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FACULTY  
OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

PORTO



# Serpa PDO cheese: towards identification of chemical markers involved in organoleptic attributes

Helena Araújo-Rodrigues, Freni K. Tavora, Maria Teresa P.G. dos Santos, Nuno Alvarenga, Manuela M. Pintado

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# Serpa PDO cheese



Raw ovine  
milk

No starter  
cultures

*Cynara  
cardunculus* L.



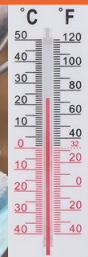
High microbial  
biodiversity



- strong and exquisite flavor
- semi-soft and creamy texture



# Serpa PDO cheese manufacture



*Cyanara cardunculus L.*



Milk collection and filtration

Milk heating

Vegetable rennet addition

Milk coagulation

Ripening process

Curd placed in perforated moulds

Cutting and breaking of the curd



# Traditional cheeses issues



Feeding systems



Milking conditions



Climatic conditions



Manufacturing methods

- High heterogeneity in the final organoleptic characteristics



- Safety risks associated to the raw milk



Autochthonous starter culture

# Serpa PDO cheese



Screening of flavor and texture related compounds:

- Free amino acids (FAAs)
  - Organic acids
- Volatile compounds



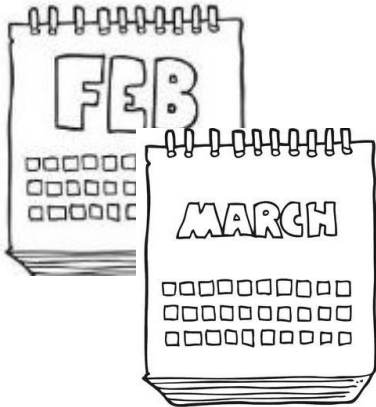
Towards the identification of **chemical markers** involved in the specificity of Serpa cheese



4 PDO certified industries



Core of 30 days-old cheeses



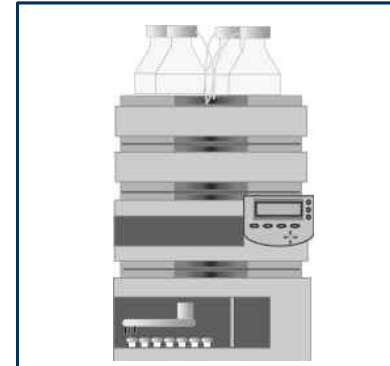
Organic acid profile



Free amino acid profile



Volatile compounds screening



HPLC analysis



SPME GC-MS analysis

Background

Aims

Materials and methods

Results and discussion

Conclusions and future perspectives

# Organic acid profile

Concentration of organic acids (mg/100g) in Serpa cheeses (n=4)

		Lactic	Acetic	Propionic	Butyric
M O N T H 1	A	1881.26±60.35 <sup>a</sup>	170.66±8.71 <sup>a</sup>	5.87±2.05 <sup>a</sup>	4.37±4.38 <sup>a</sup>
	B	992.72±471.86 <sup>b</sup>	212.76±30.04 <sup>a,b</sup>	22.58±7.81 <sup>b</sup>	21.95±6.28 <sup>b</sup>
	C	1668.12±724.20 <sup>a,b</sup>	198.72±50.40 <sup>a,b</sup>	7.09±1.73 <sup>a</sup>	2.65±2.97 <sup>a</sup>
	D	1268.02±97.92 <sup>b</sup>	120.92±12.50 <sup>b</sup>	9.74±1.81 <sup>a</sup>	21.03±2.19 <sup>b</sup>
M O N T H 2	A	946.09±6.25 <sup>a</sup>	318.62±19.26 <sup>a,b</sup>	6.96±2.05 <sup>a</sup>	5.40±1.26 <sup>a</sup>
	B	645.03±160.41 <sup>a</sup>	359.44±82.31 <sup>b</sup>	77.01±16.83 <sup>b</sup>	41.82±29.40 <sup>b</sup>
	C	1700±348.81 <sup>b</sup>	238.27±41.03 <sup>a</sup>	5.87±1.07 <sup>a</sup>	BDT
	D	1185.88±507.73 <sup>a,b</sup>	265.05±29.86 <sup>a,b</sup>	10.76±3.74 <sup>a</sup>	19.93±10.52 <sup>a,b</sup>

\*BDL- Below the detection threshold.

