical applications [45]. Gallic acid is commonly used for testing phenolic content. This study was the first to report using ferulic acid as standard to determine phenolic content in corn bran. The statistical significant differences were found for most samples using 80% ethanol and 80% methanol between the results using gallic acid or ferulic acid as standard (**Table 5**). Overall, the results using gallic acid as standard were higher than the results using ferulic acid as standard. The results from this study provided an alternative choice for using ferulic acid as standard to test phenolic content.

### 3.1.6. Effect of Sample and Solvent Ratio

The effect of sample and solvent ratios on phenolic contents was also observed in this study. For example, phenolic content for C-Trim30 was 10.39 mg/g and 9.55 mg/g using water or ethanol, respectively (**Table 2**). In contrast, phenolic content for the same sample was 5.78, 6.31, 6.26 mg/g using 80% acetone, ethanol, methanol respectively. Different solvent types, such as water, 50% of ethanol, 80% of acetone, 80% of ethanol, and 80% of methanol made some differences. Sample and solvent

**Table 3. Phenolic contents of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids.**

	Acetone (80%) mg/g	Ethanol (80%) mg/g	Methanol (80%) mg/g
OBC	2.29 $\pm$ 0.09 ef	2.25 $\pm$ 0.03 ef	1.78 $\pm$ 0.02 g
Nutrim10	1.98 $\pm$ 0.04 efg	2.06 $\pm$ 0.01 efg	1.94 $\pm$ 0.04 fg
C-Trim20	3.21 $\pm$ 0.16 d	3.57 $\pm$ 0.03 c	3.33 $\pm$ 0.01 cd
C-Trim30	5.78 $\pm$ 0.29 b	6.31 $\pm$ 0.11 a	6.26 $\pm$ 0.07 a
C-Ttrim50	2.29 $\pm$ 0.01 ef	2.33 $\pm$ 0.01 e	2.07 $\pm$ 0.06 efg
$\beta$ -Glucan95	1.11 $\pm$ 0.02 h	0.9 $\pm$ 0.00 h	0.84 $\pm$ 0.00 h

Samples (0.5 g) were extracted with 10 ml of corresponding solvents; Values are reported in mg gallic acid equivalents/g sample; Values with different letters indicate the significance ( $p < 0.05$ ) for each comparison among all the treatments regardless solvent.

**Table 4. Antioxidant activities of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids.**

	Acetone (80%) $\mu$ mol/g	Ethanol (80%) $\mu$ mol/g	Methanol (80%) $\mu$ mol/g
OBC	1.97 $\pm$ 0.00 b	2.08 $\pm$ 0.00 a	2.08 $\pm$ 0.00 a
Nutrim10	1.17 $\pm$ 0.01 j	1.38 $\pm$ 0.01 g	1.46 $\pm$ 0.01 f
C-Trim20	1.30 $\pm$ 0.00 h	1.54 $\pm$ 0.00 e	1.64 $\pm$ 0.02 d
C-Trim30	1.83 $\pm$ 0.00 c	1.86 $\pm$ 0.00 c	1.95 $\pm$ 0.01 b
C-Trim50	1.12 $\pm$ 0.01 k	1.24 $\pm$ 0.01 i	1.22 $\pm$ 0.02 i
$\beta$ -Glucan95	-	-	-

Samples (0.5 g) were extracted with 10 ml of corresponding solvents; Values were reported in  $\mu$ mol Trolox equivalents/g sample; Values with different letters indicated the significance ( $p < 0.05$ ) for each comparison among all the treatments regardless solvent; Values for  $\beta$ -Glucan95 were under detection limit.

ratio 1:20 was used for comparing the effect of solvent on phenolic contents according an earlier study [46]. Most likely, the lower phenolic values at the sample and solvent ratio of 1:20 (w/v) with 80% acetone, ethanol, and methanol could be caused by the low reactivity in the higher viscosity of the extraction slurry compared with ratio of 1:50. The result was in agreement with a previous study where the total flavonoid content in buckwheat was gradually increased to 1:50 ratio [37].

