

**ÉTUDE DE LA RADIOSENSIBILISATION VIRALE DANS LES ALIMENTS
COMME LA LAITUE ICEBERG APRÈS UTILISATION DE TRAITEMENTS
COMBINÉS**

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À ma sœur qui m'a énormément aidé et mentoré de par ses précieux conseils.

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Table des matières

<i>Résumé</i>	<i>VIII</i>
<i>Liste des figures</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Liste des tableaux</i>	<i>XI</i>
<i>Liste des abréviations</i>	<i>XII</i>
<i>Chapitre 1 : Introduction générale</i>	<i>1</i>
1.1 Les virus	<i>1</i>
Tableau 1. Tableau des comparaisons des caractéristiques physiques et métaboliques entre les virus, les bactéries et les cellules animales.....	<i>1</i>
1.1.1 Le génome.....	<i>2</i>
1.1.2 La capsid.....	<i>2</i>
1.1.3 L'enveloppe	<i>2</i>
1.2 Historique des virus	<i>3</i>
Tableau 2. Tableau des différentes découvertes, inventions et technologies ainsi que leur inventeur (Adapté de Oldstone, 2009).....	<i>3</i>
1.3 Le cycle de réPLICATION général des virus.....	<i>4</i>
1.3.1 Attachement.....	<i>4</i>
1.3.2 Pénétration.....	<i>5</i>
1.3.3 Décapsidation.....	<i>5</i>
1.3.4 RéPLICATION génomique et expression génique	<i>5</i>
1.3.5 Assemblage	<i>6</i>
1.3.6 Maturation	<i>6</i>
1.3.7 Relâche du virus	<i>6</i>
1.4 Le cycle de réPLICATION spécifique des calicivirus	<i>6</i>
Figure 1. Représentation schématique de la réPLICATION virale d'un virus de la famille des <i>caliciviridae</i>	<i>7</i>
1.5 Gastroentérite, pertes économiques associées et analogues du NoV.....	<i>7</i>
1.6 Contamination des aliments frais par des agents infectieux.....	<i>9</i>
1.7 Les traitements antiviraux utilisés et objectifs	<i>9</i>
1.7.1 L'irradiation.....	<i>9</i>
1.7.2 L'ozonation.....	<i>10</i>
1.7.3 L'utilisation de jus de canneberge	<i>11</i>
1.7.4 Objectifs et hypothèses	<i>11</i>
1.8 Résultats observés	<i>12</i>
1.8.1 <i>In-vitro</i>	<i>12</i>
1.8.2 <i>In-situ</i>	<i>14</i>
Traitement de la laitue iceberg avec O ₃ , CJ et irradiation sans entreposage à 4 °C	<i>14</i>
Traitement de la laitue iceberg avec O ₃ , CJ et irradiation avec entreposage à 4 °C.....	<i>15</i>
Bibliographie	<i>17</i>
<i>Chapitre 2: Revue de littérature.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Norovirus elimination on the Surface of Fresh Foods.....</i>	<i>21</i>

Abstract.....	22
Abbreviations.....	23
1 Introduction.....	25
2 Anti-viral Treatments	26
2.1 Synthetic chemical compounds.....	26
Table 1. Recapitulative table of the performance of synthetic chemical compounds against virus	28
2.2 Natural compounds used to eliminate virus	28
Table 2. Recapitulative table of the performance of natural compounds against virus	34
2.3 Non-thermal treatments.....	36
Table 3. Recapitulative table of the performance of fermentation against virus.....	37
Table 4. Recapitulative table of the performance of ozonation against virus	39
Table 5. Recapitulative table of the performance of high-pressure homogenizer (HPH) and high hydrostatic pressure (HHP) against virus	40
Table 6. Recapitulative table of the performance of γ -irradiation against virus.....	42
Table 7. Recapitulative table of the performance of UV-irradiation against virus	43
2.4 Combined treatments	43
3 Conclusion	44
4 Acknowledgements	44
5 References	44
Chapitre 3: Radiosensitivity increase of FCV-F9 virus using combined treatments with natural antimicrobials and γ-irradiation	56
Abstract.....	57
1 Introduction	58
2 Materials and methods	59
2.1 Cellular Culture of CRFK cells	59
2.2 Preparation of FCV-F9 viral stocks.....	60
2.3 Preparation of CJ and BS formulation	60
2.4 Treatment of virus	60
2.5 γ-irradiation treatment.....	61
2.6 Infection of CRFK cells in 96-well plate	61
2.7 Analysis by Tissue Culture Infectious Dose 50 (TCID₅₀)	62
2.8 Statistical analysis	62
3 Results	62
3.1 Effect of CJ and BS on CRFK cells and FCV-F9 virus titer	62
3.2 Effect of γ-irradiation on FCV-F9 virus titer	63
Table 1. Recovery of viral titers after different treatments used alone (γ-irradiation, CJ or BS).....	63
Fig. 1 (A) Viral titer reduction (TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS at different concentrations.	
(b) Viral titer reduction (TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with CJ at different concentrations. (C) Viral titer reduction (TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at different doses.....	65
3.3 Effect of combined treatment of γ-irradiation and BS on virus titer	65
Table 2. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of BS in combination with γ-irradiation..	66
Fig. 2 Viral titer reduction (TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ-irradiation at various doses in combination with BS at (A) BS-0.01%, (B) BS-0.025%, and (C) BS-0.1%.....	68
3.4 Effect of combined treatment of γ-irradiation and CJ on viral titer.....	68

