

1 **Effect of the addition of extruded wheat flours on dough rheology**  
2 **and bread quality**

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## Abstract

Extruded wheat flours, due to their increased water absorption capacity, constitute an opportunity to increase bread output in bakery production. However extrusion may modify dough and bread characteristics. The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of the substitution of 5% of the wheat flour by extruded wheat flour (produced with different time-temperature extrusion treatments) on dough mixing, handling and fermentation behaviour and bread volume, shape, texture and colour. The RVA curves indicate that extrusion intensity increases with increasing temperature or water content. Water absorption capacity rises with increasing treatment intensity, but dough stability tends to decrease. Adding extruded flours decreases dough extensibility but increases tenacity and gas production. Differences in dough structure were observed on photomicrography, though there were no clear differences in bread quality. These results indicate that it is possible to obtain adequate dough and bread characteristics using dough with 5% extruded wheat flour.

Keywords: hydrothermal treatment, wheat flour, rheology, bread yield.

## 1. Introduction

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One of the main interests of the bakery industry is to improve bread output during the bread making process (obtaining a greater quantity of bread from the same quantity of flour). Such an increase in production would enable manufacturers to maximize benefits or to reduce the retail price and be more competitive. One way to achieve this objective is to increase the amount of water included into the formula, but avoiding any modification of bread quality and preventing water loss during baking. Doughs with excess water are difficult to handle; it thus becomes necessary to modify the recipe or processing conditions. Increasing the water absorption capacity of doughs is the easiest way to obtain high-water content and high-yield breads (Puhr and D'Appolonia, 1992).

The water absorption capacity of dough depends mainly on the flour composition, and increases with increasing protein, pentosan and damaged starch content. The association between the quantity of damaged starch and the water absorption capacity of flour has been established (Dexter et al., 1994). Studies have been also performed with pregelatinized starches, which show a similar behaviour to damaged starch because the starch granules break down during this process. Based on these findings, Miller et al. (2008) investigated the possibility of increasing bread output through the addition of certain pregelatinized (hydroxypropylated and cross-linked) wheat starches, with good results. The addition of heat-moisture treated maize starch has been also studied, although in this case the breads obtained were of low quality (Miyazaki and Morita, 2005). Another possible way to increase output during bread-making consists of the addition of hydrocolloids, due to their high water absorption capacity; however, hydrocolloids produce major alterations in other characteristics of breads and doughs (Rosell et al., 2001).

63           It is known that the changes that take place in flours during hydrothermal treatment  
64 depend on the initial water content of the product, the temperature reached and the time and type  
65 of treatment: heated rolls, atomization or extrusion (Chiu and Solarek, 2009). Extrusion  
66 produces gelatinization of starch and increased damaged starch content, together with a  
67 reduction in lipid oxidation due to enzyme inactivation, an increase in soluble fibre and a  
68 reduction in thermolabile vitamins, antinutritional factors and microbial load (Camire et al.,  
69 1990). Extrusion also causes higher levels of mechanical damage in starch than traditional  
70 cooking methods (Wolf, 2010). Extruded wheat flours may therefore be an interesting  
71 alternative to pregelatinized starch and hydrocolloids to increase bread output in the bakery  
72 manufacturing process. Furthermore, it is not necessary to label these kinds of flour as additives  
73 but as wheat flours, which will facilitate clear labelling, a tendency currently favoured in the  
74 food industry (Sloan, 2011).

75           Few studies have investigated the use of extruded flours in bread-making and they are  
76 limited to the addition of these flours into non-wheat doughs or into doughs with a high content  
77 of non-wheat flours such as maize (Curic et al., 2009), barley (Gill et al., 2002) or rice (Sanchez  
78 et al., 2008) flours in order to make up for gluten deficiency. So that the aim of this work was to  
79 evaluate the effect of substituting 5% wheat flour by extruded wheat flours with different time-  
80 temperature extrusion treatments. In each case we determined the effect of this addition on  
81 dough mixing, handling and fermentation evolution and on the final quality of the bread  
82 (volume, weight, height/width ratio, texture and colour).

