

## Effect of Mechanical Deboning on Nutrient Quality of Chicken Meat Products

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### Abstract

Chemical properties of meat can provide beneficial information regarding the nature of mechanically deboned meat and its use in chicken meat products. Therefore, the actual nutrient profile of chicken meat products produce from mechanically deboned meat compared to hand separated meat have been studied using chemical analysis. The study analyzed 75 mechanically deboned chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt samples for proximate chemical content. Another 25 fresh broiler carcasses was hand deboned and used as control. The average chemical composition of hand separated broiler were 72.32% moisture, 18.06% protein, 6.19% fat and 0.92% ash. There was significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the proximate compositions between hand and mechanically deboned chicken samples. By using hand deboning of chicken carcasses, there was significant increased in moisture, protein content than mechanical deboning chicken meat products. The mean contents for calcium, phosphors and iron of hand deboned broiler carcass samples were 3.70, 208.41 and 0.32 mg/100g respectively. Bone content in mechanically deboning chicken products was higher compared to hand deboned meat which clear in increasing their calcium and iron content. The results of this study challenging nutritionists for investigate the effect of higher calcium content of mechanically deboning chicken products on the public heath of consumers specially children and some critical case patients.

### Introduction

Chicken meat is an important source of good quality protein and for some micronutrients such as calcium, phosphorus and iron which are not adequate in plant derived food. Consumption of chicken meat

and their products is presently growing that challenge food technologists for mechanical deboning the meat to increase the production rate. Mechanically separated meat done by removing meat from flesh-bearing bones of

chicken carcasses, resulting in the loss or modification of the meat composition (EFSA, 2013). Calcium and phosphorus in bone tissue of battery chickens is usually low when reared in commercial poultry-sheds (Canello et al., 2016). Mechanical deboning of chicken meat by grinding meat/bone together and forcing the mix through a fine screen or slotted surface to remove bone particles (Barker and Bruce, 1995). Mechanically deboned chicken meat has excellent nutritional and functional characteristics and is suitable for the formulation of various products (Fjeld, 1988 and Froning, 1981).

One of the major requirements of mechanically separated meat is the production of deboned meat without bone particles, and of calcium content which is not harmful for the consumer (Nagy et al., 2007). The normal yield of deboned meat ranges from 55% to 80% based on the part deboned and deboner settings (Mielnik et al., 2001). In Egypt, there is an abuse used of mechanical deboning machine which used in production of meat from low quality sources and chicken by-products may causes sever variation on the chemical quality of final products. In addition, the abnormal range of some microminerals may causes severe public health hazards.

A typical chicken lean meat consists of around 75% water, 20% protein, 3% fat and 2% nonprotein

compounds. Proteins are the major component of the dry matter of lean meat (Briggs and Schweigert, 1990). Meat is an important source of available minerals, it is well known that absorption of dietary minerals from animal protein based meals is higher compared to wholegrain cereal based meals (King and Turnland, 1989). Macrominerals as calcium and phosphorus are required in dose of 100 mg/day or more; whereas microminerals as iron and selenium are required in lower than 15 mg/day.

Phosphorus is necessary element and the second most abundant metal in the human body (Mahan and Escott-Stump, 2000). Major functions include in metabolism of human ribonucleic acid and deoxyribonucleic acid; adenosine triphosphate and phospholipid molecules. Phosphorus toxicity can result in nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, twitching, jerking, and convulsions (Obikoya, 2006).

The composition and storage strength of the final chicken meat product is affected by the raw materials used for mechanical deboning (Crosland et al., 1995). The primary need of meat composition data bases is for information on components that affect human health. This includes the proximate composition and some trace minerals, that are associated to denoning methods (Pretorius et al., 2016). Therefore, the main goal of this study was to evaluate the main

components of chicken meat products produce from mechanically deboned meat compared to hand separated meat using chemical analyses.

### Materials and Methods

**Samples Collection:** A total of 75 mechanically deboned chicken meat products were purchased from different supermarkets at Isamilia city. Each 25 from chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt samples. Another 25 fresh chicken carcasses was hand deboned and used as control and from the nearly same source of chicken used in deboned meat production.