Means in the same column and corresponding to the same month of production with different superscript letters differ significantly (p<0.05).

# Free amino acid profile

Concentration of FAAs (mg/100g) in Serpa cheeses (n=4)

F A A	February				March			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
Asp	8.6±1.4 <sup>a</sup>	5.9±1.3 <sup>a</sup>	8.6±4.8 <sup>a</sup>	7.8±3.1 <sup>a</sup>	5.4±2.5 <sup>a</sup>	7.7±2.4 <sup>a</sup>	11.2±3.0 <sup>b</sup>	9.3±2.9 <sup>a</sup>
Glu	<b>64.4±9.5<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>43.9±10.7<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>47.8±27.1<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>51.3±6.6<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>54.1±10.98<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>22.7±6.4<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>53.8±6.4<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>55.7±12.4<sup>a</sup></b>
Cys	0.1±0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.05±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.05±0.04 <sup>a</sup>	0.05±0.04 <sup>a</sup>	0.9±1.4 <sup>a</sup>	0.2±0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.1±0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.2±0.1 <sup>a</sup>
Asn	0.6±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.4±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.8±0.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.3±0.04 <sup>a</sup>	4.5±4.8 <sup>a</sup>	0.6±0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.3±0.07 <sup>a</sup>	0.4±0.4 <sup>a</sup>
Ser	0.5±0.1 <sup>a</sup>	1.0±0.6 <sup>a</sup>	2.2±1.4 <sup>a</sup>	1.8±1.2 <sup>a</sup>	5.8±6.4 <sup>a</sup>	0.6±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	1.5±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.5±0.2 <sup>a</sup>
His	0.4±0.5 <sup>a</sup>	1.7±0.4 <sup>a</sup>	4.9±4.8 <sup>a</sup>	3.8±3.6 <sup>a</sup>	4.7±4.6 <sup>a</sup>	4.2±1.5 <sup>a</sup>	4.5±0.8 <sup>a</sup>	7.8±1.1 <sup>a</sup>
Gln	1.5±0.3 <sup>a</sup>	1.3±0.4 <sup>a</sup>	1.7±1.1 <sup>a</sup>	2.2±1.1 <sup>a</sup>	1.8±1.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.1±0.7 <sup>a</sup>	3.8±0.4 <sup>a</sup>	3.4±1.8 <sup>a</sup>
Thr	4.5±0.6 <sup>a</sup>	4.1±1.1 <sup>a</sup>	7.1±4.2 <sup>a</sup>	4.4±1.4 <sup>a</sup>	5.6±0.8 <sup>a</sup>	2.6±0.6 <sup>b</sup>	12.2±2.2 <sup>c</sup>	4.3±1.5 <sup>a,b</sup>
Arg	3.2±0.5 <sup>a</sup>	6.4±4.9 <sup>a</sup>	9.9±8.5 <sup>a</sup>	10.5±9.3 <sup>a</sup>	6.2±8.8 <sup>a</sup>	1.8±0.8 <sup>a</sup>	1.2±0.4 <sup>a</sup>	3.3±1.7 <sup>a</sup>
Ala	<b>13.1±1.1<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>14.2±8.4<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>14.4±8.5<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>20.9±3.3<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>21.8±1.8<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>14.3±4.1<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>13.9±2.6<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>14.8±2.2<sup>b</sup></b>
Tyr	0.4±0.03 <sup>a</sup>	5.4±3.9 <sup>a</sup>	2.5±1.6 <sup>a</sup>	5.7±3.9 <sup>a</sup>	3.3±2.8 <sup>a</sup>	1.6±1.6 <sup>a</sup>	1.0±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.8±0.9 <sup>a</sup>
Val	<b>26.4±5.3<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>34.8±13.3<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>46.3±25.6<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>46.6±9.9<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>42.9±6.8<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>65.0±23.5<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>55.6±8.9<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>82.4±19.2<sup>b</sup></b>
Met	2.0±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	4.62±3.1 <sup>a,b</sup>	6.0±4.1 <sup>a,b</sup>	7.9±2.4 <sup>b</sup>	11.6±3.2 <sup>a,d</sup>	5.7±2.0 <sup>a,c</sup>	3.8±0.9 <sup>c</sup>	13.3±5.2 <sup>d</sup>
Trp	0.6±0.01 <sup>a</sup>	1.3±0.7 <sup>a</sup>	1.3±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	1.8±1.0 <sup>a</sup>	1.5±0.02 <sup>a</sup>	BDT	BDT	0.1±0.2 <sup>a</sup>
Phe	<b>14.3±0.9<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>21.8±5.0<sup>a,b</sup></b>	<b>31.0±17.1<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>27.1±7.5<sup>a,b</sup></b>	<b>22.3±5.1<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>22.9±5.9<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>25.9±6.3<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>22.8±3.6<sup>a</sup></b>
Ile	2.5±0.2 <sup>a</sup>	9.3±6.0 <sup>a,b</sup>	12.4±10.1 <sup>a,b</sup>	16.0±4.7 <sup>b</sup>	10.2±0.9 <sup>a,b</sup>	9.6±5.6 <sup>a,b</sup>	6.6±1.2 <sup>a</sup>	15.2±2.6 <sup>b</sup>
Leu	<b>41.3±1.8<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>54.8±13.6<sup>a,b</sup></b>	<b>72.6±36.1<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>71.1±13.6<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>56.0±7.6<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>67.1±5.9<sup>a,b</sup></b>	<b>83.5±17.8<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>81.0±9.5<sup>b</sup></b>