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## **2. Materials and Methods**

85 **2.1 Materials**

86 Wheat flour (14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein) was supplied by Harinera  
87 Castellana. Extrusion was performed by Harinera Los Pisones (Zamora, Spain). An industrial  
88 Buhler Basf single-screw extruder (Buhler S.A., Uzwil, Switzerland) was used for the extrusion  
89 process. Five kinds of extrusion treatments were studied: In treatment 1, flour was extruded with  
90 4% water added in the system and the maximum temperature of the extruder was 60°C; in  
91 treatments 2, 3 and 4, flour was extruded at a maximum extruder temperature of 110°C and with  
92 4%, 10% and 16% water added in the system, respectively; and in treatment 5 flour was  
93 extruded with 9% water added in the system and a maximum extruder temperature of 140°C.  
94 The extrusion conditions were fixed to ensure correct flow behaviour of the dough into the  
95 extruder. The extruded product was milled with compression drums and sieved through a 200-  
96 µm sieve. The product obtained from the sieve was used. Wheat flour composition was  
97 determined using AACC Methods (AACC, 2000): moisture, method 44-15A; ash, method 08-  
98 01; and protein, method 46-08.

99 Saf-Instant yeast (Lesaffre, Lille, France) was used as the leavening agent. Salt from the  
100 local supermarket and tap water were used in the bread-making analysis. Analytical quality  
101 ascorbic acid (Panreac Quimica S.A.U., Barcelona, Spain) was used.

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## 103 **2.2 Methods**

### 104 **2.2.1 Dough rheology and gas production.**

105 Extruded flours were added at 5g per 95g flour (5% extruded flour) obtaining flours A,  
106 B, C, D and E when extruded flour added was from treatments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively.  
107 Control dough without the addition of extruded flour was also analysed.

108           The pasting properties of flours were analyzed using the standard method with a Rapid  
109   Visco® Analyser (RVA-4) (Perten Instruments Australia, Macquarie Park, Australia) (method  
110   61-02.01, AACC, 2010), controlled by ThermoLine for Windows software (Perten Instruments  
111   Australia, Macquarie Park, Australia). Analyses were performed in duplicate.

112   Water absorption and the mixing behaviour of flours were studied using the doughLAB  
113   equipment (Perten Instruments Australia, Macquarie Park, Australia). Dough was developed in  
114   the mixing bowl at 30°C, by the rotary action of two sigma-arm mixing blades at 63rpm and its  
115   resistance to kneading was obtained as a torque value. Data obtained from the doughLAB were  
116   analyzed using doughMAP software (Perten Instruments Australia, Macquarie Park, Australia).  
117   The following mixing-profile values were measured: 1) absorption, defined as the amount of  
118   water required to reach a flour consistency of 500FU with 14% moisture; 2) development time,  
119   defined as the time to reach peak resistance; and 3) stability, defined as the difference between  
120   the time required to reach peak resistance and the time required to fall below peak resistance.  
121   The analyses were performed in duplicate.

122           Alveograph measurements were made with an Alveograph MA 82 (Chopin, Tripette et  
123   Renaud, Villeneuve La Garenne, France) using the standard AACC Approved Method 54-30  
124   (AACC, 2000). The alveogram characteristics were automatically recorded by the Alveolink-  
125   NG computer software program developed by Chopin S. A. (Chopin, Tripette et Renaud,  
126   Villeneuve La Garenne, France). The characteristics recorded were maximum over-pressure (P)  
127   needed to blow the dough bubble (an indicator of dough tenacity or resistance to extension), the  
128   average abscissa (L) at bubble rupture (an indicator of dough extensibility), the deformation  
129   energy (W) (an indicator of dough strength), and the curve configuration ratio or balance (P/L).

130 A second alveogram was performed by adding a quantity of water equal to the absorption  
131 capacity obtained on DoughLab analysis. The two alveograms were performed in duplicate.

132 The rheofermentometer test (Chopin, Tripette and Renaud, Villeneuve La Garenne,  
133 France) was used to study dough height according to fermentation time and gas release  
134 following the method described by Czuchajowska and Pomeranz (1993).

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### 136 **2.2.2 Bread making.**

137 A straight dough method was used for bread preparation. The following ingredients  
138 (g/100g flour basis) were used: water (calculated to obtain a doughLab absorption value of  
139 500FU), instant dry yeast (1g/100g), ascorbic acid (0.01g/100g) and salt (1.8g/100g). Water  
140 temperature was calculated to achieve a dough temperature of 23°C. Wheat flour was replaced  
141 with extruded wheat flours to a proportion of 5g per 100g flour. Control bread with no extruded  
142 flour was also prepared. After mixing all the ingredients for 15 minutes using a double-arm  
143 kneader AB-20 (Salva, Lezo, Spain), the bread dough was divided into 300g portions, hand-  
144 rounded, mechanically moulded, and proofed for 90 min at 30°C and 75% RH. The breads were  
145 baked in an electric oven for 30 min at 200°C. After baking, the loaves were left to cool for 20  
146 minutes, and then weighed. They were then placed in polyethylene bags and stored at 20°C until  
147 analysis. All the elaborations were made twice.