**Samples Preparation:** Each carcass was prepared by removing meat with knives from close to the bone. Chicken breasts and thigh were trimmed of fat and ground with skin (6.5%) in a chopper equipped. All chicken meat products samples were homogenized using a lab. Blender. For mineral analysis a piece from the center of the muscle part was cut out with a ceramic knife to avoid contamination with trace elements. The homogenized samples were packaged, frozen and stored at  $-7^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1$  until analysis.

**Chemical Analysis:** The total content of moisture and ash were determined by rapid method  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h (*Perez-Alvarez et al., 1995*). Protein and fat content of homogenized samples were determined in accordance with the *AOAC (1984)* by a Soxtec and

Kjeltec auto distillation respectively. The homogenized samples were analyzed for calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P) and iron (Fe) on ashed samples by dissolution in HCl and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  followed by atomic absorption spectroscopy (*AOAC, 1990*).

**Statistical Analysis:** Data were analyzed using Statistica v 5.0 for one-way ANOVA to identify significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) among samples.

### Results and Discussion

Chemical properties of meat can provide beneficial information regarding the nature of mechanically deboned meat and its use in chicken meat products. Chicken carcasses and their commercial cut are often the main source of raw materials for final products of deboned chicken meat. Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a*) set a permissible limits for minced poultry meat-mechanically separated as follow: moisture (70%), protein (15%), fat (20%), ash (1.5%) and calcium (5% w/w), they not set a permissible limits for phosphorus and iron content. For chicken burger, (*EOS, 2005b*) the permissible limits is moisture (70%), protein (12%), fat (15%) and ash (2.5%). For luncheon chicken meat, (*EOS, 2005c*) the permissible limits is moisture (70%), protein (12%), fat (35%) and ash (3.5%). For chicken frankfurt (*EOS,*

2005d), moisture (70%), protein (16%), fat (12%) and ash (3%).

#### **Proximate Composition of Chicken Meat**

The content of moisture, protein, fat, and ash of 100g of the hand and mechanically deboned chicken meat products are shown in table 1. The average chemical composition of hand separated chicken meat were 72.32% moisture, 18.06% protein, 6.19% fat and 0.92% ash. The composition of chicken meat was found to be fairly constant, containing 62 to 75 % water, 19 to 25 % protein and around 1 % ash, which is comparable with data reported by other food composition tables (*Souci et al., 2000 and Swiss food composition table, 2004*). Nutrient composition of the chicken meat mainly due to differences in the animals' feeding regime and breeds.

The average moisture content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 70.77%, 70.50% and 69.26% respectively. The average moisture content was highest in hand deboned chicken meat samples; slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger and luncheon and lowest in mechanically deboned Frankfurt. Significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in moisture content of hand separated chicken meat were observed with chicken burger and luncheon. Moisture and fat contents were influenced by carcass part and to a lesser extent depended on chicken species (*Mielnik et al., 2001*).

According to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a,b,c,d*) permissible limits for moisture content of chicken meat, 100%, 92%, 80% and 67% of hand separated meat, chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt samples respectively were fit the limits.

The average protein content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 17.06%, 17.81% and 17.91% respectively. The average protein content was highest in hand deboned chicken meat samples and slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt. No significant differences ( $P > 0.05$ ) were found between samples of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt for protein content. An trial done by *Botka-Petrak et al., (2011)* found that the content of proteins were just slightly higher (15.57%) in deboned meat samples of chicken meat, while in samples of deboned meat of wings, back and neck these portions were 14.56%, 13.46% and 14.89% respectively. According to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a,b,c,d*) permissible limits for protein content of chicken meat, 100%, of all hand separated meat, chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt samples respectively were fit the limits.

Nine of the amino acids present in proteins are essential because the human body cannot synthesize them

from other compounds, and therefore must taken them up from food. The human requirement for protein consists of two components; (a) a requirement for the nutritionally essential amino acids, and (b) the need to meet the requirement for non-specific nitrogen in order to supply the nitrogen necessary for synthesis of the nutritionally not essential amino acids and other physiologically important nitrogen containing compounds (*Pellett and Young, 1990*).