# Free amino acid profile

Concentration of FAAs (mg/100g) in Serpa cheeses (n=4)

February				
FAA	A	B	C	D
Glu	64.4±9.5 <sup>a</sup>	43.9±10.7 <sup>a</sup>	47.8±27.1 <sup>a</sup>	51.3±6.6 <sup>a</sup>
Ala	13.1±1.1 <sup>a</sup>	14.2±8.4 <sup>a</sup>	14.4±8.5 <sup>a</sup>	20.9±3.3 <sup>a</sup>
Val	26.4±5.3 <sup>a</sup>	34.8±13.3 <sup>a</sup>	46.3±25.6 <sup>a</sup>	46.6±9.9 <sup>a</sup>
Phe	14.3±0.9 <sup>a</sup>	21.8±5.0 <sup>a,b</sup>	31.0±17.1 <sup>b</sup>	27.1±7.5 <sup>a,b</sup>
Leu	41.3±1.8 <sup>a</sup>	54.8±13.6 <sup>a,b</sup>	72.6±36.1 <sup>b</sup>	71.1±13.6 <sup>b</sup>
March				
FAA	A	B	C	D
Glu	54.1±10.98 <sup>a</sup>	22.7±6.4 <sup>b</sup>	53.8±6.4 <sup>a</sup>	55.7±12.4 <sup>a</sup>
Ala	21.8±1.8 <sup>a</sup>	14.3±4.1 <sup>b</sup>	13.9±2.6 <sup>b</sup>	14.8±2.2 <sup>b</sup>
Val	42.9±6.8 <sup>a</sup>	65.0±23.5 <sup>a</sup>	55.6±8.9 <sup>a</sup>	82.4±19.2 <sup>b</sup>
Phe	22.3±5.1 <sup>a</sup>	22.9±5.9 <sup>a</sup>	25.9±6.3 <sup>a</sup>	22.8±3.6 <sup>a</sup>
Leu	56.0±7.6 <sup>a</sup>	67.1±5.9 <sup>a,b</sup>	83.5±17.8 <sup>b</sup>	81.0±9.5 <sup>b</sup>

Means in the same line with different superscript letters differ significantly (p<0.05).