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### 149 **2.2.3. Bread quality.**

150 Weight loss was calculated by weighing the breads one hour after baking. Bread volume was  
151 determined using a laser sensor with the BVM-L 370 volume analyser (Perten Instruments,

152 Hägersten, Sweden). A digital calliper was used to measure height/weight ratio. Measurements  
153 were run in triplicate.

154 Crumb texture was determined with a TA-XT2 texture analyzer (Stable Microsystems,  
155 Surrey, UK) fitted with the “*Texture Expert*” software. An 25-mm diameter cylindrical  
156 aluminium probe was used in a “*Texture Profile Analysis*” (TPA) double compression test to  
157 penetrate to 50% of the sample depth at test speed of 2 mm/s and with a 30 second delay  
158 between first and second compressions. Firmness (N), cohesiveness, springiness, resilience and  
159 chewiness were calculated from the TPA graph (Gómez et al., 2007). Texture analyses were  
160 performed 18 hours after baking on slices with a thickness of 30 mm. Analyses were performed  
161 on two slices from two breads (2x2) from each type of elaboration, taking the average of the 4  
162 measurements made.

163 Colour was measured using a Minolta spectrophotometer CN-508i (Minolta, Co.LTD,  
164 Tokio, Japan). Results were expressed in the CIE L\*a\*b\* colour space and were obtained using  
165 the D65 standard illuminant, and the 2° standard observer. Colour determinations were made  
166 4x5 times on each piece of bread (two breads from each type of elaboration): crumb and crust  
167 colour was checked at four different points on each piece of bread and each point was measured  
168 five times.

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#### 170 **2.2.4 Electron microscope photomicrographs.**

171 Dough photomicrographs were taken with a Quanta 200FEG (Hillsboro, Oregon, USA)  
172 environmental scanning electron microscope (ESEM) fitted with a backscattered electron  
173 detector (BSED).

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175 **2.2.5 Statistical analysis.**

176 Analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to analyze the effect of the addition of extruded flour.  
177 Fisher's least significant difference (LSD) test was used to describe means with 95%  
178 confidence.

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### **3. Results and Discussion**

181 **3.1 Dough rheology and gas production**

182 Figure 1 shows the RVA curves from the extruded flours. Observing the differences in  
183 behaviour compared to the control, it can be seen that extrusion intensity increases both with  
184 temperature and, at a constant temperature, with water content. Increasing the extrusion intensity  
185 leads to a decrease in dough viscosity during the heating-cooling cycle. This effect has already  
186 been observed by other authors, who attributed the decrease to early starch gelatinization  
187 (Doublier et al., 1986; Hagenimana et al., 2006; Mercier and Feillet, 1975); the decrease in  
188 viscosity would therefore indicate the proportion of gelatinized starch. It can thus be shown that  
189 flours that have undergone the most intense extrusion treatments have the highest quantity of  
190 gelatinized starch.

191 In the analysis of flour behaviour during mixing (Table 1), dough water absorption  
192 capacity was found to increase after the addition of extruded flour, and this increase was greater  
193 the more intense the extrusion intensity, reaching an increase compared to the control value up  
194 to 7% in doughs prepared with flour that had undergone the most intense treatment (flour E).  
195 This finding is explained by the greater damage to the starch granules and greater starch  
196 gelatinization as the extrusion conditions (temperature and water content) increase (Mercier and  
197 Feillet, 1975). There were no significant differences in dough development time in any case;

198 however, dough stability tended to decrease with increasing extrusion intensity, although  
199 significant differences were only observed between the control dough and the doughs prepared  
200 with the three flours that had undergone the most intense extrusion treatments. It is known that  
201 farinographic stability depends on the characteristics of the protein network, and thus on protein  
202 quality (Konopka et al., 2004; Zhu and Khan, 2001). The reduction in stability may therefore be  
203 related to the degradation of the gluten matrix occurring during the extrusion process, due to the  
204 increase in temperature, as high-temperature treatments will modify the characteristics of the  
205 components of the gluten matrix (Li and Lee, 1996; Singh and MacRitchie, 2004).

