

1 **Resveratrol entrapped niosomes as yogurt additive**

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9

10 **Abstract**

11 Nanodesign of niosomes containing resveratrol (RSV) was carried out using food-
12 grade surfactants with dodecanol to stabilize the membrane. Niosomes were prepared
13 using a modified [thin film hydration](#) method.

14 A [factorial design analysis](#) was carried out to reduce the number of experiments. The
15 response factors were: [mean size](#), [polydispersity](#) index (PDI) and entrapment efficiency
16 (EE). Agitation speed and [surfactant to dodecanol weight ratio](#) were selected as key
17 parameters for niosomes preparation. [Parameter contribution](#) was determined using a
18 statistical analysis of variance (ANOVA).

19 Niosomes formulated with Span 60 or Maisine 35-1 as surfactants and dodecanol as
20 stabilizer [were able to incorporate](#) RSV. These niosomes [exhibited](#) a small [mean](#) size,
21 narrow size distribution, high RSV entrapment efficiency and good stability. RSV
22 addition did not involve changes in the textural properties of regular yogurt
23 demonstrating that RSV entrapped niosomes are suitable additives in these dairy
24 products.

25

26 **Keywords:** niosome, resveratrol, functional food, yogurt, factorial design, ANOVA

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28

29 1. Introduction

30 Natural products have been widely used to prevent or mitigate various diseases and
31 there has been lately a growing interest in research, development and
32 commercialization of functional foods, nutraceuticals and dietary supplements (Shahidi,
33 2009; Ortuño *et al.*, 2010; Dewapriya & Kim, 2014). The term "*nutraceutical*" is defined
34 as any food-based substance that provides health benefits, including prevention and
35 treatment of diseases (Defelice, 1995). This term is commonly used in marketing
36 although there is no regulatory definition, and in certain countries the
37 terms functional food and nutraceutical are used interchangeably. In all cases, the main
38 focus is to improve health and reduce the risk of diseases mainly through prevention
39 (Shahidi, 2009).

40 Moreover, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies have made significant
41 investments in the discovery and production of nutraceuticals / functional foods
42 (Nelson, 1999; Kalra, 2003).

43 Resveratrol (RSV) is a natural polyphenol that may be considered as a *nutraceutical*
44 because of benefits that include anticancer activity (Jang & Surh, 1997; Surh, Hurth,
45 Kang, Lee, Kong & Lee, 1999), lifespan extension (Howitz *et al.*, 2003),
46 cardioprotection (Hung, Chen, Huang, Lee & Su, 2000), antioxidant activity (Frankel,
47 Waterhouse & Kinsella, 1993; Fremont, Belguendouz & Delpal, 1999), inhibition of
48 platelet aggregation (Chung, Teng, Cheng, Ko & Lin, 1992; Bertelli *et al.*, 1995) and
49 antiinflammatory activity (Pace-Asciak, Hahn, Diamandis, Soleas & Goldberg, 1995).
50 Consequently, RSV may prove to be a useful ingredient for functional foods.

51 RSV is a photosensitive molecule that exists in *cis* and *trans* structural isomers, but
52 only *trans*-RSV demonstrates health benefits. The change from the active *trans* isomer
53 to the inactive *cis* isomer is mainly caused by exposure to light. Thus, RSV should be
54 encapsulated. Encapsulation also facilitates control of the rate of RSV release and
55 protects the molecule during digestion because of its degradation under pancreatic
56 conditions (Tagliazucchi, Verzelloni, Bertolini & Conte, 2010), and could also help to
57 mask undesired flavours.

58 RSV encapsulation studies have been done in pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries
59 with the aims of preventing degradation, increasing its solubility in water, and targeting
60 to specific locations in the body via use of multiparticulate forms and colloidal carriers

61 (Lucas-Abellán, Fortea, López-Nicolás & Núñez-Delicado, 2007; Caddeo, Teskač,
62 Sinico & Kristl, 2008; Kristl, Teskač, Caddeo, Abramovic & Sentjurc, 2009; Peng *et al.*,
63 2010; Teskač & Kristl, 2010; Donsi, Sessa, Mediouni, Mgaidi & Ferrari, 2011; Wang *et*
64 *al.*, 2011; Amri, Chaumeil, Sfar & Charrueau, 2012; Pando, Caddeo, Manconi, Fadda &
65 Pazos, 2013a; Pando, Gutiérrez, Coca & Pazos, 2013b; Matos, Gutiérrez, Coca &
66 Pazos, 2014; Sessa *et al.*, 2014).

67 Niosomes are vesicles formed by the [self-assembly](#) of non-ionic surfactants in aqueous
68 media resulting in closed bilayer structures (Uchegbu & Vyas, 1998). These vesicles
69 are commonly used to encapsulate both hydrophilic and lipophilic [compounds](#), for
70 either food, pharmaceutical or cosmetic applications. Hydrophilic compounds are
71 entrapped [in](#) the aqueous compartments between the bilayers while the lipophilic
72 components are preferentially located [within the surfactant bilayer](#) (Devaraj, Parakh,
73 Devraj, Apte, Ramesh Rao & Rambhau, 2002).

74 Surfactants are versatile products of the chemical industry and [the large number of](#)
75 [available non-ionic surfactants enables the design of niosomes for specific applications](#)
76 (Manosroi *et al.*, 2003). The main advantage of niosomes, with respect to other
77 encapsulation technologies, such as liposomes (Fang & Bhandari, 2010; Gibis, Zeeb &
78 Weiss, 2014), is their low cost, high stability, and biocompatibility (Kopermsub, Mayen
79 & Warin, 2011).