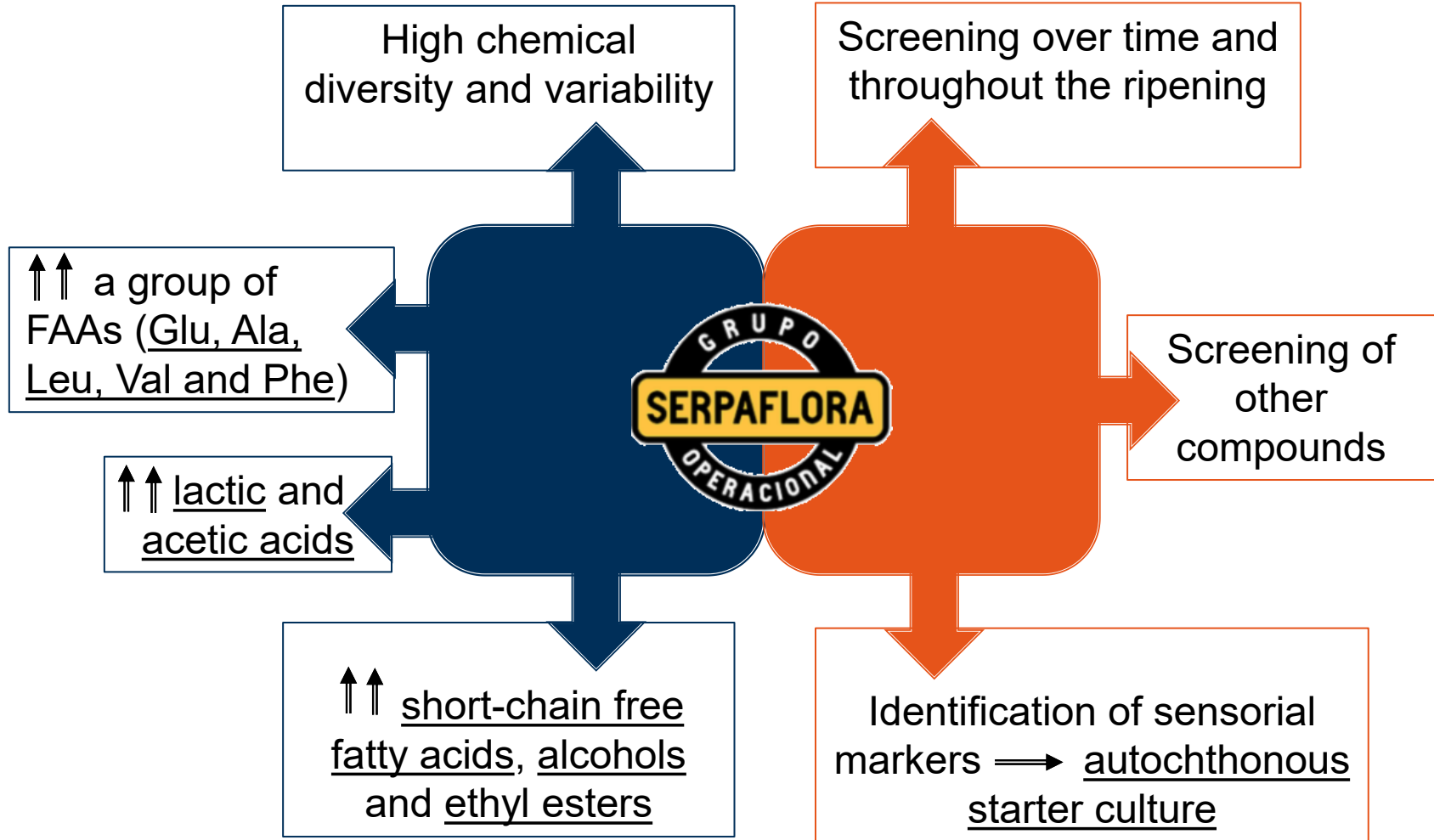
# Volatile compounds screening

More incident groups	Volatile compound
Short-chain free fatty acids	Acetic acid
	Butyric acid
	Valeric acid
	Propionic acid
Alcohols	Ethanol
	1-Propanol
	1-Butanol
	1-Octanol
Ethyl esters	Ethyl hexanoate
	Ethyl octanoate
	Ethyl decanoate

Other groups	Volatile compound
Ketones	2-Octanone
	2-Butanone
Medium-chain free fatty acids	Hexanoic acid
	Octanoic acid
Terpenes	Limonene
	3-Carene
Aromatic compound	Benzene methanol
	Phenol
Sulfur compounds	Dimethyl sulphide

# Present

# Future



Background

Aims

Materials and methods

Results and discussion

Conclusions and future perspectives

# Acknowledgements



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[hrodrigues@porto.ucp.pt](mailto:hrodrigues@porto.ucp.pt)