206         Gaines et al. (2006) stated that alveographic assay was one of the best methods for  
207 measuring dough strength, which has been correlated with bread volume (Janssen et al., 1996).  
208 The results of the alveographic assay of doughs made with extruded flours are shown in Table 1.  
209 It may be seen that the addition of extruded flours decreases dough extensibility in all cases, and  
210 that there was an increase in dough tenacity, though this was only significant after the most  
211 intense extrusion treatments. The two effects offset each other on the area of the alveographic  
212 curve, meaning that no significant differences were observed in the overall strength values. The  
213 P/L ratio or balance did increase when extruded flour was added, although the change was only  
214 significant with flours C and D. The variations in the alveogram characteristics were principally  
215 related to two factors: gluten matrix degradation and starch modification, both of which are  
216 effects of the extrusion treatment. Gluten matrix degradation increases with treatment intensity;  
217 this was confirmed by Gómez et al. (2011) when they found significant correlations between the  
218 alveogram parameters and the zeleny index, an indicator of protein quality. Starch modification  
219 during the extrusion process leads to an increase in dough consistency due to the increase in the  
220 quantity of damaged starch and its higher water absorption capacity (Preston et al., 1987), as had

221 already been observed in the DoughLab analysis. In fact, when dough water content was  
222 modified on the basis of the DoughLab analysis, unifying dough consistency, a significant effect  
223 on dough tenacity was only observed with the dough prepared with flour E, which had the  
224 highest extrusion temperature and thus the most extensive modification of the gluten matrix. The  
225 decrease in dough extensibility was much lower than that observed with doughs with constant  
226 water content, and it was only significant for flours B and D. In this analysis we observed that  
227 the decrease in dough strength became more noticeable with increasing intensity of the extrusion  
228 treatment, as the decrease in the length of the curve (extensibility) was not compensated by the  
229 increase in the height of the curve (tenacity). The increase in the P/L balance therefore also  
230 occurs when extruded flours are added, except in the case of flour E as a result of the decrease in  
231 tenacity.

232         Figure 2 shows the curves obtained by the rheofermentometer. It may be seen that the  
233 addition of extruded flours increases gas production (Figure 2a) during fermentation. This  
234 increase is more noticeable when using flours that have undergone a milder extrusion treatment,  
235 and leads to an increase in dough expansion. The doughs did not fall during the assay, except  
236 doughs prepared with flour E, which developed a small break at 2 hours (Figure 2b). The  
237 increase in gas production may be related to the higher proportion of damaged starch, which is  
238 more accessible to enzymatic hydrolysis and to the generation of sugars (Potus et al., 1994). It is  
239 noticeable that the flours with the most intense treatments reduced gas production compared to  
240 those with the mildest treatments, though it should be taken into account that high-temperature  
241 treatments also reduce enzyme activity and hence decrease starch hydrolysis. The lower  
242 resistance to excess fermentation observed in flour E may be related to the effect of the  
243 treatment on gluten quality due to protein denaturation, as it is known that gluten proteins affect

244 gas retention (Gan et al., 1995). This finding coincides with what was observed on the  
245 alveograph curves. Furthermore, photomicrographs of the doughs (Figure 3) showed that whilst  
246 the control dough (3a) shows a close structure with large starch granules within a compact mass  
247 of small starch granules united by a protein matrix, the doughs prepared with flour E (3b) show  
248 an open and less compact structure, with a smaller number of starch granules, as the granules  
249 lose their structure during the extrusion process.

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### 251 **3.2 Bread properties**

252 With regard to the bread characteristics, the quantity of extruded wheat flour added did  
253 not lead to significant differences in volume, specific volume or height/width ratio (Table 2). A  
254 lower weight after baking, indicating greater water loss was only observed in breads made with  
255 flour B. The differences observed in dough development during fermentation thus did not lead to  
256 noticeable differences in the final product, probably because dough expansion (due to gas  
257 expansion and the final phases of gas production by yeasts during baking) led to there being no  
258 change in the final volume. This result coincides with the findings reported by Miller et al.  
259 (2008) who studied the effect of adding different pregelatinized starch percentages (1-2%) to the  
260 formula. The addition of extruded flours may therefore be an alternative to the addition of  
261 pregelatinized starch. Nor were there any significant differences in firmness or chewiness. The  
262 absence of any difference in bread firmness has also been demonstrated in studies that correlated  
263 this parameter with bread volume (Axford et al., 1968; Gómez et al., 2008). The differences in  
264 the other textural parameters were minimal (Table 2). The highest cohesiveness and resilience  
265 values were observed in breads with flour B, indicating the best resistance to deformation and

266 instantaneous elasticity. Higher springiness values were observed in breads made with flour E  
267 compared to control bread.