Table 3. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of CJ in combination with γ-irradiation..	69
Fig. 3 Viral titer reduction (TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at various doses in combination with CJ at (A) CJ-0.1% and (B) CJ-0.5%.....	70
Table 4. Relative Radiosensitivity or Radioresistance (D₁₀ control/D₁₀ treatment) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS and CJ	70
4 Discussion	71
5 Acknowledgments.....	74
6 References	75
Chapitre 4: Radiosensitivity of FCV-F9 on Iceberg lettuce surface after combined treatments with γ-irradiation.....	81
Abstract.....	82
Highlights	83
1 INTRODUCTION.....	84
2 MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	85
2.1 Culture of CRFK cells.	85
2.2 Preparation of viral pool.	85
2.3 Antimicrobial formulation preparation.	85
2.4 Raw material and spraying treatment with the formulation.	85
2.5 Ozonation treatment.....	86
2.6 γ-irradiation treatment.	86
2.7 Viral analysis and infection of CRFK cells.	86
2.8 Analysis by TCID₅₀.	87
2.9 Preparation of bacterial suspension.	87
2.10 Effects of bioactive coating, ozonation, and γ-irradiation on total flora.	87
2.11 Color, chlorophyll and texture measurements.	88
2.12 Sensory evaluations.	88
2.13 Statistical analysis.	88
3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	88
3.1 Effects of γ-irradiation, CJ, and O₃ against FCV-F9 virus.	88
Fig. 1. Individual effects of (A) γ -irradiation, (B) CJ and (C) O ₃ on the viral titer of FCV-F9 at different doses on iceberg lettuce at Day 0 of storage.....	91
3.2 Combined effects of γ-irradiation and CJ against FCV-F9 virus.	92
Fig. 2. Combined effects of various concentrations of CJ (A) CJ-0.10%, (B) CJ-0.25%, (C) CJ-0.50% and (D) CJ-1.5% with γ -irradiation at doses of 0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0 and 1.5 kGy on viral titer of FCV-F9 on iceberg lettuce at day 0	94
3.3 Effect of treatments on FCV-F9 viral titer on lettuce during storage at 4°C for 10 days.	94
Table 1. Diminution of viral titer (log TCID₅₀/mL) after treatments with O₃ at 5-ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ-irradiation 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days	97
Fig. 3. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on viral (in log TCID ₅₀ /mL) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days	98
3.4 Effect of treatments on total mesophilic flora of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4°C.	98
Fig. 4. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on bacterial (in log CFU/g) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days.....	100
3.5 Effects of treatments on color properties of iceberg lettuce during storage.....	100
Fig. 5. Effect of CJ coating of CJ-0.25% in combination with O ₃ at 5-ppm or γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy on the color parameters (A) L*, (B) a*, (C) b* and (D) H* of the CIELab color scale of iceberg lettuce samples during storage at 4 °C for 10 days.....	103
Fig. 6. Visual appearance of iceberg lettuce with various treatments during storage at 4 °C on day 0 (on top) and 10 (on the bottom).	104

