



Technological and nutritional aspects of milk chocolate enriched with grape pomace products

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Abstract

The French paradox is the observation of low heart disease death rates despite high intake of cholesterol and saturated fat, possibly related to the consumption of red wine containing polyphenols. Those are also found in pomace and affect health as radical catchers inhibiting cancer, inflammations and arteriosclerosis. European cocoa regulation allows incorporating up to 40% of added foodstuffs into chocolate, so grape pomace can be used. Cocoa itself is known as a very good source of phenolic compounds, and consequently dark chocolate is considered to have similar health benefits as red wine. Milk chocolates contain only little fat-free cocoa dry matter; therefore, grape pomace is considered most beneficial here. Entire pomace or flour from seeds have been tested to evaluate technical aspects as well as the impact on chocolate properties like particle size distribution, flow properties, total phenol content, antioxidative capacity and sensory perception. Initial trials revealed that additional drying and also pre-grinding was necessary before pomace can be used as an ingredient. Various samples were produced by the coarse conching process, which uses a ball mill for size reduction below 30 µm. A difficulty arises when some tough particles slip through without being properly ground; D99-values can be used to better control this issue. Grape pomace contains almost as many polyphenols as cocoa liquor, so it can serve as a substitute. Its content and thus quality depends on gentle drying. Finally, adding, e.g., just 3.5% was able to significantly increase the polyphenol contents of milk chocolate.

Keywords Milk chocolate · Grape pomace · Grape seeds · Polyphenols · Antioxidative capacity · Health benefits · Particle size · Flow properties · Sensory perception

Introduction

During the winemaking 20–30% of waste material accrue of grape pomace including skins, seeds and stems. The European wine Industry produces four million tonnes of grape pomace per year [1].

As explained by Sun et al. [2], the French paradox is the observation of low heart disease death rates despite high intake of cholesterol and saturated fat. Hypotheses relate this to the consumption of red wine and its content of polyphenols derived from grape skins. According to Soto et al. [3], Matissek and Baltes [4], Machado NFL and Domínguez-Perles [5] substances like anthocyanins, flavonoids and

resveratrol are found in pomace as well as in wine and affect health as radical catchers inhibiting cancer, inflammations and arteriosclerosis.

According to European cocoa regulation up to 40% of added foodstuffs can be incorporated into chocolate [6]. Thus grape pomace can be used to increase its polyphenol content and to get health benefits. Cocoa itself is known as a very good source of phenolic compounds; consequently, dark chocolates can be considered to have similar health benefits as described for red wine [4].

Milk chocolates contain less fat-free cocoa dry matter for a mild, milky taste preferred by consumers. Those products can benefit from using a less taste intense ingredient as a source of polyphenols. Other raw materials have already been considered as polyphenol rich ingredients in chocolate, e.g., cinnamon by Muhammad et al. (2018); due to its strong taste the material has to be processed to an extract beforehand [7].

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Therefore, grape pomace can be a less flavour-intense alternative. It mainly consists of peels and seeds. Dwyer et.al. [8] explain that after pressing out the juice, 70% of the polyphenols remain in the pomace. The peels are quite different from the seeds, as they contain colouring anthocyanins and wine residues. Therefore both grape seed flour and grape pomace are considered as chocolate ingredients in this study. The latter is the entire product remaining after wine or juice has been pressed. After drying, grape seeds are usually obtained by sieving and then milled to flour. Beside from different pomace products, also different types of chocolate production and times of addition were compared.

Some general aspects of chocolate-making have also to be considered when aiming at a positive perception by consumers, certain taste and mouth feeling characteristics have to be achieved by ingredients and process. Particle size measured by laser diffraction should not exceed 30 μm ; otherwise, it feels gritty [9]. “Smooth melting” is related to the flow properties of the liquid chocolate mass [9, 10]. According to Afoakwa et.al. [11], those depend largely on the contents of fat, water and emulsifiers. Water content must be reduced to < 0.6% during production, which is considered uncritical for the final product as found out by Franke et.al. [12].

Grape pomace is a new ingredient for the chocolate industry, so technological aspects have been emphasized first. Then various types and amounts were incorporated into milk chocolate with different production methods to see its impact on properties like particle size distribution, flow properties, total phenol content, antioxidative capacity and sensory perception.

Materials and methods

Experimental design

First the different types of raw material were considered as a categorical variable. Thus, different experimental set-ups were developed for grape pomace and grape seed flour. In the coding of the trials “S” stands for grape seed flour (result Tables 1, 2, 3), and “P” for grape pomace (Tables 4, 5, 6). Within each set-up varying amounts of grape material were used as a continuous variable. Thus the number in the trial code indicates the amount of grape product in the recipe, including “0” meaning a reference sample. Superscript roman numbers indicate trial repetitions.

Second, incorporation into the conventional chocolate making process consisting of roll refining and conching [10] was considered versus using the new coarse conching process [13]. The production methods are indicated by “C” for conventional method while every unmarked sample was made by coarse conching.

Third, it was considered to grind the grape material together with chocolate ingredients versus to grind it separately and to add it to the final chocolate mass. The index “E” indicates the latter; when samples are not marked the grape product was added at the beginning.

Finally, processing the grape raw material before adding it to chocolate needed to be adjusted due to its varying properties. These steps were also varied based on some learning during the project. The grape seed flour was not pre-ground in the trials 3.5S^I, 3.5S^{II}, 5S^{II}, 7S and 10S. For the trials 3.5S^{III}, 5S^I, 5S^I_E and 5S^{II}_E the seed flour was pre-grounded in the ball mill mixed with cocoa butter (1:1). Whenever mixtures of grape product and cocoa butter

Table 1 Mean values and standard deviation for specific surface, span, specific width, particle size of chocolates with grape seed flour processed by coarse conching with different times of addition

Trial	Seed flour pre-ground	Specific surface (m ² /g)	Span	Specific width	X10 (μm)	X50 (μm)	X90 (μm)	X99 (μm)
0S	–	0.981 ^{CD} ± 0.025	2.321 ^D ± 0.052	7.537 ^D ± 0.125	2.946 ^A ± 0.058	8.296 ^B ± 0.194	22.194 ^{CD} ± 0.262	35.993 ^{ABC} ± 1.161
3.5S ^I	No	1.058 ^A ± 0.009	2.441 ^{BCD} ± 0.058	8.401 ^{BC} ± 0.198	2.659 ^B ± 0.013	8.063 ^B ± 0.068	22.340 ^{CD} ± 0.619	31.937 ^{BC} ± 1.619
3.5S ^{II}	No	1.057 ^{AB} ± 0.011	2.384 ^{CD} ± 0.107	8.227 ^{BC} ± 0.403	2.670 ^B ± 0.019	8.089 ^B ± 0.109	21.966 ^{CD} ± 1.084	31.270 ^{BC} ± 1.978
5S ^{II}	No	1.065 ^A ± 0.020	2.557 ^{AB} ± 0.063	8.653 ^{AB} ± 0.286	2.652 ^B ± 0.057	7.936 ^B ± 0.200	22.950 ^{BCD} ± 0.958	34.115 ^{ABC} ± 1.538
7S	No	1.047 ^{AB} ± 0.011	2.431 ^{BCD} ± 0.037	8.406 ^{BC} ± 0.212	2.695 ^B ± 0.012	8.209 ^B ± 0.141	22.658 ^{CD} ± 0.653	32.230 ^{BC} ± 0.571
10S	No	1.031 ^{ABC} ± 0.029	2.650 ^A ± 0.073	9.068 ^A ± 0.226	2.700 ^B ± 0.095	8.218 ^B ± 0.248	24.468 ^{AB} ± 0.654	37.125 ^{AB} ± 2.819
3.5S ^{III}	Yes	1.035 ^{ABC} ± 0.042	2.391 ^{CD} ± 0.087	8.013 ^{CD} ± 0.162	2.760 ^A ± 0.132	8.093 ^B ± 0.226	22.130 ^{CD} ± 1.352	34.920 ^{ABC} ± 5.572
5S ^I	Yes	0.959 ^D ± 0.036	2.482 ^{BC} ± 0.060	8.410 ^{BC} ± 0.540	2.964 ^A ± 0.151	8.823 ^A ± 0.357	24.861 ^A ± 0.943	38.118 ^A ± 2.710
5S ^I _E	Yes	1.045 ^{AB} ± 0.039	2.344 ^D ± 0.006	7.876 ^{CD} ± 0.218	2.742 ^B ± 0.137	8.033 ^B ± 0.169	21.569 ^D ± 0.484	32.065 ^{BC} ± 1.974
5S ^{II} _E	Yes	1.002 ^{BCD} ± 0.022	2.357 ^{CD} ± 0.009	8.391 ^{BC} ± 0.189	2.793 ^{AB} ± 0.037	8.761 ^A ± 0.310	23.443 ^{ABC} ± 0.841	32.653 ^{BC} ± 1.212