268 Finally, bread colour showed no clear trends (Table 3). With regard to crumb colour,  
269 only the bread prepared with flour E showed a lower  $b^*$  value compared to control bread,  
270 whereas no significant differences were observed in the other breads or other parameters. In  
271 general, crumb colour is related to the flour colour, as the temperatures in the interior of the  
272 piece do not reach 100°C. In contrast, this temperature is greatly exceeded in the crust and crust  
273 colour is therefore the result of a Maillard reaction and sugar caramelization due to the presence  
274 of reducing sugars and amino acids. Analysis of crust colour revealed that the crust of bread  
275 prepared with flour A was paler than the others, and that of bread prepared with flour E was  
276 significantly redder or more yellowish, probably due to the higher quantity of sugars and amino  
277 acids produced by the intense thermal treatment. Breads made with flours B and C also showed  
278 significantly higher  $b^*$  values than the control bread.

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#### 4. Conclusion

281 The results obtained demonstrate that the addition of 5% extruded wheat flour allows the  
282 quantity of water in the formulation to be increased; the more intense the extrusion treatment,  
283 the greater the increase in the quantity of water that can be added. This will increase bread  
284 output. The doughs obtained show adequate behaviour during mixing, handling and  
285 fermentation, with no detriment to bread quality. In the future it would be advisable to establish  
286 the limits of bread output with the addition of increasing quantities of extruded flour and to  
287 determine if this effect is present in other kinds of bakery products.

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362 Table 1. DoughLab and alveographic properties of dough after the addition of extruded flours

Flour	Absorption (%)	Development time (s)	Stability (s)	P (mm H <sub>2</sub> O)		L (mm H <sub>2</sub> O)		W (Jx10 <sup>4</sup> )		P/L	
				Constant	Adapted	Constant	Adapted	Constant	Adapted	Constant	Adapted
				Control	52.7a	98a	414b	43a	104bc	93b	54c
A	53.5b	97a	400b	51ab	111c	70a	46bc	133a	204c	0.74ab	2.42bc
B	53.7b	92a	348ab	50ab	104bc	62a	40ab	117a	171b	0.83ab	2.6c
C	54.8c	101a	273a	61c	96b	58a	46bc	130a	174b	1.06b	2.13ab
D	55.3c	100a	200a	61c	100bc	58a	38a	133a	159a	1.08b	2.67c
E	56.4d	98a	281a	53bc	79a	69a	48bc	132a	152a	0.78ab	1.65a

363 Control: wheat flour 14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein; Flour A: extruded with 60°C maximum extruder temperature and

364 4% water; Flours B, C and D: extruded with 110°C maximum extruder temperature and 4%, 10% and 16% water respectively.

365 Extruded flours were added at 5g/100g flour.

366 Values are means of two replicates

367 Different letters in the same parameter indicate significant differences (P<0.05)

368 P: tenacity or maximum overpressure in the alveograph; L: extensibility or abscissa at rupture in the alveogram; W: strength or

369 deformation energy of dough; P/L: balance or curve configuration ratio

370 Table 2: Bread properties and texture after the addition of extruded flours

Flour	Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )	Weight (g)	Specific volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	Height/Width	Firmness (N)	Cohesiveness	Springiness	Resilience	Chewiness (N)
Control	386a	128b	3.02a	0.66a	15.86a	0.47a	0.83a	0.19a	6.25a
A	388a	127b	3.06a	0.67a	15.56a	0.48a	0.84a	0.21a	6.25a
B	404a	122a	3.31a	0.72a	14.51a	0.53b	0.86ab	0.28b	6.75a
C	390a	128b	3.06a	0.77a	13.71a	0.50ab	0.88ab	0.23ab	6.01a
D	397a	126b	3.14a	0.67a	14.71a	0.48a	0.86ab	0.22a	6.13a
E	422a	126b	3.36a	0.73a	13.96a	0.49a	0.91b	0.25ab	6.13a

371 Control: wheat flour 14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein; Flour A: extruded with 60°C maximum extruder temperature and

372 4% water; Flours B, C and D: extruded with 110°C maximum extruder temperature and 4%, 10% and 16% water respectively.

373 Extruded flours were added at 5g/100g flour.

374 Values of bread properties are means of four replicates (2 breads x 2 elaborations) and values of texture are means of 8 replicates (2

375 slices x 2 breads x 2 elaborations)

376 Different letters in the same parameter indicate significant differences (P<0.05)

377

378

379 Table 3: Crust and crumb colour characteristics of bread after the addition of extruded flours

Flour	Crust			Crumb		
	L*	a*	b*	L*	a*	b*
Control	69.69ab	3.20a	15.05a	76.86a	0.93a	15.90b
A	76.60c	3.29a	23.67ab	73.61a	0.96a	15.61ab
B	72.64bc	7.22ab	26.63b	74.67a	0.59a	15.54ab
C	74.54bc	5.54a	26.91b	74.19a	0.62a	16.25b
D	69.71ab	5.31a	23.59ab	75.41a	0.59a	16.19b
E	65.58a	11.20b	29.49b	73.55a	0.73a	13.58a

380 Control: wheat flour 14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein; Flour A: extruded with 60°C maximum extruder temperature and

381 4% water; Flours B, C and D: extruded with 110°C maximum extruder temperature and 4%, 10% and 16% water respectively.