Fat is the richest source of energy, essential fatty acids and precursors of compounds that regulate a number of physiological functions and helps to absorb fat-soluble vitamins. Fat is an important meat component which provides palatability and flavor to final meat products. The average fat content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 8.97%, 12.83% and 13.54% respectively. The average fat content was highest in frankfurt samples slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger and luncheon and lowest in hand deboned broiler carcass samples. Significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in fat content of hand separated broiler were observed with all mechanically deboned chicken products. According to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a,b,c,d*) permissible limits for fat content of chicken meat, 100% of hand separated meat, chicken

burger and luncheon were fit the limits except only 76 % of frankfurt samples were fit.

Mechanical deboning resulted in increased fat content because of the high fat in the bone marrow, which is a rich source of fat. *Botka-Petrak et al. (2011)* recorded that fat was highest in deboned meat of chicken backs (20.85%), slightly lower in deboned meat chicken wings (19.47%), and the lowest in meat samples of deboned necks (6.29%), while in meat samples of deboned chicken carcasses it was 12.40%.

The average ash content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 2.75%, 3.31% and 4.34% respectively. The average ash content was highest in luncheon samples slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger and frankfurt and lowest in hand deboned chicken meat samples. Significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in ash content of hand separated broiler samples were observed with all mechanically deboned chicken products. According to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a,b,c,d*) permissible limits for ash content of chicken meat, 100%, 84%, 68% and 64% of hand separated meat, chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt samples respectively were fit the limits.

The lowest total ash content of chicken meat was 0.40%, while these contents in deboned meat samples of back, wings and neck

were 1.18%, 1.65% and 1.37%, respectively (*Botka-Petrak et al., 2011*). Higher ash contents of mechanically deboned samples are result of bone particles incorporated into the meat. The force by mechanical pressure lead to lean away from vertebrae and through small apertures, some components probably occur in various proportions than found in hand trim.

### **Minerals content of Chicken Meat**

Meat is an important source of microelements. The range of the mean contents for calcium, phosphors and iron of hand deboned chicken meat samples were 3.70, 208.41 and 0.32 mg/100g respectively (table 2.). The average calcium content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 7.17%, 15.22% and 18.19% mg/100g respectively. The average calcium content was highest in frankfurt samples slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger and luncheon and lowest in hand deboned chicken meat samples. Calcium content of chicken samples was significantly affected by deboning method, significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in calcium content of hand separated broiler samples were observed with all mechanically deboned chicken products. According to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (*EOS, 2005a*) permissible limits for calcium content of chicken meat, 100% of hand separated meat were fit the

limits. All samples of mechanically deboned chicken meat products were exceed the permissible limits and my cause sever public health hazards.

Higher calcium content is observed in samples of chicken neck and wing samples (*Botka-Petrak et al., 2011*). Calcium content is an indicator of the amount of bone in meat. The results confirmed that higher calcium content of mechanically deboned chicken meat products indicates that higher bone particles were in chicken meat products. Calcium content was the only chemical parameter that used to distinguish mechanically from non-mechanically chicken products (*EFSA, 2013*).

The average phosphors content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 200.49%, 195.43% and 180.38% mg/100g respectively. The mean values of phosphors content was highest in frankfurt samples slightly lower in samples of hand deboned chicken meat and mechanically deboned chicken burger and luncheon. Phosphors content of chicken samples was not significantly affected by deboning method, no significant differences ( $P > 0.05$ ) in phosphors content of hand separated broiler samples were observed with all mechanically deboned chicken samples except frankfurt. Phosphorus is also a critical element of bones where it exists as hydroxyapatite crystals that contain a constant ratio of

calcium to phosphate at 2:1 (*Bowman and Russell, 2001*). Phosphorus in food is not considered to be a food safety or health issue (*EFSA, 2013*). The upper level of phosphorus intake for generally healthy individuals at 4.0 grams/day, the human daily dietary intake of phosphorus is 700mg for adults between the ages of 19-70 (*Shils et al., 1999*). Hyperphosphatemia may lead to hypocalcemia by precipitating calcium, decreasing vitamin D production, and interfering with parathyroid hormone (*Bowman and Russell, 2001*).