3.6 Effects of treatments and storage time on chlorophyll pigment of iceberg lettuce.....	104
Table 2. Evaluation of chlorophyll content ($\mu\text{g/mL}$) after treatments with O_3 at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days	106
3.7 Effects of treatments on texture of iceberg lettuce.....	106
Table 3. Evaluation of texture (N/mm) after treatments with O_3 at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days	107
3.8 Effects of treatments on sensory analysis of lettuce with storage at 4 °C for 5 days.....	108
Table 4. Sensory analysis after treatments with combination of O_3 at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy, CJ-0.25% alone and control after storage at 4°C for 10 days.....	110
4 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	111
5 REFERENCES	111
<i>Chapitre 5: Discussion générale.....</i>	116
1.1. Discussion générale <i>in-vitro</i>	116
1.1.1. Traitements seuls	116
1.1.2. Traitements combinés	116
1.2. Discussion générale <i>in-situ</i>	117
1.2.1. Traitements seuls antiviraux sans stockage à 4 °C	117
1.2.2. Traitements combinés antiviraux sans stockage à 4 °C	118
1.2.3. Traitements seuls ou combinés antiviraux avec stockage à 4 °C	118
1.2.4. Traitements seuls / combinés antiviraux testés contre la flore totale bactérienne durant l'entreposage	119
1.2.5. Effets sur la colorimétrie, la chlorophylle, la texture et l'analyse sensorielle durant l'entreposage.....	119
<i>Bibliographie</i>	121
<i>Chapitre 6: Conclusion générale.....</i>	123
<i>Bibliographie complète du mémoire</i>	124

Résumé

La surface de la laitue iceberg est favorable au développement de pathogènes comme le Norovirus (NoV). Celui-ci est éliminé par la chaleur, inapte sur les produits consommés frais. L'irradiation demeure une technologie intéressante, mais les virus en sont résistants. Le but de ce projet était de mettre au point une méthode combinée afin d'augmenter la radiosensibilisation du NoV pour ainsi réduire la dose d'irradiation nécessaire pour les éliminer ou pour les amener à un niveau propre à la consommation pour l'Homme. Le projet consistait à évaluer les effets d'extraits naturels et d' O_3 combinés à l'irradiation sur la radiosensibilisation virale. Un test *in-situ* a aussi été réalisé afin de voir l'efficacité du traitement sur les propriétés physico-chimiques et la qualité microbienne de la salade. Les objectifs étaient : 1) évaluer les effets d'extraits naturels sur l'élimination virale, 2) déterminer les effets de l' O_3 sur le virus et établir la concentration optimale, 3) déterminer la D_{10} (kGy) en absence et en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels et la radiosensibilisation en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels et 4) évaluer *in-situ* les traitements combinés sur l'élimination virale, bactérienne et les propriétés physico-chimiques. Les résultats ont montré que dose optimale de jus de canneberge était de 0.25 %, car la D_{10} était 1.33 pour son activité antimicrobienne et 2.00 pour le contrôle, donc la radiosensibilisation était de 1.5 fois par rapport à l'irradiation seule. La dose optimale pour l' O_3 était de 5 ppm durant 7.5 minutes. La combinaison de traitement optimale (JC-0.25%+ O_3 -5 ppm + irradiation-1.5 kGy) a montré une réduction d'environ 2 log TCID₅₀ après traitement et entreposage à 4°C. L'étude *in-situ* n'a montré aucun effet négatif sur la texture, le goût et la couleur de la laitue ($p > 0.05$) et ce même durant l'entreposage. L'analyse de la chlorophylle a montré une augmentation non significative de 5.23 à 9.03 µg/mL au cours de l'entreposage 10 jours après le traitement combiné comparativement au contrôle qui a lui-même diminué significativement durant l'entreposage de 9.02 à 3.12 µg/mL, démontrant un bienfait de la combinaison des traitements.

Mots-clés : Norovirus ; Laitue ; Ozonation ; Acides organiques ; Irradiation.