382 Extruded flours were added at 5g/100g flour.

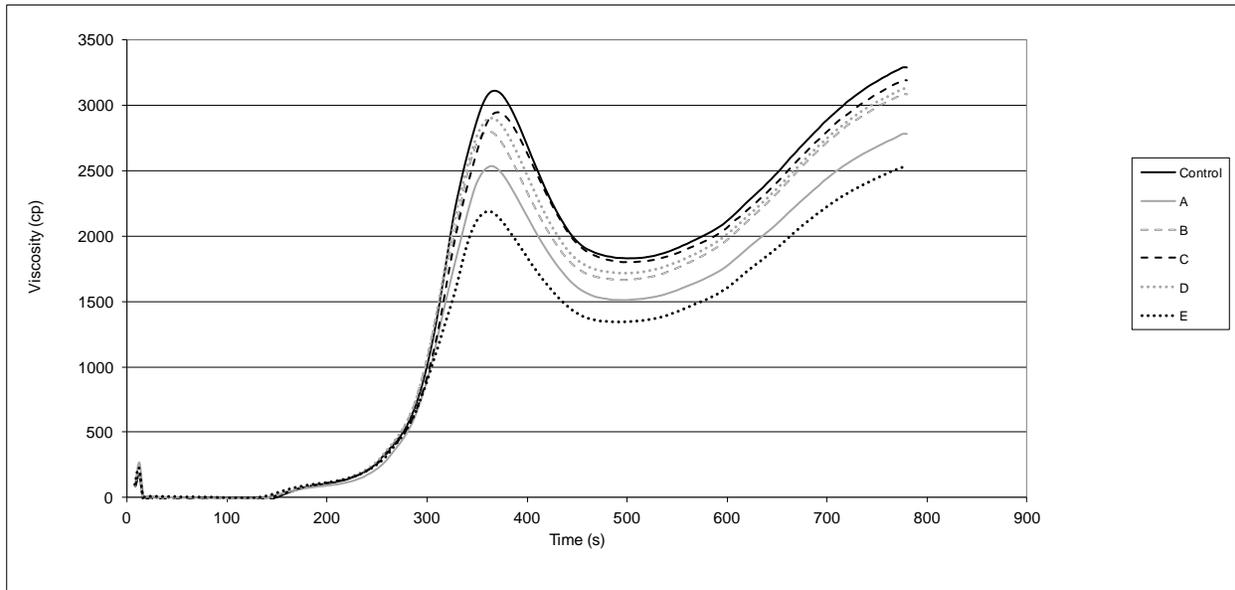
383 Values are means of 80 replicates (4 places x 5 times x 2 breads x 2 elaborations)

384 Different letters in the same parameter indicate significant differences (P<0.05)

385 L\*: luminosity. a\*: red index. b\*: yellow index.

386 Figure 1: Pasting properties curves of wheat flour, after the addition of extruded flours, measured  
387 using a Rapid Visco Analyzer.