80 Size distribution, stability and entrapment efficiency are the key parameters to obtain
81 optimal niosomal system. [Two interacting](#) variables involved in niosomes preparation
82 (*i.e.* agitation speed and surfactant to stabilizer weight ratio) have to be tested to
83 properly analyse the behaviour of the system and to optimize system parameters.
84 Changing one factor at a time is not an efficient and economic strategy because it does
85 not provide information regarding the optimum location and it does not take into
86 account interactions of parameters. Factorial design and analysis of variance (ANOVA)
87 methodology are [appropriate and efficient](#) statistical tools, which permit to study the
88 effects of several factors that influence responses by varying them simultaneously
89 within a limited number of experiments (Martínez-Sancho, Herrero-Vanrell & Negro,
90 2004; Kincl, Turk & Vrečer, 2005)

91 The aim of this work is to formulate RSV [entrapped niosomes for oral administration](#),
92 using a modified [thin film hydration](#) method. Dodecanol was selected [as a](#) membrane
93 stabilizer, because it has previously been reported that stable niosomes could be

94 prepared with fatty alcohols (Devaraj *et al.*, 2002), instead of cholesterol, which avoids
95 the gel-liquid phase transition of niosomes. By contrast cholesterol may not be suitable
96 for use in functional foods because of potential adverse health effects.

97 The key parameters involved in niosomes preparation (*i.e.* surfactant to dodecanol
98 weight ratio and agitation speed) were optimised by a factorial design of experiments
99 and statistical analysis of variance (ANOVA) to assess their contributions to [mean size](#),
100 [polydispersity](#) index (PDI), and entrapment efficiency (EE). Finally, the best formulation
101 for each surfactant was selected for subsequent preparation of yogurts enriched with
102 RSV. The textural properties of these yogurts were also analysed.

103 **2. Material and methods**

104 *2.1. Materials*

105 Trans-resveratrol (RSV), with a purity >99%, sorbitan monostearate (Span 60, S60),
106 lauryl alcohol (dodecanol, Dod) and absolute ethanol were supplied by Sigma-Aldrich
107 (USA). Labrasol (Lab) and Maisine 35-1 (Mai) were a gift from Gattefossé (France).
108 Methanol, acetonitrile, 2-propanol and acetic acid of HPLC-grade were obtained from
109 Sigma-Aldrich (USA). Deionized water was used in all experiments.

110 *2.2. Preparation of niosomes*

111 Niosomes were prepared by the thin film hydration method (Bangham, Standish &
112 Watknis, 1965; Baillie, Florence, Hume, Muirhead & Rogerson, 1985) with minor
113 modifications, followed by agitation-sonication (Pando *et al.*, 2013b). Accurately
114 weighed amounts of surfactant (S60, Lab or Mai) and dodecanol in different weight
115 ratios, from 1:0.5 to 1:1.5, were dissolved in 20 mL of a solution of ethanol containing a
116 known concentration of RSV and placed into a 100 mL round bottom flask. Then,
117 ethanol was removed at 40 °C under reduced pressure in a rotary evaporator (Buchi,
118 Switzerland). The dried film [was hydrated](#) with 40 mL of deionized water at 60 °C [to](#)
119 [achieve a](#) RSV concentration of 150 mg/L. The resulting sample was subsequently
120 [homogenized](#) (SilentCrusher M, rotor model 22G, Heidolph, Germany), [at speeds](#),
121 ranging from 5,000 to 15,000 rpm depending on the experiment, and further sonicated
122 [for 30 min](#) (CY-500 sonicator, Optic Ivymen System, Spain), using 45% amplitude, 500
123 W power and 20 kHz frequency.

124 *2.3. Characterization of RSV entrapped niosomes*

125 2.3.1. Vesicle size and zeta potential measurements

126 Mean (Z-Average) sizes and PDI of niosomes were determined via Dynamic Light
127 Scattering (DSL) using a Zetasizer Nano ZS (Malvern Instruments Ltd, Worcestershire,
128 UK). Three independent samples were taken from each formulation, and each was
129 measured three times at room temperature without dilution.

130 For determination of zeta potentials (ζ -potential), three independent samples were also
131 taken from each formulation and measure three times at room temperature. Each of
132 them were diluted (1:10 v/v) before measuring vesicle electrophoretic mobility using
133 M3-PALS (Phase Analysis Light Scattering) technique. High absolute values of ζ -
134 potential indicate electrostatic repulsion between vesicles. Such conditions are linked to
135 high stability.

136 2.3.2. Stability measurements

137 The stability of niosomes was determined by measuring backscattering (BS) profiles in
138 a Turbiscan Lab[®] Expert apparatus (Formulation, France) provided with an Ageing
139 Station (Formulation, France). Undiluted niosomes samples were placed in cylindrical
140 glass test cells and the backscattered light was monitored as a function of time and cell
141 height for 15 days, every 3 hours, at 30 °C. The optical reading head scans the sample
142 in the cell, providing BS data every 40 μm in % relative to standards (suspension of
143 monodisperse spheres and silicone oil) as a function of the sample height (in mm).
144 These profiles provide a macroscopic fingerprint of the niosomes at a given time,
145 providing useful information about changes in vesicle size distribution and/or
146 appearance of a creaming layer or a clarification front with time (Pando *et al.*, 2013a;
147 Pando *et al.*, 2013b).