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

S grape seed flour, E addition at the end of the production, number ration of grape product

Table 2 Mean values and standard deviation for flow property descriptors of chocolates with grape seed flour processed by coarse conching with different times of addition

Trial	Seed flour pre-ground	Casson yield value (Pa)	Casson viscosity (Pa s)	Shear stress at 0.05 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Shear stress at 5 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Shear stress at 40 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Viscosity at 40 s ⁻¹ (Pa s)
0S	–	13.443 ^{BCD} ± 0.489	3.537 ^{CD} ± 0.068	11.970 ^B ± 0.491	69.437 ^C ± 0.574	237.967 ^D ± 2.287	5.952 ^D ± 0.057
3.5S ^I	No	11.321 ^{EF} ± 0.278	3.539 ^{CD} ± 0.020	10.518 ^E ± 0.387	63.623 ^F ± 0.328	229.900 ^F ± 1.955	5.749 ^F ± 0.047
3.5S ^{II}	No	13.546 ^{BC} ± 0.854	3.455 ^D ± 0.144	14.490 ^A ± 1.733	65.340 ^E ± 3.865	238.333 ^D ± 4.621	5.960 ^D ± 0.119
5S ^{II}	No	11.616 ^{EF} ± 0.220	3.702 ^C ± 0.009	11.403 ^{CD} ± 0.439	64.433 ^{EF} ± 0.553	241.467 ^C ± 2.539	6.036 ^C ± 0.065
7S	No	12.091 ^{DE} ± 0.237	4.033 ^B ± 0.046	11.757 ^{BC} ± 0.393	69.307 ^C ± 0.252	257.800 ^B ± 1.424	6.447 ^B ± 0.034
10S	No	11.370 ^{EF} ± 0.043	2.473 ^F ± 0.012	11.260 ^{CD} ± 0.222	49.690 ^H ± 0.213	175.600 ^H ± 0.490	4.393 ^H ± 0.014
3.5S ^{III}	Yes	13.782 ^F ± 0.460	3.485 ^D ± 0.021	11.547 ^{BC} ± 0.523	71.890 ^B ± 0.586	237.900 ^D ± 3.059	5.947 ^D ± 0.075
5S ^I	Yes	10.602 ^F ± 0.147	3.107 ^E ± 0.147	10.943 ^{DE} ± 0.299	54.393 ^G ± 0.321	206.133 ^G ± 1.454	5.152 ^G ± 0.032
5S ^I _E	Yes	15.491 ^A ± 0.367	4.826 ^A ± 0.002	14.813 ^A ± 0.512	86.993 ^A ± 0.454	315.200 ^A ± 2.982	7.880 ^A ± 0.074
5S ^{II} _E	Yes	12.152 ^{CDE} ± 0.268	3.578 ^{CD} ± 0.055	10.643 ^E ± 0.301	67.700 ^D ± 0.205	232.933 ^E ± 1.504	5.826 ^E ± 0.038

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

S grape seed flour, E addition at the end of the production, number ration of grape product

Table 3 Mean values and standard deviation for total phenol content and antioxidative capacity of chocolates with grape seed flour processed by coarse conching

Trial	mg GAE/100 g DW	mmol Trolox/100 g DW
GSF	2153.961 ^A ± 253.357	23.274 ^A ± 2.649
0S	148.630 ^{BC} ± 3.037	1.435 ^B ± 0.071
3.5S ^I	188.834 ^{BC} ± 6.027	2.802 ^B ± 0.375
3.5S ^{II}	244.232 ^{BC} ± 15.414	2.450 ^B ± 0.357
3.5S ^{III}	142.871 ^C ± 3.854	2.064 ^B ± 0.075
5S ^{II}	262.833 ^{BC} ± 17.610	2.219 ^B ± 0.135
5S ^I _E	290.534 ^{BC} ± 3.579	4.667 ^B ± 1.499
5S ^{II} _E	338.145 ^{BC} ± 8.863	3.345 ^B ± 0.282
7S	303.988 ^{BC} ± 4.139	2.929 ^B ± 0.084
10S	577.775 ^B ± 6.194	5.159 ^B ± 0.031

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

GSF pure grape seed flour, DW dry weight, GAE gallic acid equivalent, number ration of grape product, S grape seed flour, E addition at the end of the production

were added, fat contents were adjusted upstream in order to always get the same fat content in final samples.

Contrary to seed flour the grape pomace must always be dried and pre-ground. It was, therefore, dried in a drying cabinet and also because grinding is easier with lower moisture content. This step was carried out using a ceramic disc mill. The resulting product was either used directly in conventional production (roller refiner and conching) or further ground in a ball mill after mixing with cocoa butter (1:1). This mass was then added into the coarse conching process. In experiments 3.5P, 5P and 7.5P, this was done at the beginning of the process during the conching step. In

trials 3.5P_E, 5P_E, 7.5P_E and 10P_E, the intermediate product was added to the finished product.

A general focus of all experiments was to produce groups of samples, which do not differ more than 3 μm in their maximal particle size X90, which means that 90 volume-% of particles are smaller than the given value. Flow properties of samples showing uneven particle size cannot be compared, as particle size and the resulting specific surface have a large influence on flow properties [14, 15]. Practically the grinding process was always stopped when reaching the target size.

Recipes and materials

All milk chocolates were produced using the same recipe, consisting of 15.00% cocoa liquor, 27.19% sugar, 17.00% cocoa butter, 8.00% lactose, 7.50% skim milk powder, 4.40% anhydrous milk fat and 20.91% added other foodstuffs, thereof 0.70% lecithin, varying amounts of grape pomace products according to DOE and the remaining part of permeate powder. It contains 30.8% fat and meets the legal standard of “milk chocolate” according to article 3(5) in European Cocoa Directive 2000/36/EC [6].

All recipes contain 20.91% added foodstuff. The permeate powder was used to balance the varying contents of grape products (3.5–10%). It consists mainly of lactose and minerals and was used due to its relatively little influence on chocolate properties and thus behaves like a “neutral filler” [16].