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Abstract

The surface of iceberg lettuce is favorable for the development of pathogens such as Norovirus (NoV). It is eliminated by heat, not possible on products eaten raw. Irradiation remains an interesting technology, but viruses are resistant. The goal of this project was to develop a combined method to increase the radiosensitization of NoV to reduce the dose of irradiation needed to eliminate them or to bring them down to levels which are safe for human consumption. The project evaluated the effects of natural extracts and O₃ combined with irradiation on viral radiosensitization. An *in-situ* test was also conducted to see the effectiveness of the treatment on the physico-chemical properties and microbial quality of the salad. The objectives were: *1) to evaluate the effects of natural extracts on virus elimination, 2) to determine the effects of O₃ on the virus and to establish the optimal concentration, 3) to determine the D₁₀ (kGy) in the absence and in the presence natural antimicrobials and radiosensitization in the presence of natural antimicrobials; and 4) in-situ evaluation of combined treatments on viral, bacterial and physicochemical properties.* The results showed that the optimal dose of cranberry juice was 0.25 %, since the D₁₀ was 1.33 for its antimicrobial activity and 2.00 for the control, so the radiosensitization was 1.5 times compared to the irradiation alone. The optimal dose for O₃ was 5 ppm for 7.5 minutes. The optimal treatment combination (CJ-0.25% + O₃-5 ppm + irradiation-1.5 kGy) showed a reduction of 2 log TCID₅₀ / mL after treatment and storage at 4 ° C. The *in-situ* study showed no negative effect on the texture, taste and color of lettuce ($p > 0.05$) even during storage. Chlorophyll analysis showed a non-significant increase from 5.23 to 9.03 µg / mL during storage 10 days after the combined treatment compared to the control which decreased significantly during storage from 9.02 to 3.12 µg / mL, demonstrating a benefit from the combination of treatments.

Keywords: Norovirus; Lettuce; Ozonation; Organic acids; Irradiation.

Liste des figures

Chapitre 1.

Figure 1. Représentation schématique de la réPLICATION virale d'un virus de la famille des caliciviridae

Chapitre 3.

Fig. 1 (A) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS at different concentrations. (B) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with CJ at different concentrations. (C) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at different doses.

Fig. 2 Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at various doses in combination with BS at (A) BS-0.01%, (B) BS-0.025%, and (C) BS-0.1%.

Fig. 3 Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at various doses in combination with CJ at (A) CJ-0.1% and (B) CJ-0.5%.

Chapitre 4.

Fig. 1. Individual effects of (A) γ -irradiation, (B) CJ and (C) O_3 on the viral titer of FCV-F9 at different doses on iceberg lettuce at Day 0 of storage

Fig. 2. Combined effects of various concentrations of CJ (A) CJ-0.10%, (B) CJ-0.25%, (C) CJ-0.50% and (D) CJ-1.5% with γ -irradiation at doses of 0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0 and 1.5 kGy on viral titer of FCV-F9 on iceberg lettuce at day 0

Fig. 3. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on viral (in log $\text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL}$) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

Fig. 4. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on bacterial (in log CFU/g) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

Fig. 5. Effect of CJ coating of CJ-0.25% in combination with O_3 at 5-ppm or γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy on the color parameters (A) L*, (B) a*, (C) b* and (D) H* of the CIELab color scale of iceberg lettuce samples during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

Fig. 6. Visual appearance of iceberg lettuce with various treatments during storage at 4 °C on day 0 (on top) and 10 (on the bottom).

Liste des tableaux

Chapitre 1.

Tableau 1. Tableau des comparaisons des caractéristiques physiques et métaboliques entre les virus, les bactéries et les cellules animales

Tableau 2. Tableau des différentes découvertes, inventions et technologies ainsi que leur inventeur
(Adapté de Oldstone, 2009)

Chapitre 2.

Table 1. Recapitulative table of the performance of synthetic chemical compounds against virus

Table 2. Recapitulative table of the performance of natural compounds against virus

Table 3. Recapitulative table of the performance of fermentation against virus

Table 4. Recapitulative table of the performance of ozonation against virus

Table 5. Recapitulative table of the performance of high-pressure homogenizer (HPH) and high hydrostatic pressure (HHP) against virus

Table 6. Recapitulative table of the performance of γ -irradiation against virus

Table 7. Recapitulative table of the performance of UV-irradiation against virus

Chapitre 3.

Table 1. Recovery of viral titers after different treatments used alone (γ -irradiation, CJ or BS)

Table 2. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of BS in combination with γ -irradiation

Table 3. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of CJ in combination with γ -irradiation

Table 4. Relative Radiosensitivity or Radioresistance (D_{10} control/ D_{10} treatment) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS and CJ

Chapitre 4.