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389

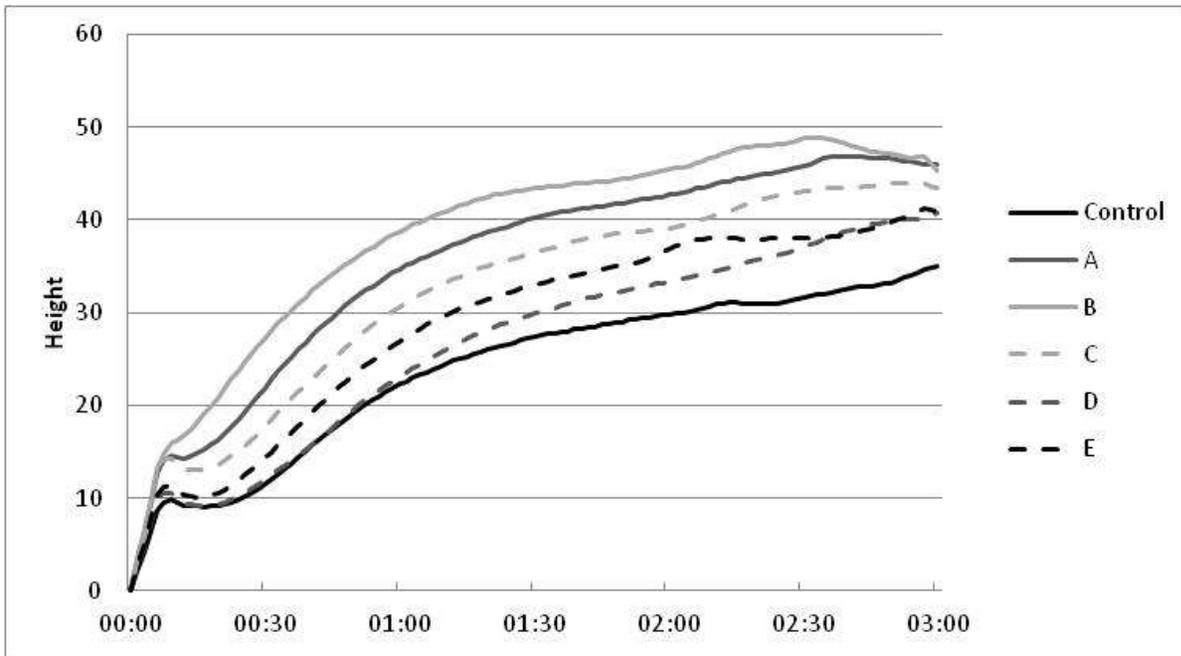
390 Control: wheat flour 14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein; Flour A: extruded with 60°C  
391 maximum extruder temperature and 4% water; Flours B, C and D: extruded with 110°C  
392 maximum extruder temperature and 4%, 10% and 16% water respectively. Extruded flours were  
393 added at 5g/100g flour.

394

395

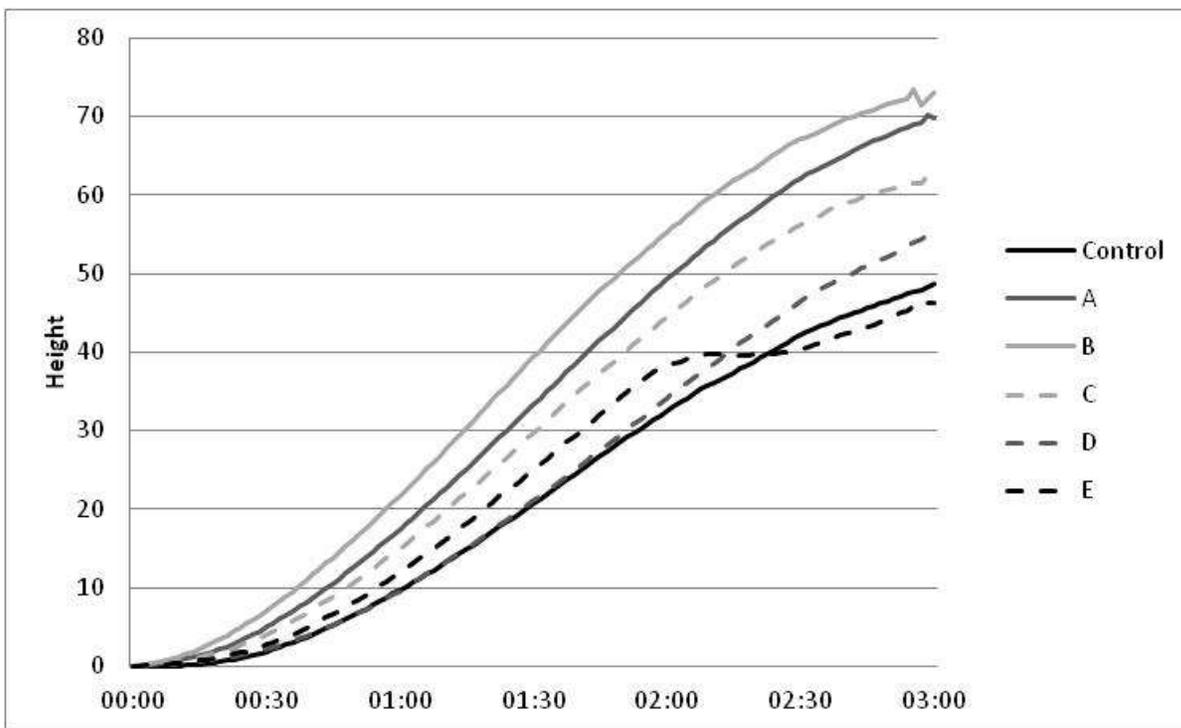
396 Figure 2: Rheofermentograph properties of dough after the addition of extruded flours