The following raw materials were used: cocoa liquor (Cargill Cocoa SARL; Abidjan, Ivory Coast), cocoa butter (Olam Cocoa Deutschland GmbH, Mannheim, Germany), skim milk powder (DMK Deutsches Milchkontor GmbH, Bremen, Germany), lactose (Wheyco GmbH, Altentreptow,

Table 4 Mean values and standard deviation for specific surface, span, specific width, particle size of chocolates with grape pomace processed by conventional production or coarse conching with different times of addition

Trial	Specific surface (m ² /g)	Span	Specific width	X10 (μm)	X50 (μm)	X90 (μm)	X99 (μm)
OP	0.914 ^D ± 0.031	2.636 ^{CDE} ± 0.047	9.292 ^{BCDE} ± 0.329	3.035 ^{AB} ± 0.123	9.532 ^C ± 0.186	28.155 ^C ± 0.164	42.683 ^{CD} ± 2.427
3.5P _E	0.911 ^D ± 0.007	2.533 ^F ± 0.012	8.704 ^E ± 0.059	3.083 ^{AB} ± 0.021	9.376 ^{CD} ± 0.090	26.838 ^{DE} ± 0.360	44.605 ^{BC} ± 0.611
5P _E	0.956 ^{BC} ± 0.029	2.638 ^{CDE} ± 0.069	8.914 ^{DE} ± 0.364	2.951 ^{AB} ± 0.111	8.844 ^E ± 0.257	26.269 ^{EF} ± 0.299	42.762 ^{CD} ± 2.030
7.5P _E	0.920 ^{CD} ± 0.002	2.551 ^{EF} ± 0.009	8.736 ^E ± 0.035	3.056 ^{AB} ± 0.008	9.269 ^D ± 0.024	26.700 ^{DE} ± 0.092	43.955 ^{BCD} ± 0.606
10P _E	0.892 ^D ± 0.001	2.718 ^{BC} ± 0.017	10.140 ^A ± 0.048	3.039 ^{AB} ± 0.005	10.223 ^A ± 0.023	30.819 ^A ± 0.134	52.370 ^A ± 0.826
3.5P	0.889 ^D ± 0.021	2.672 ^{BCD} ± 0.072	9.473 ^{BCD} ± 0.578	3.116 ^A ± 0.125	9.852 ^B ± 0.036	29.444 ^B ± 0.627	50.373 ^A ± 0.487
5P	0.919 ^D ± 0.006	2.615 ^{DEF} ± 0.013	8.777 ^E ± 0.030	3.080 ^{AB} ± 0.021	9.163 ^D ± 0.050	27.038 ^D ± 0.261	45.588 ^B ± 1.046
7.5P	0.963 ^B ± 0.033	2.641 ^{BCDE} ± 0.090	9.043 ^{CDE} ± 0.541	2.919 ^B ± 0.142	8.864 ^E ± 0.142	26.320 ^E ± 0.304	41.598 ^D ± 1.494
C5P	1.067 ^B ± 0.005	3.126 ^A ± 0.015	9.563 ^{ABC} ± 0.029	2.686 ^C ± 0.006	7.357 ^G ± 0.017	25.687 ^F ± 0.100	42.020 ^D ± 0.335
COP	1.085 ^A ± 0.005	2.736 ^B ± 0.006	9.732 ^{AB} ± 0.050	2.515 ^D ± 0.014	8.027 ^F ± 0.014	24.479 ^G ± 0.023	34.995 ^E ± 0.050

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

C conventional production, *number* ration of grape product, *P* grape pomace, *E* addition at the end of the production

Table 5 Mean values and standard deviation for flow property descriptors of chocolates with grape pomace processed by conventional production or coarse conching with different times of addition

Trial	Casson yield value (Pa)	Casson viscosity (Pa s)	Shear stress at 0.05 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Shear stress at 5 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Shear stress at 40 s ⁻¹ (Pa)	Viscosity at 40 s ⁻¹ (Pa s)
OP	11.814 ^{DE} ± 0.415	3.410 ^{AB} ± 0.122	9.862 ^E ± 0.502	66.170 ^D ± 1.165	222.133 ^D ± 4.217	5.551 ^D ± 0.106
3.5P _E	10.987 ^E ± 0.056	2.061 ^E ± 0.080	10.740 ^D ± 0.236	44.960 ^H ± 1.136	152.567 ^I ± 4.455	3.815 ^I ± 0.111
5P _E	12.265 ^{CD} ± 0.204	2.203 ^E ± 0.026	10.953 ^C ± 0.396	50.657 ^G ± 0.260	164.033 ^H ± 0.795	4.099 ^H ± 0.015
7.5P _E	14.055 ^B ± 0.220	2.961 ^C ± 0.040	12.237 ^B ± 0.384	64.653 ^E ± 0.245	210.367 ^E ± 1.080	5.261 ^E ± 0.025
10P _E	15.307 ^A ± 0.357	3.667 ^A ± 0.023	12.720 ^A ± 0.393	77.527 ^A ± 0.314	250.633 ^A ± 1.449	6.265 ^A ± 0.035
3.5P	13.161 ^{BC} ± 0.444	3.386 ^B ± 0.044	11.353 ^D ± 0.490	67.590 ^B ± 0.786	228.067 ^B ± 3.054	5.701 ^B ± 0.073
5P	13.208 ^{BC} ± 0.122	3.389 ^B ± 0.018	11.483 ^C ± 0.200	66.930 ^{BC} ± 0.535	227.60 ^{BC} ± 0.879	5.690 ^{BC} ± 0.019
7.5P	13.410 ^B ± 0.177	3.295 ^B ± 0.109	11.930 ^B ± 0.328	66.277 ^{CD} ± 1.539	225.067 ^C ± 5.329	5.626 ^C ± 0.136
C5P	15.356 ^A ± 0.336	2.604 ^D ± 0.065	12.650 ^A ± 0.560	64.647 ^E ± 0.621	195.733 ^F ± 2.279	4.893 ^F ± 0.057
COP	9.752 ^F ± 0.238	2.867 ^{CD} ± 0.144	7.664 ^F ± 0.236	57.643 ^F ± 1.184	184.967 ^G ± 4.254	4.626 ^G ± 0.107

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

C conventional production, *number* ration of grape product, *P* grape pomace, *E* addition at the end of the production

Germany), permeate powder (Wheyco GmbH, Altentreptow, Germany), vanillin (Silesia Gerhard Hanke GmbH and Co. KG, Neuss, Germany) lecithin (Cargill Texturizing Solutions Deutschland GmbH and Co. KG, Hamburg, Germany), crystal sugar (Nordzucker AG, Braunschweig, Germany), anhydrous milk fat (Uelzena eG, Uelzen, Germany), grape pomace (Senger Naturrohstoffe, Dransfeld, Germany) and grape seed flour (Lipoid GmbH, Ludwigshafen, Germany).

Production of samples by coarse conching

For initial mixing, coarse conching and liquefaction, a pilot-scale conch with an integrated vortex chamber (IMR-E 300, Lipp Mischtechnik GmbH, Mannheim, Germany) was used. Skim milk powder, lactose, permeate powder, sugar

and grape pomace (if used) were treated in the conch at 37 Hz with the vortex chamber running at 60 Hz. 3% added fat reduced dusting but did not hinder evaporation. After achieving a moisture content below 1%, the cocoa mass and a portion of cocoa butter were added to achieve a fat content of 12–15%, coarse conching continues for 90 min, reaching a product temperature of 70–75 °C, which is adequate for reducing the water content to < 0.6%. In the last step the missing ingredients were added apart from lecithin. For the unloading of the conch the product temperature was reduced to 50 °C.