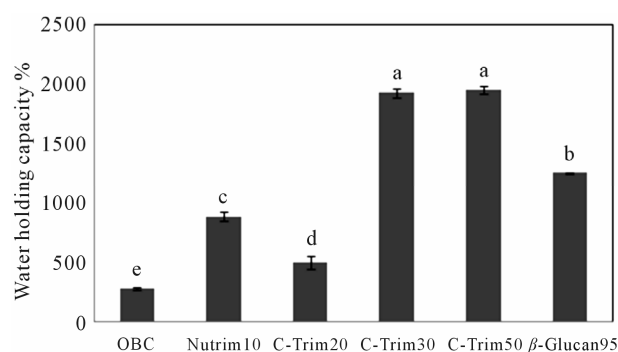
## 3.2. Water-Holding Capacity

Water-holding capacities of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids are shown in **Figure 1**. Water-holding capacities of C-Trim30 and C-Trim50 were similar (1924% and 1951%) and both were significantly higher than other samples.  $\beta$ -Glucan95, which had the highest total highest  $\beta$ -glucan among the oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids studied, had a lower water-holding capacity (1254%) than C-Trim 30 and C-Trim50, suggesting that starch and fiber interaction could be an important factor. The  $\beta$ -glucan content

**Table 5. Comparison of the phenolic contents of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids using gallic acid and ferulic acid.**

	Acetone (80%)		Ethanol (80%)		Methanol (80%)	
	Gallic mg/g	Ferulic mg/g	Gallic mg/g	Ferulic mg/g	Gallic mg/g	Ferulic mg/g
OBC	2.29 $\pm$ 0.09 a	1.98 $\pm$ 0.10 a	2.25 $\pm$ 0.03 a	1.93 $\pm$ 0.03 b	1.78 $\pm$ 0.02 a	1.41 $\pm$ 0.02 b
Nutrim10	1.98 $\pm$ 0.04 a	1.66 $\pm$ 0.05 b	2.06 $\pm$ 0.01 a	1.75 $\pm$ 0.02 b	1.94 $\pm$ 0.04 a	1.61 $\pm$ 0.05 b
C-Trim20	3.21 $\pm$ 0.16 a	3.03 $\pm$ 0.18 a	3.57 $\pm$ 0.03 a	3.43 $\pm$ 0.03 b	3.33 $\pm$ 0.01 a	3.16 $\pm$ 0.02 b
C-Trim30	5.78 $\pm$ 0.29 a	5.89 $\pm$ 0.32 a	6.31 $\pm$ 0.11 a	6.48 $\pm$ 0.13 a	6.26 $\pm$ 0.07 a	6.42 $\pm$ 0.08 a
C-Trim50	2.29 $\pm$ 0.01 a	2.00 $\pm$ 0.02 b	2.33 $\pm$ 0.01 a	2.04 $\pm$ 0.02 b	2.07 $\pm$ 0.06 a	1.75 $\pm$ 0.07 b
$\beta$ -Glucan95	1.11 $\pm$ 0.02 a	0.67 $\pm$ 0.02 b	0.90 $\pm$ 0.00 a	0.45 $\pm$ 0.01 b	0.84 $\pm$ 0.02 a	0.38 $\pm$ 0.01 b

Samples (0.5 g) were extracted with 10 ml of corresponding; Values are reported in mg gallic acid equivalents/g sample; Values with different letters indicate the significance ( $p < 0.05$ ) between treatments using same solvent in the respective row.



**Figure 1. Water holding capacity of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids. The means for each variable with different letters are significantly different ( $p \leq 0.05$ ).**

of Nutrim10 was only 4% higher than OBC but the water holding capacity of Nutrim10 (880%) was almost three times of that from OBC (277%). Since Nutrim10, C-Trim20, C-Trim30, C-Trim50 were produced using jet-cooking technology (Table 1), thermal mechanical shear forces could have resulted in their molecular breakdown [24]. Studies of water holding capacity provide fundamental information that helps explain RVA results.