Table 1. Diminution of viral titer (log TCID₅₀/mL) after treatments with O₃ at 5-ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Table 2. Evaluation of chlorophyll's pigment (μ g/mL) after treatments with O₃ at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Table 3. Evaluation of texture (N.mm-1) after treatments with O₃ at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Table 4. Sensory analysis after treatments with combination of O₃ at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy, CJ-0.25% alone and control after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Liste des abréviations

AJ: Apple Juice

AstV: Astrovirus

ATP: Adenosine triphosphate

B-PACs: Blueberry Proanthocyanidins

Cl: Chlorine

ClO₂: Chlorine Dioxide

COD: Chemical Oxygen Demand

CJ: Cranberry Juice

CJ-PACs: Cranberry Juice Proanthocyanidins

CP: Cranberry Polyphenols

C₂H₄O₃: Peracetic Acid

EOs: Essential oils

FAO: Food Agriculture Organization

FCV or FCV-F9: Feline Calicivirus (Strain F-9)

GSE: Grape Seed Extract

HAV: Hepatitis-A Virus

HEV: Hepatitis-E Virus

HCV: Hepatitis-C Virus

HHp: High Hydrostatic Pressure

HPH: High-Pressure Homogenization

HSV-1 and HSV-2: Herpes Simplex Virus

H₂O₂: Hydrogen Peroxide

IAEA: United Nations International Atomic Agency

JC: Jus de canneberge

Kbp: Kilo base pair

LAB: Lactic Acid Bacteria

MNV or MNV-1: Murine Norovirus (Strain 1)

NaClO: Sodium Hypochlorite

NoV: Human Norovirus

O₂: Dioxygen

O₃: Ozone

PACs: Proanthocyanidins

PFU/mL: Plaque-forming unit /mL

PJ: Pomegranate juice

PP: Pomegranate Polyphenols

RV: Rotavirus

ssRNA: single-stranded RNA

ssDNA: single-stranded DNA

TCID50/mL: Tissue Culture Infectious Dose 50 / mL

USD: United State Dollars

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

UV: Ultraviolet light

UVTP: TiO₂ photocatalysis

VLPs: NoV virus-like particles

VSV: Vesicular Stomatitis

WHO: World Health Organization

Chapitre 1 : Introduction générale

1.1 Les virus

La signification latine du mot virus est « *poison* ». Les virus font partie d'un règne encore plus diversifié que le règne des bactéries, des plantes et des animaux tous combinés ensemble. Malgré le fait qu'il n'y ait pas de définitions claires et précises du terme « virus », on peut tout de même le qualifier grâce à ses différentes propriétés communes. Les virus sont acellulaires, ils ne sont donc pas constitués de cellules. Les organismes vivants sont généralement constitués de cellules. Les virus ne sont donc pas vivants selon ce critère d'organisation cellulaire que possèdent les unicellulaires et les pluricellulaires. Ils ne se divisent pas non plus comme les bactéries. Un virus est hôte-dépendant, il a besoin d'un hôte pour se multiplier, souvent une cellule. Il va utiliser ses différentes fonctions et ses composants cellulaires. Ils n'ont pas de machinerie capable de générer de l'ATP (énergie) ni de machinerie de synthèse protéique, les virus utilisent celles de la cellule. D'un autre côté, le virus possède des caractéristiques semblables à celles des organismes vivants. Les virus sont capables d'évoluer dans le temps (mutations) et se multiplient. Ces derniers sont composés majoritairement d'acides nucléiques et de protéines. De plus, leur code génétique est identique à celui des organismes cellulaires (Lemay, 2017). Les virus sont de très petites tailles avec des diamètres d'environ 25-300 nm, ils sont donc invisibles au microscope conventionnel. Parmi les infections alimentaires, les virus deviennent de plus en plus reconnus comme étant responsables. Ces derniers sont majoritairement transmis par la voie fécale-orale.

Tableau 1. Tableau des comparaisons des caractéristiques physiques et métaboliques entre les virus, les bactéries et les cellules animales

Caractéristiques	Virus	Bactéries	Cellules animales
Taille	ηm	1-10 μm	10-100 μm
Production d'ATP (énergie)	Non	Oui, dans la membrane plasmique	Oui, dans la mitochondrie
Reproduction	Parasitisme	Scissiparité	Mitose
Synthèse protéique	Non	Polysome (ribosomes + ARNm)	Polysome (ribosomes + ARNm)

Structure	Capside, ADN ou ARN	Paroi, membrane, cytoplasme, chromosomes, ribosomes	Absence de paroi ou de capsidé, membrane plasmique
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1.1.1 Le génome