148 2.4. RSV entrapment efficiency (EE)

149 Entrapped RSV was separated from free RSV by dialysis. Samples (2 mL) were placed
150 into a dialysis bag, which was immersed in 1000 mL of deionized water at room
151 temperature and stirred at 500 rpm for 2 hours. Dialyzed and non-dialyzed samples
152 were diluted 1:10 (v/v) with methanol to rupture the vesicle membranes enabling
153 extraction of RSV. Later, RSV was determined by chromatography (HP series 1100
154 chromatograph, Hewlett Packard, USA). The system was equipped with a UV/VIS
155 absorbance detector HP G1315A and a fluorescence detector 1260 Infinity A (Agilent
156 Technologies, USA). A wavelength of 305 nm was used for the UV/VIS detector while

157 fluorescence detector used 310/410 nm of $\lambda_{\text{excitation}}/\lambda_{\text{emission}}$. The analytical column was a
158 Zorbax Eclipse Plus C₁₈ of 5 μm particle size, 4.6 mm \times 150 mm (Agilent Technologies,
159 USA).

160 The mobile phase consisted of a mixture of (A) 100% milliQ-water and (B) 100%
161 methanol with gradient elution at a flow rate of 0.8 mL/min. The step gradient started
162 with a mobile phase of 80% (A) running 100% mobile phase (B) in min 5 for 10 min.
163 The mobile phase (B) was fed for 2 min after each injection to prepare the column for
164 the next sample. The separation was carried out at 30°C.

165 *2.5. Preparation of yogurt enriched with RSV*

166 To prepare yogurt enriched with RSV, 10.6 mL of the niosomal suspension containing
167 RSV was placed into a beaker and diluted to 200 mL with a mixture of fresh
168 pasteurized milk and natural yogurt (8:1 v/v).

169 The sample was incubated for 12 hours at 40 °C in a yogurt maker, model OU-YG01
170 (Moulinex, France). Once the yogurt was formed, it was cooled and stored at 4 °C in a
171 refrigerator for at least 2 hours.

172 *2.6. Textural analysis of yogurt enriched with RSV*

173 A textural analysis was carried out both for regular yogurt and yogurt containing RSV to
174 study possible changes resulting from the addition of RSV entrapped niosomes.

175 The firmness and adhesiveness of both types of yogurt were measured with a
176 TA.XTplus texture analyser (Stable Micro Systems, USA) using a single compression
177 cycle test. A SMSP/0.5S probe was employed using as operating parameters a
178 penetration speed of 2 mm/s and a penetration depth of 5 mm. The test was carried out
179 immediately after removing the sample from refrigeration at 4°C.

180 Firmness was defined as the force necessary to reach the maximum depth and
181 adhesiveness was calculated as the negative force area of the cycle, representing the
182 work necessary to pull the compressing plunger away from the sample (Bourne, 2002).

183 *2.7. Statistical analysis*

184 All data were expressed as the mean \pm SD (standard deviation) of three independent
185 experiments and statistical analysis of variance (ANOVA) was applied. Fisher's test
186 ($p < 0.05$) was used to calculate the least significance difference (LSD) using statistical
187 software (Microsoft Excel 2010).

188 3. Results and discussion

189 3.1. Experimental design

190 Niosomes were prepared at three different agitation speeds (5,000, 10,000 and 15,000
191 rpm) and surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio values (1:0.5, 1:1, 1:1.5). The objective was
192 to study, using ANOVA statistical analysis, how these key factors affected on the
193 response parameters: mean size, PDI and EE. Factors and levels were combined
194 according to the orthogonal array L_9 indicated in Table 1.

195 **Table 1**

196 Dispersions were characterized to determine the best formulation and method of
197 preparation for each surfactant. Then, these best formulations were selected for the
198 subsequent preparation of yogurt enriched with RSV.

199 3.1.1. Mean size

200 Table 2 shows mean sizes, PDI and EE values of the niosomes obtained for the three
201 surfactants operating at different agitation speeds and surfactant:dodecanol weight
202 ratios.

203 **Table 2**

204

205 The results in Table 2 exhibit a clear relationship between the type of surfactant used
206 and the resulting mean size of the niosome ($p < 0.05$), for all experimental conditions
207 tested. The smallest mean size corresponded to S60 niosomes, while Lab niosomes
208 showed the highest values for this response factor. The niosomes formulated with S60
209 had mean sizes between 139-227 nm with an average value of 183 nm, while Mai-
210 niosomes mean size ranged from 164 to 368 nm, being its average value 242 nm.
211 These two surfactants are similar molecular structures, with the same number of C (17)
212 for the alkyl chain, but differing in the hydrophilic portion with sorbitan monosterate for
213 S60, and glycerol monosterate for Mai. Consequently, their hydrophilic – lipophilic
214 balance (HLB) is quite similar, being 4.7 and 4.0 for S60 and Mai, respectively. Thus, it
215 was expected that niosomes formulated with these surfactants should be similar in
216 size, as was observed experimentally.

217 Moreover, when Mai was used as surfactant, a close correlation between the agitation
218 speed and niosome mean size ($p < 0.05$) was observed; smaller niosome mean sizes

219 were produced at higher agitation speeds as it was previously reported (Pando *et al.*,
220 2013b). No such influence was observed when S60 or Lab was employed.

221 Changes in niosome mean size resulting from different surfactant:dodecanol weight
222 ratios were also observed when Lab was used as surfactant ($p < 0.05$). This result may
223 be attributed to its largest HLB value (14) which results in a greater affinity for the
224 aqueous phase, thereby preventing vesicles formation in the absence of a stabilizer.
225 This situation leads to a close link between surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio and mean
226 size.

227 For niosomes formulated with Lab, the smallest mean size was obtained at a
228 surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio of 1:0.5. However, dodecanol did not stabilize
229 niosomal structure well. The Lab–dodecanol system began to coagulate, leading to
230 larger vesicle sizes and phase separation.