The grinding process was performed in a ball mill IMPACTOR® IMP5 (Lipp, Mannheim, Germany) with 15 kg of hardened steel balls of either 6.35 mm diameter with the frequency converter set to 25 Hz. Power consumption of the

Table 6 Mean values and standard deviation for total phenol content and antioxidative capacity of chocolates with grape pomace processed by conventional production or coarse conching

Trial	mg GAE/100 g DW	mmol Trolox/100 g DW
GP	6751.502 ^A ± 148.211	60.718 ^A ± 4.077
OP	281.746 ^{CD} ± 11.425	2.425 ^B ± 0.161
3.5P _E	388.458 ^{BCD} ± 36.597	2.872 ^B ± 0.040
5P _E	458.731 ^{BCD} ± 23.184	3.647 ^B ± 0.083
7.5P _E	555.211 ^B ± 4.093	4.227 ^B ± 0.212
10P _E	631.597 ^B ± 8.267	4.854 ^B ± 0.241
3.5P	396.801 ^{BCD} ± 20.478	3.115 ^B ± 0.169
5P	433.586 ^{BCD} ± 10.528	3.425 ^B ± 0.144
7.5P	521.316 ^{BC} ± 11.779	4.263 ^B ± 0.023
C5P	375.170 ^{BCD} ± 23.184	3.022 ^B ± 0.179
C0P	204.598 ^D ± 3.259	1.718 ^B ± 0.011

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

DW dry weight, GAE gallic acid equivalent, C conventional production, number ratio of grape product, P grape pomace, E addition at the end of the production

mill was kept at 2.5 ± 0.2 kW by frequently adding lecithin and thus controlling mass consistency. The double-jacket was tempered using a thermostat (Regloplas, St. Gallen, Switzerland); at the beginning it was set to 50 °C for keeping the fat liquid. Later during milling the temperature was reduced to keep the mass under 60 °C, which should prevent glass transition of lactose [17]. The mass was circulated through the ball mill by an eccentric screw pump (MDT 025-6L, Seepex, Bottrop, Germany). Particle size was controlled by a micrometre calliper (Vogel, Kevalear, Germany).

Production of samples by conventional processing

For the chocolates that were produced with the conventional method a 3-roll-refiner (WDLH 300, F.B. Lehmann GmbH, Aalen, Germany) was used. The details of the standardized settings were shown in [14]. Then liquefaction of the mass took place in the pilot-scale conch, fat and lecithin were added according to the recipe. The overall conching time was 90 min, reaching a final product temperature of 80 °C, which is adequate for achieving <0.5% water. This standard small-scale process provides good flow and sensory properties and is detailed in [18].

Drying, pre-grinding, fine grinding and blending with grape products

The supplied dry grape pomace with a residual moisture of 7–9% was further dried at 60 °C in a drying cabinet (Haraeus Holding GmbH, Hanau, Germany) until the product achieved a moisture content of 4–5%. Pre-grinding of

the dried material was performed using a ceramic disc mill (Super Masscolloider MK CA6-3, Masuko Sangyo Co. Ltd, Kawaguchi, Japan) at 10 Hz applying five passages while decreasing gap widths.

The material was then mixed with cocoa butter (1:1) and the fine-grinding was performed using the ball mill with 15 kg of hardened steel balls of 6.35 mm diameter and with the frequency converter set to 25 Hz; the target size is $X_{90} < 30 \mu\text{m}$. The double-jacket was tempered at 50 °C for keeping the fat liquid, but the mass temperature should not exceed 60 °C.

The final grinding step with the ball mill was likewise applied on grape seed flour but without pre-grinding or drying.

The produced intermediate masses were used in the conching step or mixed into the finished chocolate according to the experimental design.

Production of samples by tempering and using of crystallization nuclei

The masses were tempered by a tempering machine (Sollich, Bad Salzuffen, Germany) or by using crystallization nuclei (Mycryo[®], Barry Callebaut AG, Lebbeke-Wieze, Belgium). In the latter case less fat was added upstream in order to keep final fat content constant. Tablets were made using neutrally, identically shaped 100 g plastic moulds. These were put immediately on a vibrating table (Nettler, Mainz, Germany) for even distribution and removal of air bubbles. After solidification in a cooling cell they were unmoulded, acclimatised at room temperature, packed in aluminium foil and allowed to rest at 15 °C for final crystallisation.

Particle size distribution

This was measured by laser diffractometer Mastersizer 2000 (Malvern Instruments, Worcestershire, UK) according to Fraunhofer theory [19], which is most appropriate for mixtures of particles showing different optical properties. The samples were diluted 1:100 with sunflower oil at 40 °C and treated for 15 min in an ultrasonic bath (Sonorex Bandelin, Berlin, Germany). The preparation was added to the instrument, while oil was circulating. The sample preparation was done twice and the measurement carried out threefold, resulting in six data sets per sample.

The mean results of PSD quantiles X₉₉, X₉₀, X₅₀, X₁₀ are given including standard deviation. The values of specific surfaces are calculated by the instrument software from the PSD assuming particles are spherical. Specific width X₉₀/X₁₀ is a parameter that can make a statement about the width of the PSD; span (X₉₀–X₁₀)/X₅₀ is used for the same purpose.

X99 is not commonly used for chocolate. The pomace and especially the seeds are harder and more difficult to mill than all other raw materials. When they are not fine enough, the small amounts according to recipes are not detected by the X90. Therefore, the X99 represents mainly the pomace particles and determines the maximum size of all particles. Otherwise, one could find acceptable values for X90 and then be surprised by finding sandy mouthfeel in sensory evaluation.

For all data ANOVA identified differences between sample means within comparable sample groups, followed by Tukey-test to proof significance of differences between pairs.

Flow properties

Those were measured in triplicate on a shear rate controlled rotary rheometer (Physica, Stuttgart, Germany), applying cylinder gap system Z3 according to ISO 3219. Compared to the original method—measuring from 60 to 5 s⁻¹—the range of shear rate was extended below 5 s⁻¹ to improve yield value results. Likewise, shear stress (τ) at three different shear rates (0.05, 5 and 40 s⁻¹) was recorded as recommended by the International Confectionery Association (ICA, formerly IOCCC) [20, 21]. τ_{40} was also used to calculate apparent viscosity η_{40} .

Additionally, data from the flow curves were prepared by the Casson method. It uses the given shear rate (D) and the measured shear stress (τ) to calculate Casson viscosity (η_{CA}) and Casson yield value (τ_{CA}). The method is no longer recommended due to deviations in a laboratory ring test [20], but is still widely used in the industry and allows comparing results to existing data as recommended in [21].

Total phenol content

The total phenol content was measured using the Folin–Ciocalteu method. It is based on the electron transfer in the alkaline medium by reducing of substances. Molybdenum forms blue complexes being detected by a photometer at 725 nm [22].

For producing an extract the chocolate sample must be defatted with n-hexane in the first place. Phenol extraction was then performed by an extraction medium consisting of 80% methanol, 19% distilled water and 1% acetic acid according to [23, 24]. The extract (100 μ l) was added to 750 μ l of 10% Folin–Ciocalteu reagent and then incubated for 5 min. Afterwards the mixture was mixed well with 750 μ l Na₂CO₃ solution (60 g/l) and maintained for 90 min in a dark place. The absorbance was measured at 725 nm in a spectrophotometer (UV-3100PC spectrophotometer, VWR International GmbH, Darmstadt, Germany). The calculation of the results is based on extraction volume, original sample weight and the measured value of the photometer. The result

is stated as PP (polyphenol) mg/100 g DW (dried weight) based on the calibration curve.

Antioxidative capacity

The “ferric-reducing antioxidant power” (FRAP) assay measures the strength of antioxidants at a low pH value by reducing the ferric-tripyridyltriazine complex (Fe³⁺-TPTZ) into ferrous complex (Fe²⁺-TPTZ) [25]. The same extract as for total phenol content was used, so 40 μ l was added to 1800 μ l FRAP reagent and then filled up with 60 μ l distilled water. The FRAP reagent consists of TPTZ solution (10 mM in 40 mM HCl), acetate buffer (pH 3.6) and FeCl₃ 6H₂O (20 mM). The cuvettes are stored in the dark for 180 min and then measured at 593 nm. The calculation of the results is based on extraction volume, original sample weight and the measured value of the photometer. The result is stated as mmol trolox/100 g DW (dried weight) based on the calibration curve.