The average iron content of chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt were 0.40%, 0.53% and 0.96% mg/100g respectively. The average iron content was highest in frankfurt samples slightly lower in samples of mechanically deboned chicken burger and luncheon and lowest in hand deboned chicken meat samples.

Iron content of chicken samples was significantly affected by deboning method, significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in iron content of hand separated broiler samples were observed with all mechanically deboned chicken products. Mechanically deboned chicken has a higher heme content than hand deboned chicken meat (*Froning, 1976*). Higher iron contents in

mechanically deboned chicken products samples is a result of incorporation of red marrow during processing (*Demos and Mondigo, 1995*).

The higher levels of iron content in deboned meat may results from the iron in the bone marrow when mixed with meat. Iron is one of the most abundant elements in the earth's crust, paradoxically, iron deficiency is the common and nutritional disorder in the world (*DeMaeyer and Adiels-Tegman, 1985*). Due to biological iron losses, such as cyclical monthly bleeding of fertile-aged women, excessive infestation with blood-feeding parasites, or poor bioavailability of iron from plant-based diets, it is estimated that as many as 4 – 5 billion people, 66 – 80 % of the world's population, may be iron deficient (*DeMaeyer & Adiels-Tegman, 1985 and World Health Organization, 1992*).

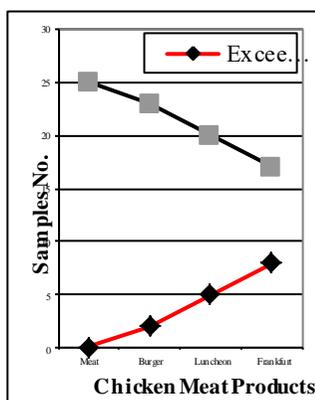
It could be concluded from the proximate composition of deboned chicken that hand deboning resulted higher moisture, protein content and lower fat content than mechanical deboning chicken burger, luncheon and frankfurt. Bone content in mechanical deboning chicken was higher compared to hand deboned meat which cleared in increase their calcium and iron content.

**Table 1.** Proximate composition (moisture, fat, protein and ash) of hand and mechanically deboned chicken meat products

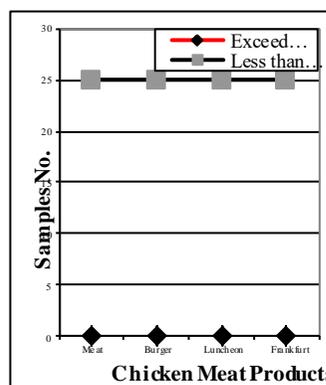
Samples	Broiler	Chicken Meat Products		
	Meat	Burger	Luncheon	Frankfurt
Moisture	72.32 <sup>a</sup>	70.77 <sup>b</sup>	70.50 <sup>b</sup>	69.26 <sup>c</sup>
	± 2.15	± 2.98	± 3.12	± 2.67
Protein	18.06 <sup>a</sup>	17.06 <sup>b</sup>	17.81 <sup>b</sup>	17.91 <sup>b</sup>
	± 0.25	± 0.15	± 0.49	± 0.09
Fat	6.19 <sup>a</sup>	8.97 <sup>b</sup>	12.83 <sup>c</sup>	13.54 <sup>d</sup>
	± 0.21	± 0.49	± 1.04	± 1.15
Ash	0.92 <sup>a</sup>	2.75 <sup>b</sup>	3.31 <sup>c</sup>	4.34 <sup>b</sup>
	± 0.13	± 0.58	± 0.95	± 1.52

\*± S.E. means standard error.