231 3.1.2. Polydispersity index (PDI)

232 PDI values of niosome size distributions for the three surfactants are also shown in
233 Table 2.

234 The PDI results exhibit a clear ($p < 0.05$) dependence on the type of surfactant.
235 Niosomes with the smallest PDI were obtained with S60 surfactant, followed by those
236 using Mai and Lab. Niosomes prepared with S60 led to PDIs in the range 0.204-0.352,
237 being 0.279 the average PDI value. PDI of niosomes formulated using Mai ranged from
238 0.211 to 0.488, with an average value of 0.314. Narrower distributions were obtained
239 with these two surfactants, since niosomes obtained from formulations containing Lab
240 led to PDI values in the range 0.129-0.582 with an average value of 0.378, which was
241 too close to the limit value of 0.4. Once this value is exceeded, the corresponding PDI
242 values are no longer considered narrow.

243 All the surfactants resulted in a significant PDI dependence of the agitation speed ($p <$
244 0.05). For formulations containing S60 and Mai, lower PDI values were obtained at
245 higher agitation speeds, while for niosomes prepared using Lab, lower agitation speeds
246 were associated with lower PDI values.

247 As it was stated earlier, only the Lab surfactant showed a close relationship between
248 surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio, the mean size and the PDI of the niosomal system.
249 For the Lab-Dod niosomes, the lowest PDI value was obtained for a
250 surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio of 1:0.5, according to the lowest niosome mean size.

251 3.1.3. RSV entrapment efficiency (EE)

252 The EE was strongly dependent on the surfactant and surfactant:dodecanol weight
253 ratio ($p < 0.05$), while agitation speed had no effect ($p > 0.05$).

254 For niosomes prepared with S60, EE values ranged between 16.8-72.5%, with an
255 average value of 42.0%, while for niosomes prepared with Lab, the range of EE was
256 16.3-63.9%, with an average value of 40.6%. The lowest EE values were obtained with
257 Mai (25.1-58.6%).

258 With respect to RSV entrapment efficiency, each surfactant exhibited different
259 behaviour at the various surfactant:dodecanol weight ratios tested. Niosomes prepared
260 with S60 and Mai led to higher EE values at higher surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio
261 (1:1.5), while for niosomes formulated with Lab, higher EE values were obtained at the
262 lowest surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio (1:0.5). These findings may be explained in
263 terms of the similar HLB value of two of the surfactants (HLB = 4.7 and 4.0 for S60 and
264 Mai respectively). Lab is much more hydrophilic (HLB =14).

265 3.1.4. Optimal operating conditions

266 For S60-Dod niosomes, the best results were obtained when agitated at 15,000 rpm,
267 corresponding to the lowest PDI value, for 1:1.5 surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio.

268 However, for the Lab-Dod niosomes the lowest PDI value was obtained at the lowest
269 agitation speed (5,000 rpm) and lowest surfactant:dodecanol weight ratio (1:0.5).
270 These conditions lead to smaller mean size and a higher EE value.

271 Finally, for Mai-Dod niosomes, lower PDI values were observed at higher agitation
272 speeds (15,000 rpm). Higher surfactant:dodecanol weight ratios led to smaller mean
273 sizes.

274 A summary of the optimal key parameters is displayed in Table 3.

275 **Table 3**

276 3.2. *Niosomes stability*

277 The stability of the niosomes was determined from the variation of the BS (ΔBS) with
278 time. Changes in niosome size are directly related to the ΔBS values measured in the
279 middle zone of the Turbiscan cell (ΔBS_M). An increase in niosome size indicates that

280 coagulation and/or flocculation have taken place, leading to system destabilization. In
281 addition, BS variations at the bottom (BS_B) and top (BS_T) of the measuring cell are
282 linked to sedimentation and creaming phenomena respectively. Turbiscan equipment
283 has been widely used to select the best formulation for colloidal systems employed in
284 food applications (Márquez, Palazolo & Wagner, 2007; Pando *et al.*, 2013a; Pando *et*
285 *al.*, 2013b; Matos *et al.*, 2014).

286

287 The ζ -potential is strongly linked to stability of the niosomes. High absolute values of ζ -
288 potential imply repulsive force between niosomes with a concomitant increase in
289 stability. On the other hand, close to zero or even low absolute values lead to unstable
290 systems with resultant coagulation or flocculation processes.

291

292 The stability of samples from the best formulations was monitored every 3 hours
293 for 15 days.

294

295 S60-Dod niosomes prepared at 15,000 rpm with a surfactant:dodecanol **weight** ratio of
296 1:1.5 were highly stable with no changes in niosome size, although a slight variation in
297 BS values was observed. Thus, the ΔBS_M values were quite low and destabilization
298 processes, such as coagulation or flocculation, did not occur. However, a creaming
299 phenomenon was observed by an increase in BS at the top of the cell (ΔBS_T), due to
300 particle accumulation in this zone and clarification at the bottom of the cell. These
301 phenomena were accompanied by a corresponding decrease in BS (ΔBS_B) (Figure 1A).
302 Creaming can be attributed to the presence of free dodecanol molecules, which did not
303 form niosomal bilayer but migrated towards the top of the cell because of their lower
304 density (850 kg/m^3).

305

306 Moreover, this niosomal system was characterized by a ζ -potential value of -50.1 ± 0.8
307 **mV**. This result agreed well with the high stability observed via Turbiscan
308 measurements, confirming the absence of coagulation/flocculation processes resulting
309 from **electrostatic** repulsion effects among niosomes.