Sensory evaluation

For sensory analysis of selected chocolate samples the simple descriptive test (DIN 10964) was performed by six panellists already familiar with sensory methods. The evaluation was carried out in standardised individual cabins [26]. In each session all samples were presented with three-digit randomized numbers. The panellists described only the individual attributes, but not their intensity. The categories to be rated was appearance, smell, taste and texture/consistency [27]. For the evaluation a group report was created from the individual reports and the attributes sorted according to frequency.

In addition a hedonic acceptance test was conducted by 21 panellists. They rated the samples in four categories on a nine point scale. For the evaluation of the hedonic acceptance the mean values that were calculated in each category. Also the individual values were classified into three categories as liking (9–7), neutral (6–4) and disliking area (3–1).

For all data ANOVA at $\alpha < 0.05$ identified differences between sample means within comparable sample groups, followed by Tukey-test to proof significance of differences between pairs.

Results

Drying, grinding properties and polyphenol contents of pomace products

In pre-trials not detailed here different drying methods were used like fluidized bed dryer, freeze dryer and drying cabinet [28, 29]. Those showed that fluidized bed dryer and drying

cabinet were gentle options for the polyphenols; the latter was easier to handle and was then further used. At the beginning fresh grape pomace was dried and separated in skins and seeds. It was shown in [30] that material obtained pre-dried needs further drying before use. The drying cabinet at 60 °C had to be used for 4–6.5 h in order to achieve final moisture contents of 4–5%. In an industrial process other options could be used to achieve low moisture contents gently, e.g., belt or drum dryers.

In other pre-trials [29, 30] raw pomace (size up to 1 mm) was put into the first stage of the coarse conching process. It was observed that contrary to sugar there is no grinding of grape pomace by the vortex chamber. Downstream the pomace particles blocked the gaps of the ball mill, which keep the steel balls in the grinding chamber. It was concluded that due to the texture of the material a pre-grinding step is essential. This was feasible by pin-mill or ceramic disk mill, although difficult. Apart from being hard and tenacious the material separates and sticks to the mill [29]. Nevertheless, it was possible by dry-grinding to reduce particle size to 200–300 μm . The experiments with the ceramic disk mill showed that an effective drying process is essential for an optimal pre-grinding.

For initial analysis of polyphenol contents acetone had been used for extraction instead of methanol. This makes numerical values incomparable to those presented later, so results are not shown here. Compared to each other they showed that grape seeds contain almost as much polyphenols as cocoa liquor. Values of the latter should be roughly doubled, if the fat content is eliminated and only fat free particles are considered. So cocoa remains the preferable source of polyphenols, although grape seeds can be a good substitute. A freeze-dried sample showed the highest content, so quality depends on gentle drying [28–30].

Red wine is usually pressed from fermented grapes, so polyphenols will be extracted from peels into wine. Thus theoretically more polyphenols can be expected in unfermented pomace from juice production. A few pomace samples of fermented and unfermented pomace from varying cultivars were analysed for polyphenols and FRAP [31]. Results indicated higher contents in unfermented pomace, but the number of samples was too small and heterogeneous for further conclusions.

Chocolates containing grape seed flour

Pre-trials

In one of the first pre-trials the use of self-ground grape seeds was compared with grape seed flour. No suitable particle sizes could be achieved with grape seeds [28]. Therefore, grape seed flour was used in the following experiments as a chocolate ingredient [32]. It is a good option because the

material is already ground and no further drying and grinding steps were necessary before the final grinding in the ball mill took place. Grape seed flour could be grinded faster in the ball mill than the fibrous grape pomace [31, 32].

Particle size distribution

Table 1 shows that the products have a similar X90 of $23 \pm 2 \mu\text{m}$, which makes the products comparable. The X99 is low with values just above 30 μm and thus no grape seed particles had slipped through the mill. This shows that it is possible to reach ideal particle sizes without pre-drying and grinding.

For trials in Fig. 1 untreated grape seed flour was added before the process had started. Figure 2 shows those trials, where grape seed flour was used, which had been pre-ground in the ball mill together with cocoa butter. The intermediate product was added at the beginning or at the end of the process. The graphs look very similar. Only the standard and 5S^I have a slightly lower proportion of small particles. Some samples—most expressed at 5S_E^{II}—show a slight trend to a bimodal distribution, which is generally considered as positive [14, 15, 33].

Flow properties

Those are shown in Table 2 and illustrated by some selected flow curves in Fig. 3. All values and curves are relatively close to each other. Nevertheless, there is some inconsistency within the trials using 5% seed flour; sample 5S^I with pre-ground flour added in the beginning shows the lowest values. The other two with addition at the end are higher and also different from each other. Hypothetically, in this case the grape seed particles could have been not well covered with fat or even agglomerated due to the low shear manual mixing of chocolate and intermediate product. Sample 10S shows slightly lower shear stress at high shear rates. This single result seems too weak to speculate about a trend. Looking at the entire sample set, the most probable overall conclusion is that amount of grape seed flour, pre-treatment and time of addition have no or just little impact on flow properties.

Total phenol content and antioxidative capacity

The first line in Table 3 shows that pure grape seed flour contains a high amount of polyphenols. Chocolate samples are ordered by increasing addition. The first column shows a trend that incorporation can increase the total phenol content of the resulting chocolate. The second column shows that also the Antioxidative capacity increases as in the first column. The repetitions of the trials with the same grape portions sometimes have different values. A reason for this

Fig. 1 Particle size distribution of milk chocolates produced by coarse conching and enriched with untreated grape seed flour; addition took place at the beginning of production (S = grape seed flour, number = ratio of grape product)

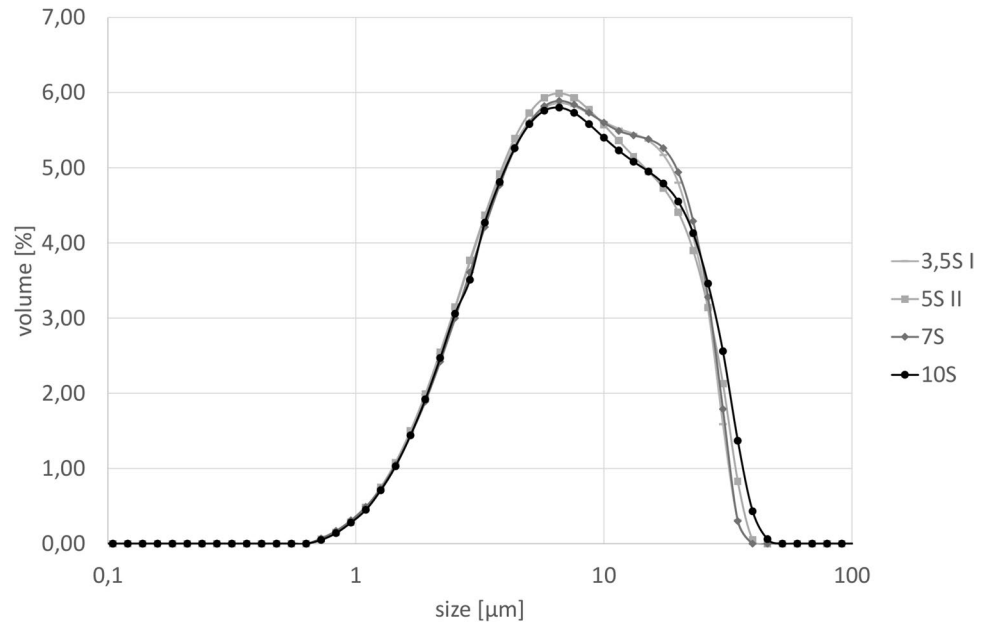
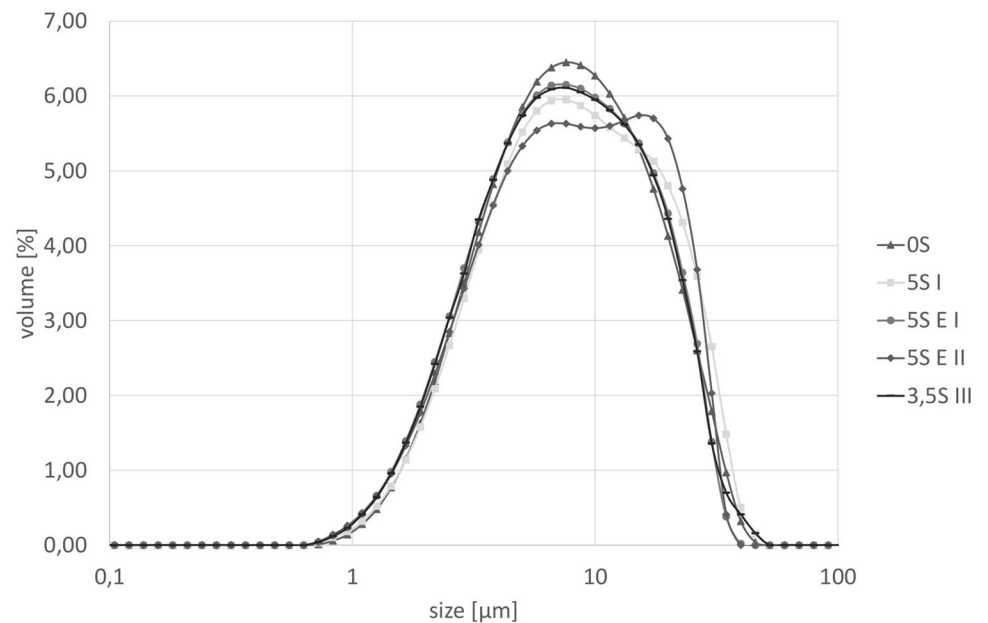