### 3.3. RVA Pasting Properties

The pasting curves of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids were obtained by RVA analysis. As shown in Figure 2, the pasting curves of five oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids were all different.  $\beta$ -Glucan95, C-Trim50, and C-Trim30 peak viscosity occurred almost instantaneously as exhibited with a rapid initial viscosity. It suggested that oat hydrocolloids could be quickly gelatinized during heating which is characteristic of pregelatinized flour [47]. In addition, the higher  $\beta$ -glucan content of  $\beta$ -Glucan95 could be a major contributor to a high paste viscosity. A continuous decline in the viscosity of  $\beta$ -Glucan95, C-Trim50 and C-Trim30 was observed during heating after the initial peak, followed by an increase on cooling. It is known that the viscosity of completely gelatinized starch slurry

decreases during heating due to the slurry thinning [48].  $\beta$ -Glucan95 had considerably higher final viscosity (Figure 2), suggesting that  $\beta$ -glucan resulted in entanglement of molecules during cooling that formed a matrix with greater stability to heat and shear. A similar trend was observed for C-Trim50, as cooking resulted in a high final viscosity compared to other samples. Likewise, OBC and Nutrim10 had lower paste viscosity than other samples probably due to the lower  $\beta$ -glucan content. No huge breakdowns (peak viscosity minus trough viscosity) were observed for oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids, reflecting high stability under heat and shear. The steep and narrow peak viscosity curve was attributed to a complex formation between gelatinized starches and  $\beta$ -glucan in oats that was observed for jet-cooked oat bran concentrate [49].

Textural improvement in properties of foods using oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids have been reported that the RVA data could provide useful information for food processing and product development. Initial paste viscosity suggested their suitability as ingredients for instant puddings and food formulations that require little heat during processing, such as, yogurt, smoothies and ice cream. For low paste viscosity of OBC and Nutrim10, they could be mixed with cereal flour, such as wheat flour, to make products such as breads and cookies for increasing their antioxidant activities.

### 4. Conclusion

Four oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids and OBC revealed wide ranges of total phenolics and antioxidant activities resulting from the extraction conditions that were critical for obtaining high yields. In general, the highest solubilized phenolic compounds were found using high temperature up to 100°C for oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids regardless of solvent but did not necessarily result in higher antioxidant activity. Water extracts had significantly higher phenolic contents than extracts using 50% ethanol at 100°C for most samples. From these results, it is ap

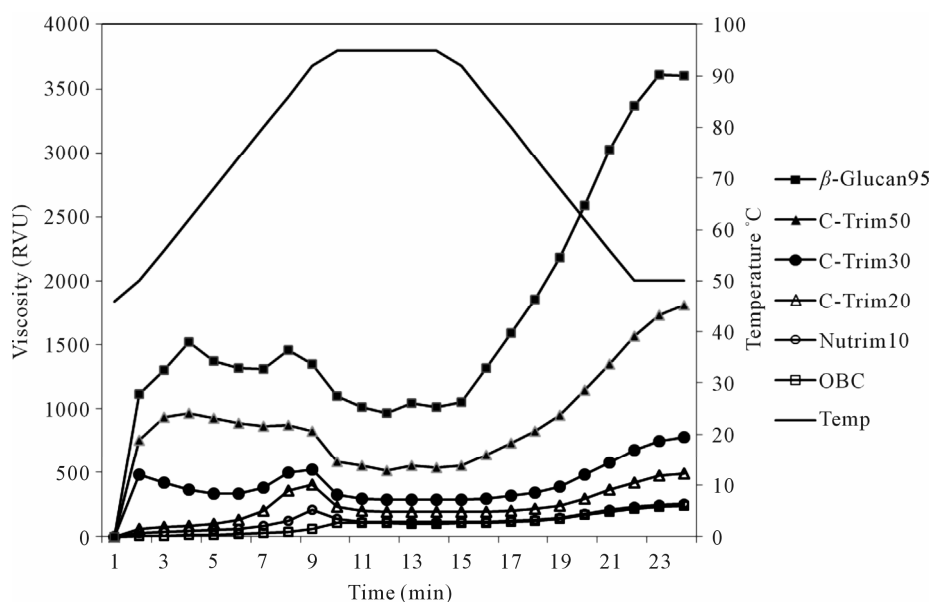


Figure 2. Rapid Visco-Analyzer pasting curve of oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids.

parent that oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids and OBC could have great potential in providing nutritionally beneficial products based on their phenolic compounds and antioxidant capacity along with their unique water holding and paste viscosity. These oat  $\beta$ -glucan hydrocolloids, Nutrim10, C-Trim20 and C-Trim30, could provide excellent food ingredients for improving nutrition and modifying texture of healthy food products.

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