Il est possible de retrouver l'acide nucléique des virus sous plusieurs structures, formes et compositions différentes. En effet, le génome viral peut être retrouvé sous forme circulaire, linéaire ou même segmenté. Les virus, contrairement aux cellules, peuvent contenir deux types d'acides nucléiques soit ADN ou ARN. Parmi les virus constitués d'un génome d'acide désoxyribonucléique (ADN), on retrouve les virus ADN double brin (groupe I) et les virus ADN simple brin (groupe II). D'autre part, il existe des virus avec un génome d'acide ribonucléique (ARN). Ces derniers sont classifiés comme étant à double brin (groupe III), à simple brin et à polarité positive (groupe IV) et finalement à simple brin et à polarité négative (groupe V) (Cann, 2005).

1.1.2 La capsidé

La capsidé représente une barrière de protection du génome viral. Elle est formée de plusieurs sous-unités protéiques qui englobent l'acide nucléique. Le fait que celle-ci soit forte, flexible et de petite taille implique qu'elle est difficilement brisable par une pression physique. Sa structure est très complexe à cause du faible rendement de production protéique par un seul acide nucléique, ce dernier ne peut que coder que pour une protéine de 15% de son poids à lui-même. Il faudra donc réaliser une capsidé faite de multiples molécules protéiques pour réaliser l'assemblage de ses sous-unités. La capsidé hélicoïdale est la version la plus simple, car elle permet d'entourer de façon circulaire plusieurs protéines de formes différentes. Grâce à la cristallographie, il a été démontré que l'empilement de ces structures induisait une hélice plus tôt qu'un cylindre. La capsidé icosaédrique est une forme solide composée de 20 faces triangulaires arrangées autour du génome de façon sphérique. Il est plus économique pour le virus de préparer un grand nombre de protéines répétées que de préparer moins de protéines mais de plus grandes tailles (Cann, 2005). Avec les années, d'autres morphologies de capsidé ont été trouvées dont les amphores et les quenouilles (Lemay, 2017).

1.1.3 L'enveloppe

Plusieurs virus sont constitués d'une enveloppe à bicouche lipidique avec des protéines. L'enveloppe n'est toutefois pas essentielle au virus (Lemay, 2017). Le cycle lytique viral permet de libérer plus facilement

les virions de leur hôte cellulaire, mais cela amène plusieurs désavantages. Le fait de tuer chaque fois la cellule diminue la possibilité de produire une infection persistante ou latente. De ce fait, certains virus ont évolué afin de se répliquer sans pour autant avoir à détruire la cellule hôte. Ce type de virus ne va pas affecter la membrane de l'hôte pour le laisser vivant. Les virus modifient leur enveloppe lipidique en faisant la synthèse de plusieurs types de protéines : les protéines de la matrice, glycoprotéines externes et protéines du canal de transport. Les protéines de la matrice servent à lier la nucléocapside à l'enveloppe. Elles ne sont généralement pas glycosylées et très abondantes. Les glycoprotéines externes sont accrochées dans l'enveloppe par leur domaine transmembranaire. Elles représentent les antigènes majeurs des virus enveloppés et permettent un contact avec l'environnement. Les protéines du canal de transport contiennent plusieurs domaines transmembranaires hydrophobes qui forment un canal à travers l'enveloppe. Ces protéines sont très utiles pour régulariser l'environnement interne du virus (Cann, 2005). Le FCV ne possède toutefois pas d'enveloppe lipidique.

1.2 Historique des virus

Les premiers écrits concernant les infections virales étaient en hiéroglyphes originaires de Memphis (Égypte ancienne, 3700 AV. J-C) et concernaient un prêtre démontrant des symptômes liés à la poliomyélite. La variole a été endémique en Chine dans les années 1000 AV. J-C, les chinois ont constaté que les sujets ayant auparavant été infectés étaient protégés lors des infections suivantes. Dès lors et pendant des siècles, des pratiques de variolations (inoculation de pus infecté par le virus sur sujet) étaient effectuées sans jamais savoir si cela allait être fatal ou non. Edward Jenner a été le premier à vacciner des sujets avec du pus de vaches contaminé avec la vaccine (variole de la vache) en 1796. Antony van Leeuwenhoek (1632-1723) a construit le premier microscope et a observé des bactéries. Durant la guerre hispano-américaine (1898) et durant la construction du canal du Panama, beaucoup sont morts infectés par le virus de la fièvre jaune. Walter Reed a ensuite démontré en 1900 que la fièvre jaune était transmissible. Frederick Twort (1915) et Félix d'Herelle (1917) ont remarqué que des virus pouvaient aussi infecter des bactéries, ainsi appelés bactériophages (Cann, 2005).