Fig. 2 Particle size distribution of milk chocolates produced by coarse conching and enriched with grape seed flour pre-grounded in the ball mill; addition took place at the beginning or at the end of production (S = grape seed flour, E = addition at the end, number = ratio of grape product)



could be the treatment of the raw material, for example pre-grinding in the ball mill or duration of processing together with chocolate.

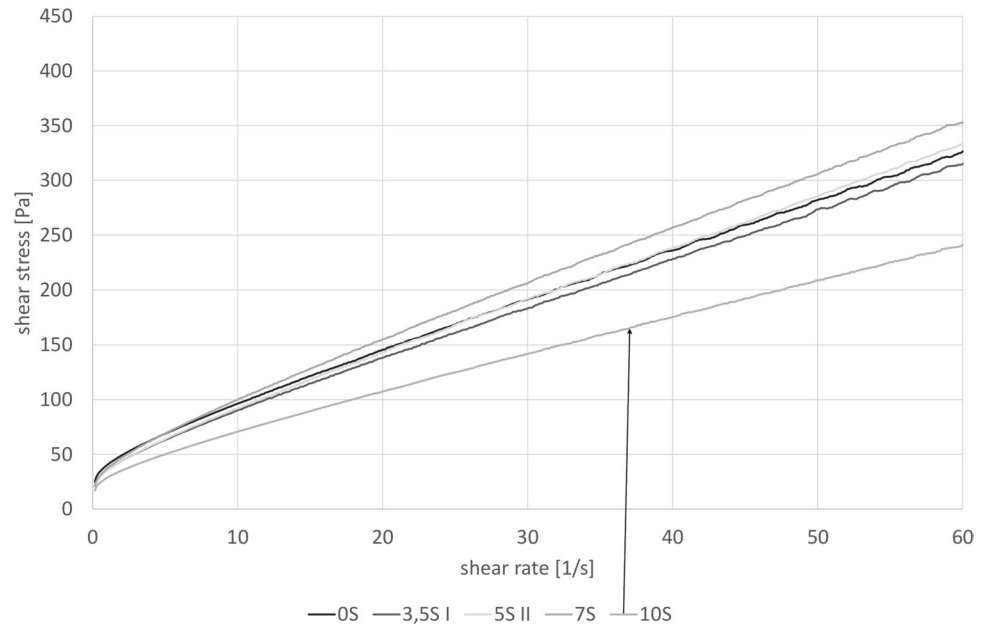
Chocolates containing grape pomace

Pre-trials

Various drying and grinding options were performed in order to find the best variant. This has shown that fresh grape pomace was difficult to handle and could not be dried in the

conching step [16]. After that, pre-dried pomace was used and its moisture content reduced to the target value. Pin mill, disk mill, roller mill and ball mill were used to find the optimal grinding variant. In any case it was necessary to have at least two grinding steps [30]. The first grinding step was performed with pin mill or disk mill. Smaller particle sizes could be achieved with the disk mill by stepwise reducing the gap width. The second grinding step was performed with the roller mill or the ball mill. However, the use of the ball mill was much more efficient to grind large quantities for a longer time [31].

Fig. 3 Flow curves of selected milk chocolates enriched with grape seed flour, produced with coarse conching and addition at the beginning of production (number=ratio of grape product, S=grape seed flour)



Particle size distribution

Table 4 shows that the products have a similar X90 of $28 \pm 3 \mu\text{m}$, making the products comparable. Figures. 4, 5 show a very similar particle size distribution, although trials 10P_E and 3.5P show a slightly higher portion of bigger particles. X99 values of clearly over 30 μm indicate there might be sensory noticeable particles. It was concluded that due to the rapid movement in the ball mill some tenacious particles can slip through without being properly ground.

Specific surface increases with higher amounts of smaller particles; overall, relative width, span and specific surface are similar.

The products with grape pomace being added in the beginning had an overall longer grinding time but still higher X90 values.

Figure 6 shows PSDs of samples made conventionally by a roller refiner. Those are different to the ball mill samples and show a trend towards more bimodal distributions, which was to be expected [14, 15].

Fig. 4 Particle size distribution of milk chocolate enriched with grape pomace, produced with coarse conching and addition at the end of the production (number=ratio of grape product, P=grape pomace, E= addition at the end of the production)

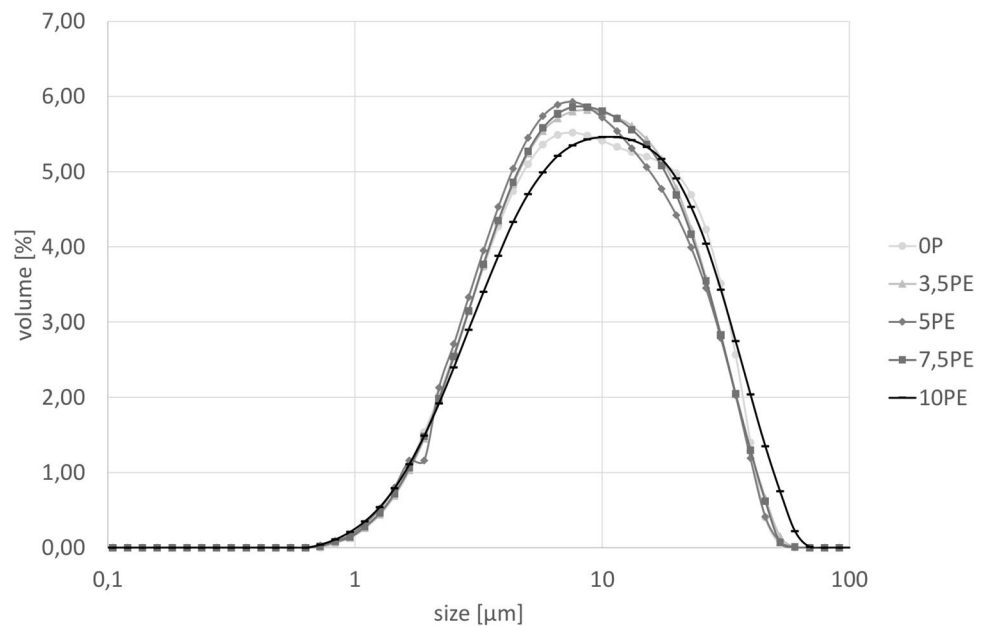


Fig. 5 Particle size distribution of milk chocolate enriched with grape pomace, produced with coarse conching and addition at the beginning of the production (number = ration of grape product, P = grape pomace)

