**Thesis Title** Effects of Antioxidants on Shelf-life and

Stability of Food Colorant from Carotenoids Extracted

from Crude Palm Oil

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## **ABSTRACT**

The effects of antioxidant agents on shelf-life and stability of food colorant from carotenoids extracted from crude palm oil have been studied in oil dispersion and emulsion forms. Effects of synthetic antioxidants, BHA, BHT and TBHQ were compared with control (no antioxidant). Change of  $\beta$ -carotene concentration in food colorant was evaluated by UV/vis spectroscopy.

Food colorant from carotenoids in oil dispersion and emulsion form, packed in dark vial, flushing with  $N_2$  and stored at  $30\pm 5$  and  $5\pm 2^{\circ}$ C, respectively was stable during storage.  $\beta$ -carotene concentrations was decreased less than 10% (p>0.05) during 180 days storage in every treatment. Acid value and peroxide value changes was not significant (p>0.05). The amount of total plate count and yeast-mold in emulsion decreased from the initial amount.

The degradation of  $\beta$ -carotene at 140.0-160.0°C in oil dispersion followed the first-order reaction kinetics. The activation energy (E<sub>a</sub>) and z value was found to be 67.40-105.94 kJ/mol and 32-52°C, respectively. The order of food colorant stability was BHT > TBHQ > BHA > control. The z values were found to be 32.36, 36.63, 39.22, and 51.02°C, respectively.

The degradation of  $\beta$ -carotene at 90.0-100.0°C in emulsion followed the first-order reaction kinetics. The  $E_a$  and z value was found to be 101.07-125.48 kJ/mol and 21-26°C, respectively. The order of food colorant stability was BHT > TBHQ > BHA > control. The z values were found to be 20.66, 22.27, 22.32, and 25.64°C, respectively. Therefore, addition of BHT will improve the stability of  $\beta$ -carotene in 2 forms of food colorant and  $N_2$  flushing will improve thermal stability of food



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