397 a) Gas production



398

399 b) Dough development



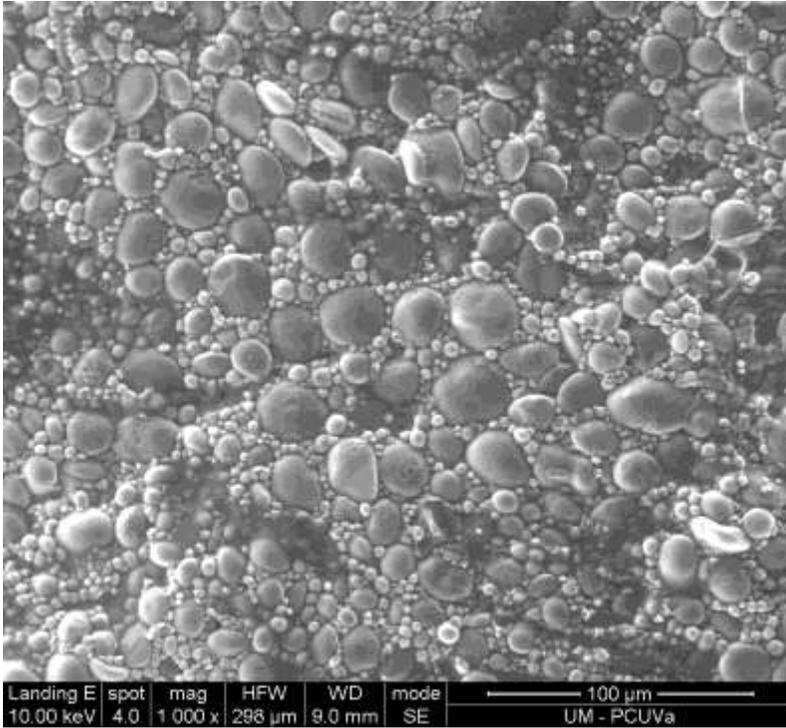
400

401 Control: wheat flour 14.48% moisture, 0.58% ash, 11.78% protein; Flour A: extruded with 60°C  
402 maximum extruder temperature and 4% water; Flours B, C and D: extruded with 110°C  
403 maximum extruder temperature and 4%, 10% and 16% water respectively. Extruded flours were  
404 added at 5g/100g flour.

405 The mean results from two replicates of each type of dough were used to define the graph.  
406

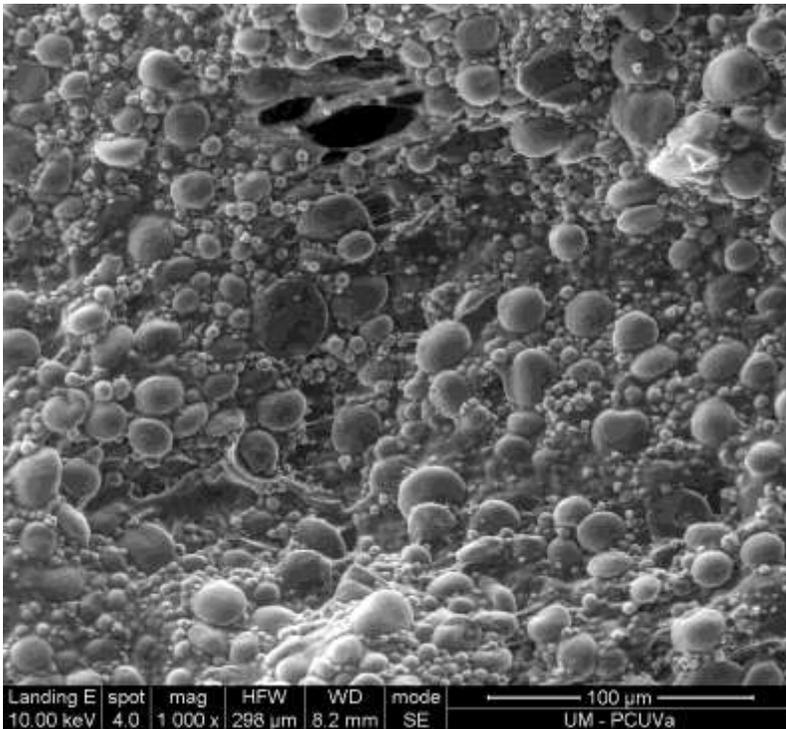
407 Figure 3: Photomicrographs of doughs.

408 a) Control



409

410 b) 5g/100g of extruded flour E (110°C maximum extruder temperature and 16% water) dough.



411