Tableau 2. Tableau des différentes découvertes, inventions et technologies ainsi que leur inventeur (Adapté de Oldstone, 2009)

Date	Découvreur(s), inventeur(s) et développeur(s)	Découvertes, inventions et technologies
400 AV. J-C	Hippocrate	Père de la médecine, observations épidémiologiques
1775	L. Spallanzani	Première croissance bactérienne en culture
1796	E. Jenner	Application de la vaccine (variole)

		des vaches) sur des sujets contre la variole humaine
1835	M. Schleiden, T. Schwann & others	Développement du concept que tous les organismes sont composés de cellules
1857	L. Pasteur and R. Koch	Fondements de la microbiologie
1858	C. Darwin and A. Wallace	Théorie de l'évolution et de la sélection naturelle
1865	G. Mendel	Fondements de la génétique
1868	F. Meischer	Découverte et caractérisation des acides nucléiques
1880s	J. Buist	Découverte des corps élémentaires du virus de la vaccine et de la variole
1883	E. Metchnikoff, J. Bordet, P. Ehrlich	Fondements de l'immunologie
1884	J. Henle, R. Koch, F. Loeffler	Les postulats de Henle-Koch, critères pour relier une cause à un effet
1885	L. Pasteur and E. Roux	Développement d'un vaccin antirabique (rage)
1888	Institut Pasteur	Ouverture de l'Institut Pasteur à Paris
1892	D. Ivanovski	Découverte du virus de la mosaïque du tabac
1898	F. Loeffler and P. Frosch	Découverte du virus causant la maladie pied-main-bouche
1907	P. Ashburn and C. Craig	Découverte du virus de la dengue
1908	V. Ellermann and O. Bang	Découverte du virus de la leucémie aviaire (première découverte de leucémie virale)
1909	K. Landsteiner and E. Popper	Découverte du poliovirus
1910	A. Carrel, H. and M. Maitland, E. Steinhardt, H. Eagle, G. Gey, T. Puck, R. Hamlin, J. Enders, T. Weller, F. Robbins et Autres.	Développement de la méthode de culture cellulaire
1917-1919	F. Twort and F. D'Herelle	Découverte des bactériophages
1947-1955	M. Burnet, A. Gottschalk and E. Klenck	Découverte des récepteurs vitaux
1948	K. Sandford	Culture de cellules animales

1.3 Le cycle de réPLICATION GÉNÉRAL DES VIRUS

1.3.1 Attachement

La réPLICATION virale compte un total de 7 étapes. Peu importe leur hôte spécifique, tous les virus possèdent ce même processus de réPLICATION général. En premier, il y a l'attachement des virus à leur hôte. Lors de l'attachement, il y a une liaison spécifique entre la protéine d'adhésion virale (anti-récepteur) et un récepteur cellulaire. Les molécules qui constituent le récepteur cellulaire peuvent être à la fois protéique

(glycoprotéines) ou glucidique via le résidu carbohydrate présent soit sur les glycoprotéines ou soit sur les glycolipides. Les rhinovirus humains (HRVs) possèdent une fente connue sous le nom de « canyon » sur la surface de chaque face triangulaire de la capsid icosaédrique, formée par les monomères VP1, VP2 et VP3 (Cann, 2005).

1.3.2 Pénétration

L'étape de pénétration est de courte durée après l'attachement du virus à son hôte malgré le fait qu'elle soit énergie-dépendante et qu'elle nécessite une cellule active. Plusieurs mécanismes sont possibles pour la pénétration virale. La première possibilité est la translocation du virus à travers la membrane cytoplasmique. Ce mécanisme n'est toutefois pas encore totalement maîtrisé. La seconde est l'endocytose du virus par des vacuoles intracellulaires. Durant ce processus, il y a formation et internalisation de vésicules. La dernière possibilité est la fusion de l'enveloppe virale avec la membrane cellulaire. Ce procédé est dépendant de la présence de protéines de fusion sur le virus (Cann, 2005).

1.3.3 Décapsidation

Après la pénétration, une étape de décapsidation est initialisée, la capsid virale est alors complètement ou partiellement enlevée. Dans les endosomes, il y aura une modification du pH dû à leur acidification et cela provoquera la décapsidation (Cann, 2005).