310

311

Figure 1

312 Lab-Dod niosomes prepared at 5,000 rpm with a surfactant:dodecanol **weight** ratio of
313 1:0.5 showed lower stability along time. A sharp variation in BS values was observed in
314 the middle zone of the cell (Figure 1B), which indicated a significant change in niosome

315 size. A creaming layer also appeared at the top of the cell leading to an increase in
316 ΔBS_T and a simultaneous increase of ΔBS_B caused by sedimentation phenomena.

317 This niosomal system had a ζ -potential of -18.7 ± 0.6 mV. Thus, electrostatic repulsion
318 would be weaker, making the increase in niosome size more likely.

319

320 Niosomes prepared at 15,000 rpm using Mai-Dod with a surfactant:dodecanol weight
321 ratio of 1:1.5 exhibited acceptable stability. An increase in mean sizes of the niosomes,
322 resulting from the BS decrease in the middle zone of the cell (ΔBS_M) was observed. In
323 addition, a creaming phenomenon appeared due to free dodecanol molecules with the
324 corresponding decrease in ΔBS_B and ΔBS_T increase (Figure 1C). This system had a ζ -
325 potential of -39.9 ± 0.3 mV corresponding to the acceptable stability of these niosomes.

326 The best formulation of the RSV entrapped niosomes was obtained using S60-
327 Dod. This niosomal system demonstrated much better stability than niosomes
328 formulated with Lab-Dod.

329 3.3. Textural analysis of yogurt enriched with niosomes containing resveratrol

330 The textural analysis of regular yogurt and yogurt enriched with RSV, by adding
331 niosomes prepared with S60, Lab and Mai, was carried out in order to ascertain if any
332 textural difference caused by addition of niosomes was present.

333 Figure 2 shows the textural analysis for each sample obtained by measuring the force
334 applied on yogurt surface as a function of time.

335

Figure 2

336 Values of the textural parameters studied (firmness and adhesiveness) are
337 summarized in Table 4.

338

Table 4

339 Only the yogurt containing RSV Lab-Dod niosomes showed significant differences in
340 firmness with respect to control regular yogurt.

341 The yogurt containing RSV Mai-Dod niosomes exhibited adhesiveness closer to that of
342 the control, followed by yogurt enriched with RSV S60-Dod niosomes. By contrast,
343 addition of RSV Lab-Dod niosomes to the control yogurt led to significant decrease in
344 adhesiveness.

345 Thus, yogurts with RSV entrapped niosomes formulated with S60 or Mai were
346 characterized by textural properties similar to those of the control, but the yogurt
347 enriched with Lab niosomes containing RSV led to textural properties slightly different,
348 which could be readily apparent in the final product.

349 **4. Conclusions**

350 Combination of factorial experimental design with statistical analysis of variance
351 (ANOVA) is a good methodology to employ in ascertaining the best formulation for
352 niosomal systems entrapping RSV within a moderate number of experiments.

353 Dodecanol could replace cholesterol as stabilizer in formulations of food-grade
354 niosomes.

355 Niosomes formulated with Span 60 or Maisine 35-1 as surfactants and dodecanol as
356 stabilizer are successful preparations for incorporation of RSV. These niosomes exhibit
357 a small mean size, narrow size distribution, high RSV entrapment efficiency, and good
358 stability.

359 Addition of RSV did not involve changes in the textural properties of regular yogurt
360 demonstrating that RSV entrapped niosomes are suitable additives in these dairy
361 products.

362

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364

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507

508 **Figure captions**

509

510 Figure 1. Backscattering profiles of RSV entrapped niosomes made of: A) S60 and
511 dodecanol (1:1.5 w/w) at 15,000 rpm; B) Lab and dodecanol (1:0.5 w/w) at
512 5,000 rpm; C) Mai and dodecanol (1:1.5 w/w) at 15,000 rpm

513

514 Figure 2. Textural properties of yogurt: A) Regular yogurt, no additives; B) Yogurt with
515 RSV entrapped S60-Dod niosomes; C) Yogurt with RSV entrapped Lab-Dod
516 niosomes; D) Yogurt with RSV entrapped Mai-Dod niosomes

517

Table 1. Experimental design schedule for the L₉ array

<i>Trial</i>	Agitation speed (rpm)	Surfactant:dodecanol ratio (w/w)
1	5,000	1:0.5
2	5,000	1:1
3	5,000	1:1.5
4	10,000	1:0.5
5	10,000	1:1
6	10,000	1:1.5
7	15,000	1:0.5
8	15,000	1:1
9	15,000	1:1.5

Table 2. Experimental design results for niosome mean size, PDI and EE as response parameters