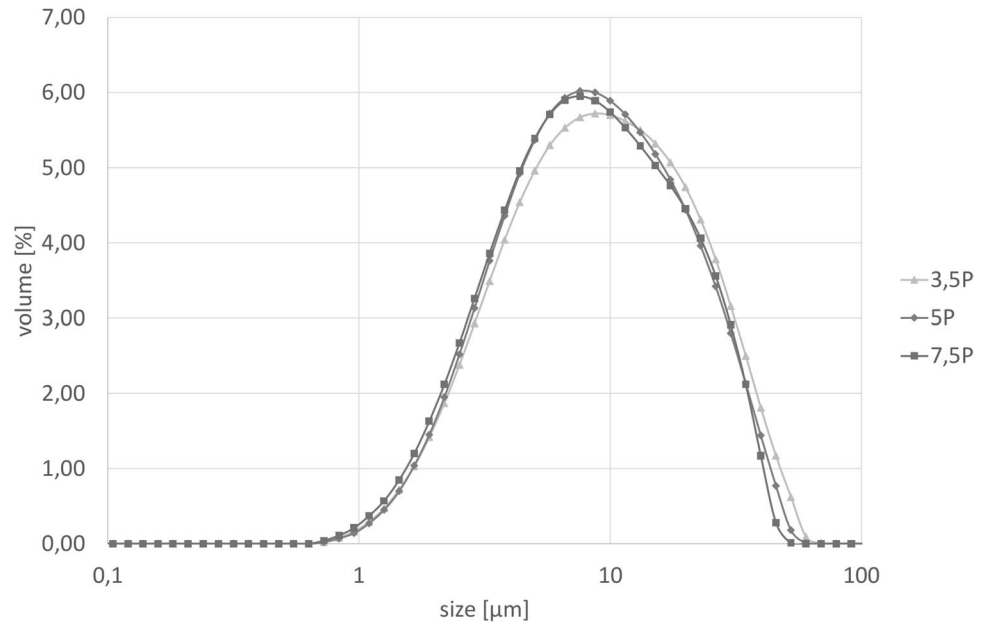
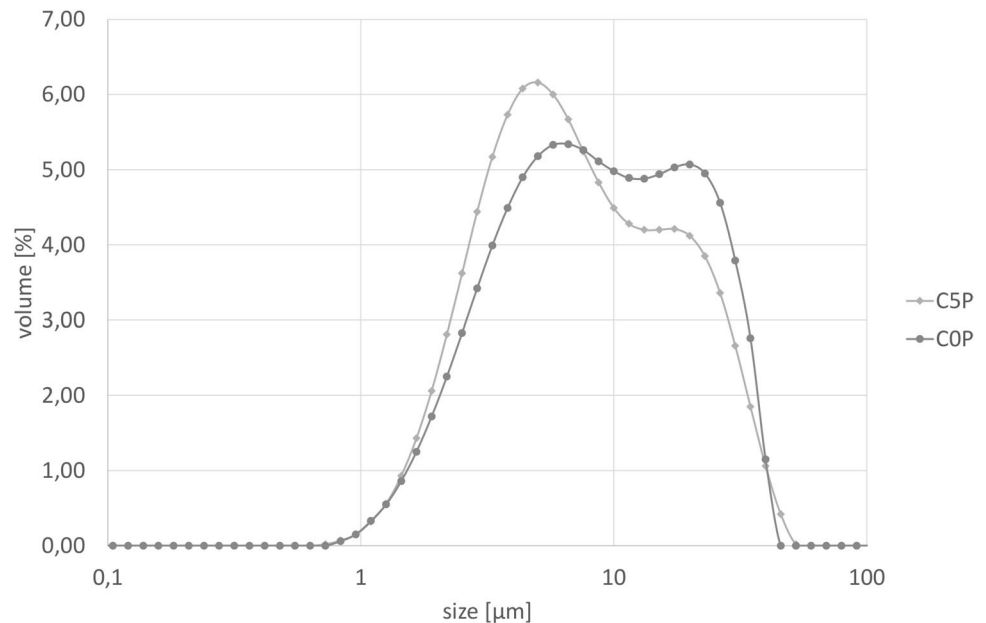


Fig. 6 Particle size distribution of milk chocolate enriched with grape pomace, produced with conventional production (C = conventional production; number = ration of grape product, P = grape pomace)



Flow properties

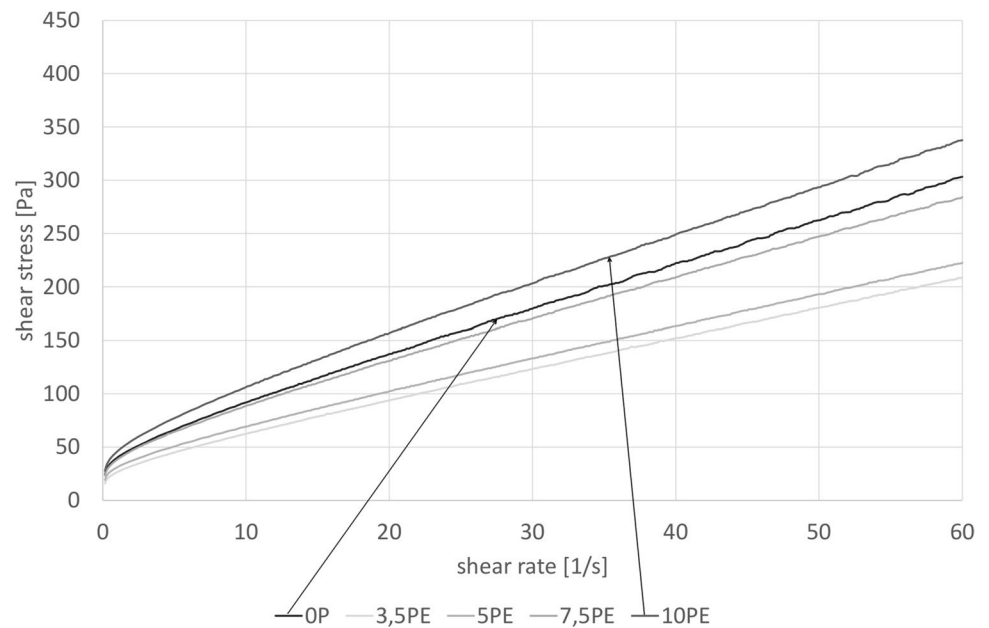
All results are listed in Table 5. Figure 7 shows flow curves of samples with fine-ground intermediate product added to final mass. Here a slight increase of all values together with increasing amount of pomace can be seen. In contrary the values where pomace was added initially are very close to each other, flow curves (not shown here) look almost identical.

The two conventionally made samples show a larger difference at low shear (τ_{CA} , $\tau_{0.05}$) but are very close at

high shear (η_{CA} , η_{40}). Also these flow curves (not shown here) look very close and just different when zooming in at the lower end.

From the results one could conclude again that pomace has little impact on flow properties when given the chance for intensive contact during the entire process. A hypothesis could be that adding the product just in the end does not provide enough impact to cover particle surfaces properly and thus increases flow parameters.