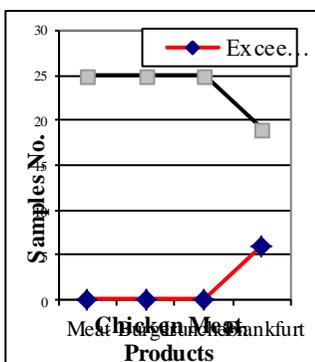
Mean in the same line with different letter are significantly difference (P<0.05)



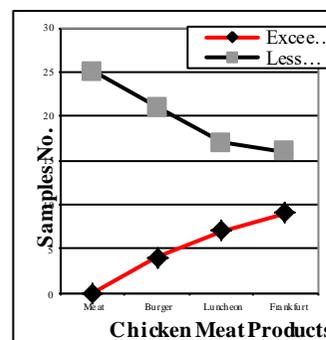
**Figure 1.** Moisture results of chicken meat compared to Egyptian standard



**Figure 2.** Protein results of chicken meat compared to Egyptian standard



**Figure 3.** Fat results of chicken meat compared to Egyptian standard



**Figure 4.** Ash results of chicken meat compared to Egyptian standard

**Table 2.** Some minerals content of hand and mechanically deboned chicken meat products (mg/100g)

Samples	Broiler	Chicken Meat Products		
	Meat	Burger	Luncheon	Frankfurt
Calcium	3.70 <sup>a</sup> ± 0.82	7.17 <sup>a</sup> ± 0.57	15.22 <sup>b</sup> ± 1.07	18.19 <sup>c</sup> ± 2.04
Phosphors	208.41 <sup>a</sup> ± 13.01	200.49 <sup>a</sup> ± 16.01	195.43 <sup>a</sup> ± 18.01	180.38 <sup>b</sup> ± 10.01
Iron	0.32 <sup>a</sup> ± 0.06	0.40 <sup>a</sup> ± 0.09	0.53 <sup>b</sup> ± 0.08	0.96 <sup>c</sup> ± 0.07

\*± S.E. means standard error.

Mean in the same line with different letter are significantly difference (P<0.05)

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## تأثير نزع العظم ميكانيكيا علي الجودة الغذائية لمنتجات الدجاج

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### الملخص العربي

توفر الخواص الكيميائية للحوم المنزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا معلومات عن طبيعة تلك اللحوم كي توظف بكفاءة عند استخدامها في صناعة منتجات اللحوم. ولذلك تم في هذه الدراسة مقارنة الجودة الغذائية لمنتجات لحوم الدجاج المصنعة من لحوم منزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا مع تلك التي تم نزع عظامها يدويا باستخدام طرق التحليل الكيميائي. ولذا تم فحص عدد 75 عينة من منتجات برجر ولانشون وفرانكفورت الدجاج المصنعة من لحوم دجاج منزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا بطرق عشوائية وعدد 25 ذبيحة دجاج طازجة جمعت عشوائيا ونزع منها العظام يدويا ثم تم فرمهما. وكان متوسط التركيب الكيميائي للحم الدجاج المنزوع يدويا هو 72.32% رطوبة و18.06% بروتين و6.19% دهون و0.92% رماد. ووضحت الدراسة انه هناك فروق ذات دلالة إحصائية في التراكيب الكيميائية بين عينات اللحوم المنزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا والمنزوعة يدويا حيث كان هناك محتوى اعلي من الرطوبة والبروتين ومحتوي اقل في محتوى الدهون في لحم الدجاج المنزوع يدويا. وكان متوسط قيم محتوى عناصر الكالسيوم، الفسفور والحديد في اللحم المنزوعة العظم يدويا هو 3.70، 208.41 و 0.32 ملليجرام لكل 100 جرام على التوالي. واثبت الدراسة ان منتجات الدجاج المتداولة بالاسواق تحتوي علي عظام بنسب اعلي من تلك المنزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا ظاهرا في زيادة محتواها من عنصري الكالسيوم والحديد. وتضع نتائج هذه الدراسة خبراء التغذية في تحدي علمي لدراسة تأثير الزيادة الملحوظة لعنصر الكالسيوم في منتجات الدجاج المنزوعة العظم ميكانيكيا على الصحة العامة للمستهلكين خاصة الأطفال وبعض مرضى الحالات الحرجة.