Trial	Size (nm)			PDI			EE (%)		
	S60 Dod	Lab Dod	Mai Dod	S60 Dod	Lab Dod	Mai Dod	S60 Dod	Lab Dod	Mai Dod
1	205	333	237	0.342	0.251	0.386	29.0	59.1	37.0
	220	351	216	0.326	0.276	0.282	29.3	51.8	25.4
	222	401	221	0.333	0.240	0.302	28.3	55.5	27.9
2	139	294	272	0.269	0.229	0.305	33.7	46.7	37.4
	162	233	296	0.241	0.129	0.488	52.0	52.7	36.9
	163	329	368	0.236	0.217	0.426	41.1	52.6	41.5
3	196	368	331	0.352	0.332	0.357	52.0	16.3	44.9
	175	543	269	0.289	0.556	0.321	47.4	24.5	27.0
	183	412	302	0.331	0.452	0.392	43.2	19.7	31.1
4	163	427	223	0.204	0.403	0.367	22.9	61.7	39.6
	161	344	277	0.215	0.349	0.410	21.5	63.9	25.1
	171	429	254	0.233	0.365	0.395	23.0	60.2	30.1
5	185	314	213	0.271	0.281	0.253	40.5	30.3	48.5
	188	389	224	0.272	0.412	0.232	40.0	48.6	35.1
	196	285	230	0.259	0.344	0.271	36.7	33.6	39.6
6	178	378	311	0.261	0.501	0.429	56.8	27.7	55.1
	183	350	252	0.270	0.448	0.302	58.5	25.5	49.7
	191	454	295	0.251	0.403	0.365	61.1	32.4	56.0
7	162	418	211	0.255	0.403	0.232	22.5	50.0	39.2
	195	379	222	0.261	0.379	0.292	16.8	34.3	29.9
	218	302	216	0.219	0.421	0.257	26.1	41.9	32.6
8	227	373	203	0.235	0.364	0.265	59.1	41.4	37.3
	190	544	164	0.271	0.490	0.249	53.2	33.6	47.3
	178	465	205	0.346	0.431	0.218	49.3	42.8	42.1
9	165	688	170	0.267	0.481	0.241	58.5	31.8	56.4
	167	408	166	0.248	0.582	0.241	72.5	22.8	58.6
	173	586	191	0.225	0.472	0.211	60.3	35.9	43.4

Table 3. Optimal key parameters for preparation of RSV entrapped niosomes

<i>Niosomal system</i>	Agitation speed (rpm)	Surf:Dod ratio (w/w)	Size (nm)	PDI	EE (%)
<i>S60-Dod</i>	15,000	1:1.5	168 ± 4	0.247 ± 0.018	63.8 ± 7.6
<i>Lab-Dod</i>	5,000	1:0.5	362 ± 35	0.255 ± 0.021	55.4 ± 3.7
<i>Mai-Dod</i>	15,000	1:1.5	175 ± 13	0.260 ± 0.025	52.8 ± 8.2

Table 4. Firmness and adhesiveness values of different yogurts

System	Firmness (g_F)	Adhesiveness (g_F)
<i>Regular yogurt (control)</i>	7.535 ± 0.321	-4.035 ± 0.518
<i>RSV S60-Dod yogurt</i>	7.642 ± 0.106	-3.538 ± 0.173
<i>RSV Lab-Dod yogurt</i>	5.005 ± 0.105	-2.615 ± 0.085
<i>RSV Mai-Dod yogurt</i>	7.186 ± 0.124	-4.166 ± 0.055