Fig. 7 Flow curves of milk chocolate enriched with grape pomace, produced with coarse conching and addition of grape product at the end of the production (number = ration of grape product, P = grape pomace, E = addition at the end of the production)



Total phenol content and antioxidative capacity

First line of Table 6 shows that a high amount of polyphenols can be found in the initial grape pomace; it is also much higher than the one found in grape seed flour (Table 3). Regarding chocolates, there is a positive correlation between grape pomace portion and total phenol content. The same applies for antioxidative capacity from FRAP-test; results from both parameters correlate at $R^2 = 0.977$. Based on content in pomace, a sample containing, e.g., 3.5% pomace should show about 236 mg GAE/100 g DW. The values are higher due to polyphenol coming from cocoa particles. Thus adding only small portions increases the total polyphenol content of milk chocolate significantly.

Sensory evaluation

In the pre-trials it had been shown by simple descriptive test (DIN 10964) that samples containing grape seed flour showed little difference to the standard regarding taste [28, 30]; the actual samples showed the same. Thus a sub-set of six chocolates with grape pomace were selected as the more interesting product; results are shown in Table 7. Regarding overall popularity, most chocolates containing pomace were rated significantly better than the reference product. Within this group the differences were not significant. The fruity taste was noted positively in the simple descriptive test. The darker colour associated with a higher proportion of grape pomace was detected and did not have a negative effect. The sample containing 10% pomace scored lowest regarding acceptance of texture. Regarding overall liking it was not significantly different from all other samples but

Table 7 Mean values and standard deviation for hedonic acceptance test of chocolates with grape pomace processed by coarse conching

Trial	Overall popularity	Colour	Taste	Texture
0P	5.38 ^B ± 2.17	7.00 ^A ± 1.69	5.00 ^B ± 2.25	6.81 ^{AB} ± 1.33
5P _E	7.29 ^A ± 1.28	7.43 ^A ± 1.18	7.19 ^A ± 1.22	7.43 ^A ± 1.09
7.5P _E	6.81 ^A ± 1.30	7.19 ^A ± 1.33	6.95 ^A ± 1.36	7.14 ^{AB} ± 1.08
10P _E	6.29 ^{AB} ± 1.28	7.38 ^A ± 1.29	6.67 ^A ± 1.28	6.24 ^B ± 1.44
5P	7.14 ^A ± 1.25	7.43 ^A ± 1.18	6.90 ^A ± 1.54	7.57 ^A ± 1.18
7.5P	7.48 ^A ± 1.10	7.57 ^A ± 1.18	7.19 ^A ± 1.53	7.67 ^A ± 0.89

Superscript indices show samples to be significantly different at $\alpha < 0.05$ according to Tukey-test

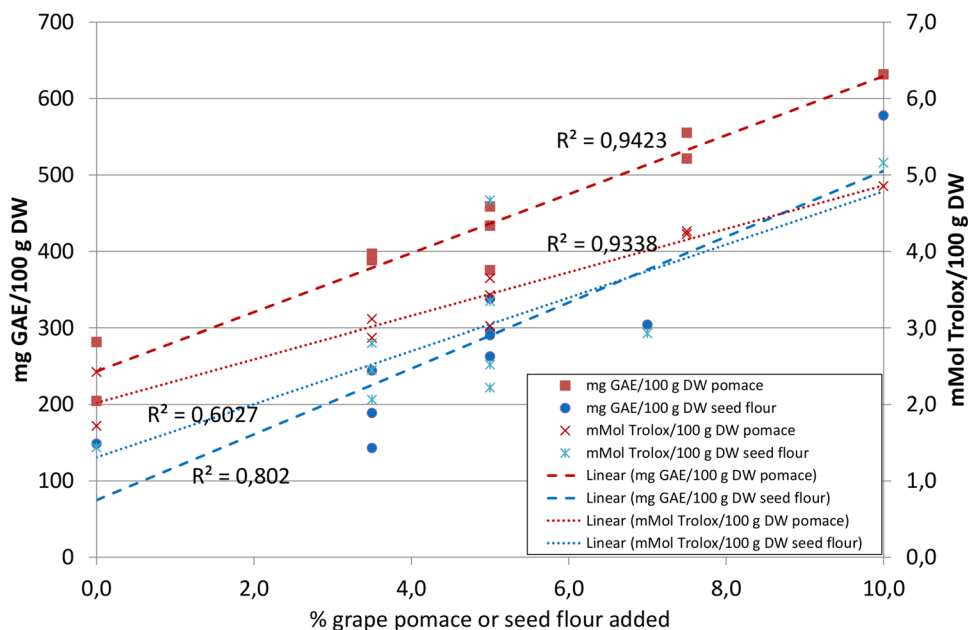
P grape pomace, number ration of grape product, E addition at the end of the production

scored second to last, just between the reference and the other samples containing moderate amounts of grape pomace. The high amount of non-melting particles might have been notable for and not appreciated by some panellists.

Discussion

Figure 8 summarizes the correlation of polyphenol contents found in chocolate after adding either grape seed flour or grape pomace. Adding more material containing polyphenols increases also the contents in final products; similar results were found in [7, 24, 34, 35]. The concept was proved to be principally feasible. Although milk chocolates naturally contain some polyphenols coming from cocoa particles, both ingredient types are able to significantly increase

Fig. 8 Correlation of added amounts of grape products to measured polyphenol contents (S = seeds, P = pomace)



their amount together with antioxidative capacity. Many consumers like the healthy image of dark chocolates, but not the strong taste. So chocolate producers now have an option to offer a mild and milky chocolate taste with a health benefit on top. A nice side-effect might be the principally inexpensive raw materials.

Grape seed flour brings less polyphenols but a more neutral taste. Pomace including peels will yield a product containing even more polyphenols and showing darker colour together with an interesting fruity taste which might be preferred by consumers. It is the choice of product developers which raw material to use and finally of the consumers which one is preferred. Alternative to using pomace products like in this study one could also consider purified extracts. Methods for gaining those have been developed by Muhammad et al. [7]—who also used the extracts in chocolate—and Maier et al. [36]. Interestingly, in a follow-up of the latter it was shown by Netzel et al. [37, 38] that various phenolic compounds are metabolized and resulted in improved antioxidative capacities in plasma and urea of test persons. Extracts could be a good solution for water-based products, while for a suspension of particles in solid fat like chocolate it should be enough to add particles made from the initial pomace products.

Technically, both ingredients used in this study needed more attention than initially thought. Pomace including peels needs an extra drying step because its initial moisture content is too high. This is not the case for seed flour.

Both ingredients showed grinding properties very different from other chocolate raw materials. The seeds are very hard while the peels have a fibrous and tenacious

structure. In a previous project other fibrous material had been tested as chocolate ingredients without extra grinding, which resulted in unacceptable products [39]. It had been shown by Meier et al. [40] that other products like muesli bars or bread sticks are still acceptable when incorporating coarsely ground grape pomace. Chocolate seems to be a more delicate matrix, so in this study it was found that pre-grinding of the pure material is essential. To a certain extent this is possible by dry milling using, e.g., pin or disk mills. Wet grinding together with fat can result in particle sizes close to those expected for final chocolate. This might also be possible by dry fine milling technologies, e.g., a jet mill, which would be an interesting option for on-going development.

However, it seems to be the safer option to add the product in the beginning of the process, which gave more reliable results in this project. But if chocolate is made together with grape pomace, all devices must be cleaned laboriously, before other products could be made using the same equipment. So from the standpoint of flexibility and cleaning it seems an attractive option to produce a very fine-ground ingredient instead—like done here by wet grinding in a ball mill—and to add it to the final chocolate just before tempering and moulding.

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Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest None.

Ethical approval All sensory procedures performed in this study involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of Neubrandenburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

Compliance with ethics requirement This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects.

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