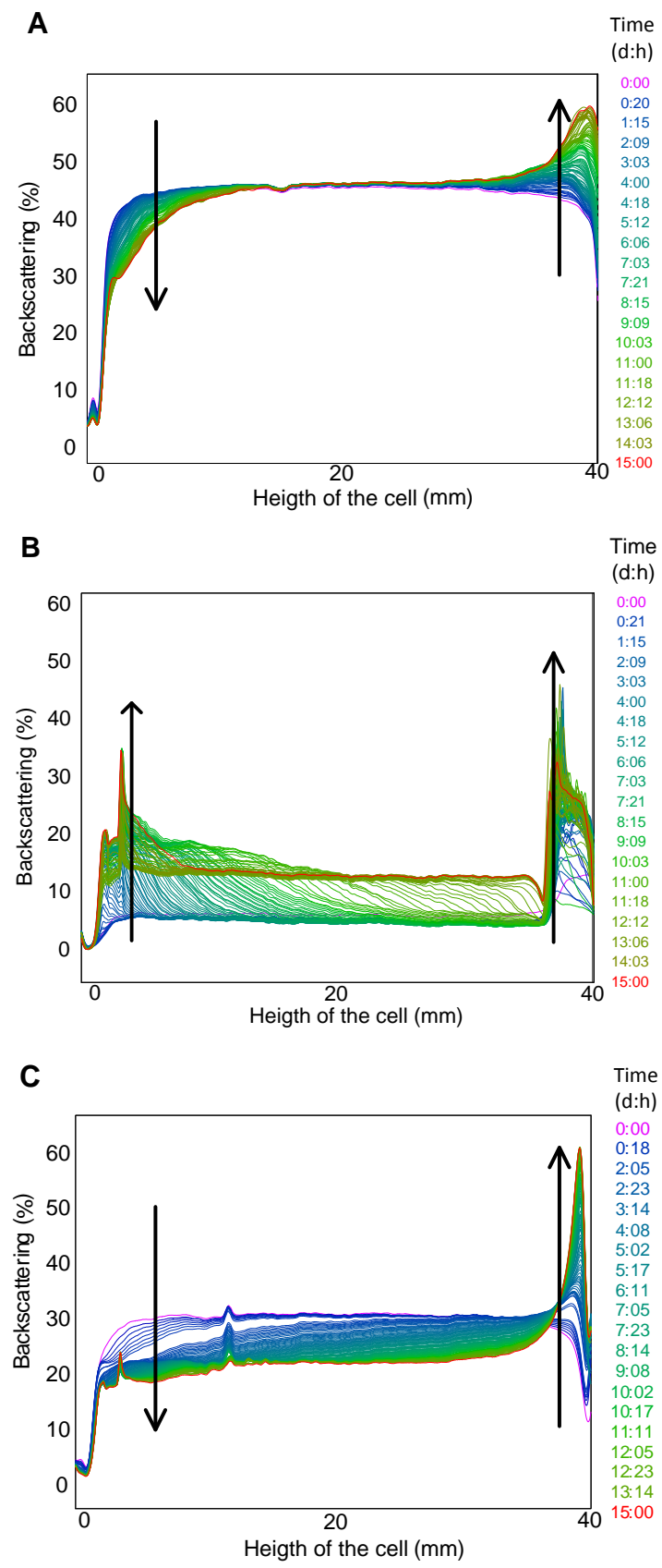


Figure 1

Figure 1 Black and White

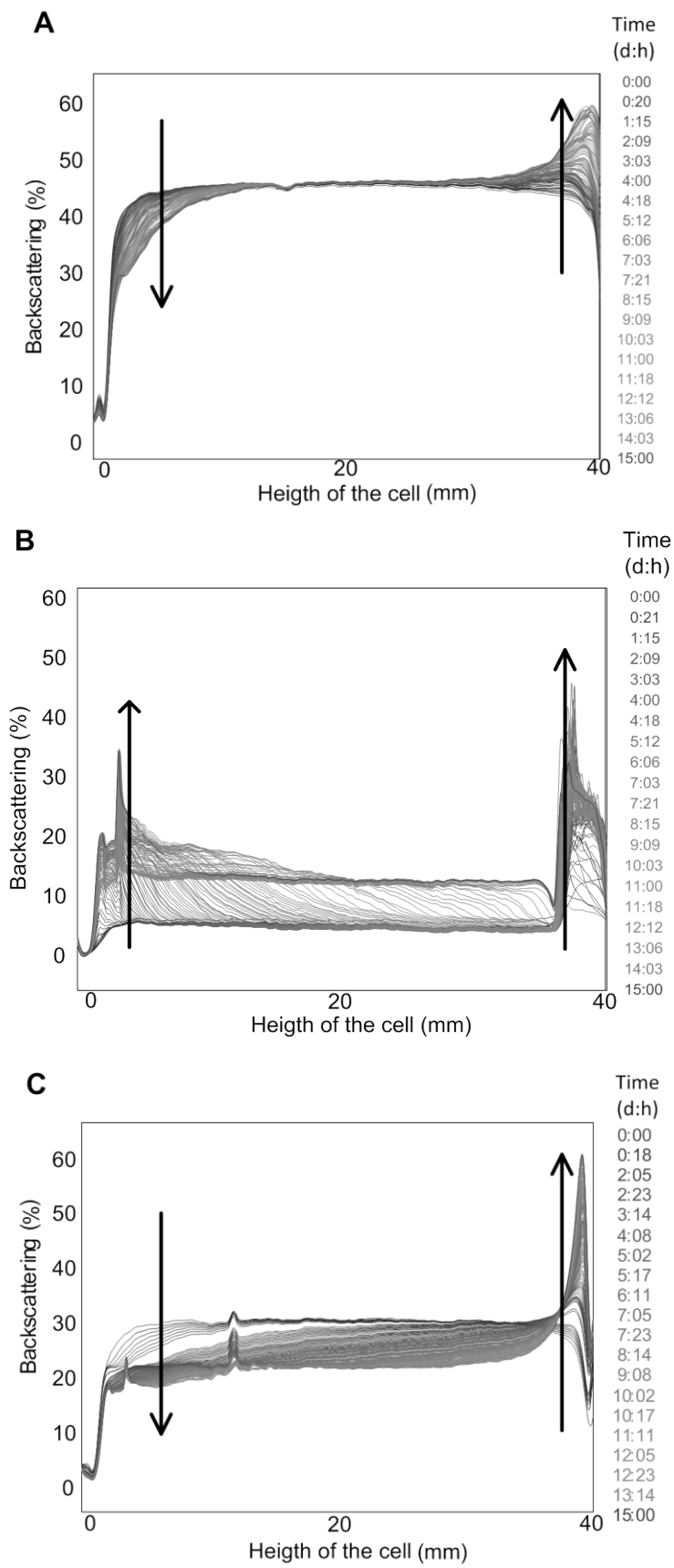


Figure 1

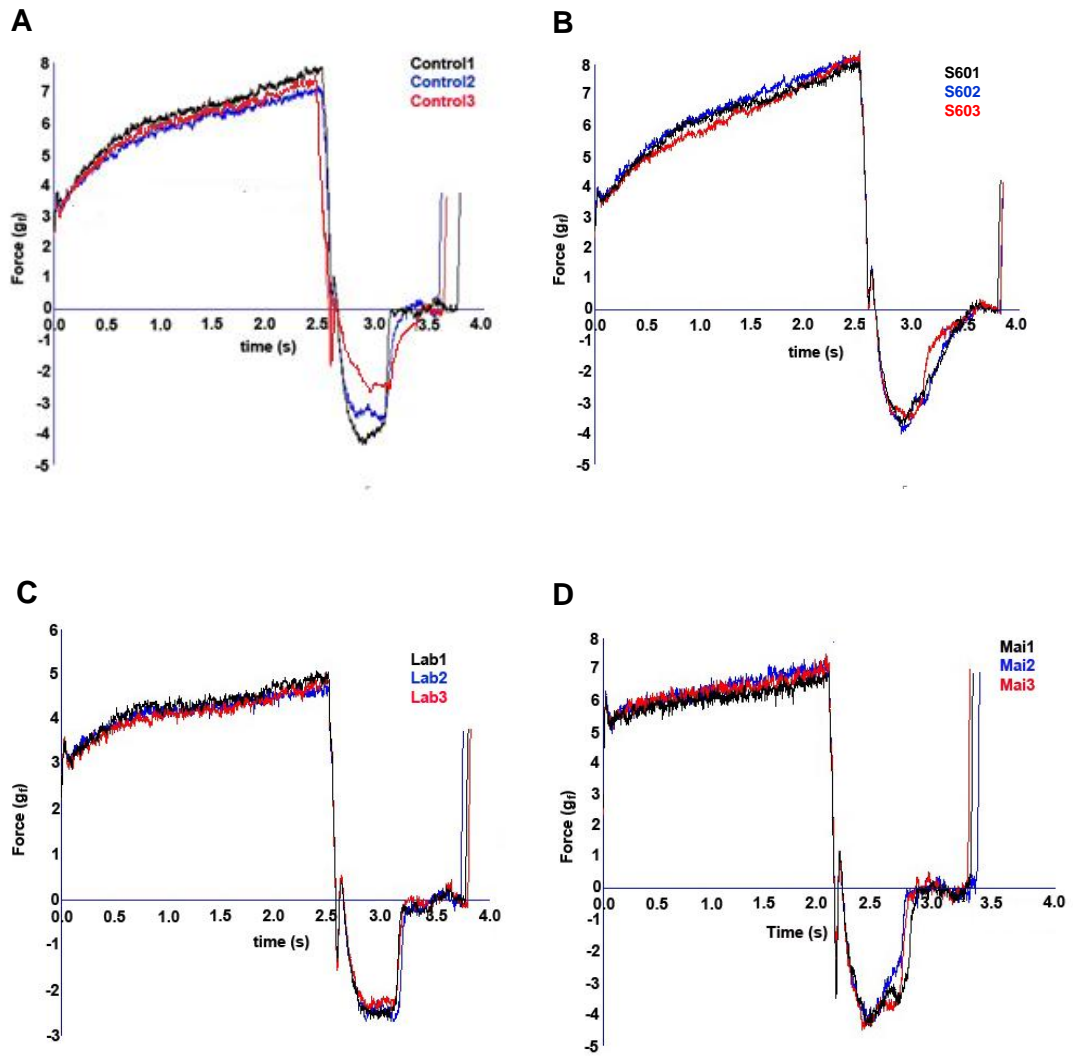


Figure 2

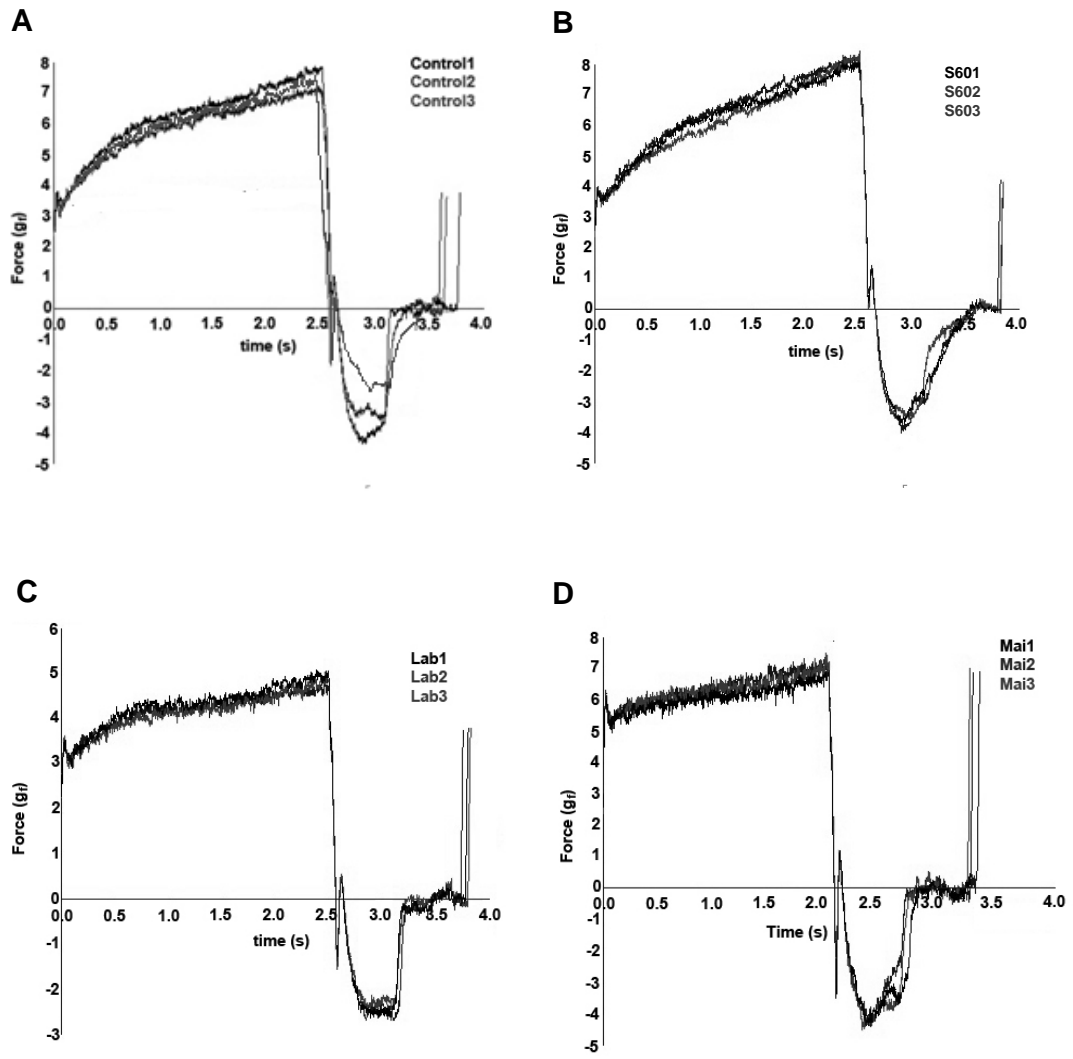


Figure 2