1.3.4 RéPLICATION GÉNOMIQUE ET EXPRESSION GÉNIQUE

Dans le cas des virus du groupe I (ADNdb), il existe deux types de réPLICATION. La première est la réPLICATION dépendante de l'hôte cellulaire et se déroule entièrement dans le noyau en utilisant la machinerie cellulaire. La seconde manière est complètement indépendante de la machinerie cellulaire car le virus a évolué de façon à effectuer sa réPLICATION dans le cytoplasme grâce à sa propre machinerie permettant la transcription ainsi que la réPLICATION du génome viral. Pour les virus du groupe II (ADNsB), la réPLICATION se déroule dans le noyau cellulaire. En effet, à l'aide de l'enzyme ADN polymérase, il y aura préparation d'un intermédiaire à double-brin qui servira de matrice pour la synthèse de l'ADNsB. Ensuite, pour les virus du groupe III (ARNdb) qui possèdent un génome segmenté se font transcrire séparément afin de produire des ARNm monocistroniques. Dans le cas des virus du groupe IV (ARNsb+), il existe deux sous-groupes de réPLICATION génomique. Le premier implique des virus possédant des ARNm polycistroniques qui sont traduits en une poly-protéine qui est ensuite clivée par une protéase pour former des protéines matures. Le deuxième sous-groupe possède une transcription plus ardue, avec deux séances de traduction ou en utilisant des ARNs sous génomiques. Pour les virus du groupe V (ARNsb-), on y compte les virus non segmentés qui sont en premier transcrits par une ARN polymérase ARN-dépendante

pour produire un ARNm monocistronique qui servira de matrice pour la prochaine réPLICATION. Parmi les virus segmentés (*Orthomyxoviridae*), la réPLICATION se déroule dans le noyau de la cellule, avec plusieurs ARNm monocistroniques pour chaque gènes viraux produits par la transcriptase virale à partir du génome viral (Cann, 2005).

1.3.5 Assemblage

L'assemblage permet de produire un virion mature qui sera prêt à quitter la cellule. Le site d'assemblage varie en fonction du site de réPLICATION, il peut être situé dans le cytoplasme ou bien dans le noyau directement. Le déclenchement de cette étape est initié par une hausse de quantité de protéines virales intracellulaires ainsi que de génomes viraux qui atteindront une concentration critique. L'encapsidation du génome viral peut se produire très rapidement durant l'assemblage ou très lentement quand le génome est entouré dans une coque protéique presque complétée (Cann, 2005).

1.3.6 Maturation

L'étape de maturation implique des changements de structure ou de conformation dans la particule virale la rendant ainsi infectieuse. On observera des clivages protéiques par des protéases afin de former un ensemble mature. On observera aussi des condensations des nucléoprotéines du génome viral. Pour certains virus, l'assemblage et la maturation se déroulent ensemble et dans la cellule. Pour d'autres, la maturation arrive après la libération de la particule virale (Cann, 2005).

1.3.7 Relâche du virus

Dans le cas des virus lytiques (surtout pour les virus non enveloppés), la cellule va lyser et relâcher les particules virales. Il en reste une production virale au détriment de la survie cellulaire. Pour les virus enveloppés, ils acquièrent leur membrane lipidique au fur et à mesure qu'ils sortent de la membrane cellulaire ou par l'intermédiaire d'une vésicule intracellulaire. Les protéines virales du virion sont ensuite accrochées à la surface du virus durant son excision. On appelle ce phénomène le « bourgeonnement » (Cann, 2005).

1.4 Le cycle de réPLICATION spécifique des calicivirus

Les principales maladies humaines et animales des virus de la famille des caliciviridaes sont les gastroentérites (Norwalk) et la calicivirose féline, maladie respiratoire chez le chat. La voie de transmission de la gastroentérite humaine est majoritairement par la voie fécale-orale tandis que celle de la calicivirose féline est par la salive, les excréptions du nez et des yeux, l'urine et les excréments. Il s'agit du

plus simple cycle de reproduction virale, par ARNsb+. La première étape est la reconnaissance récepteur et anti-récepteur, l'entrée du virus et ensuite la décapsidation. Dès lors, l'ARN génomique à polarité positive est lu par les ribosomes cellulaires et se fait traduire en protéine polycistronique (Figure 1). Cette dernière se fera cliver par des protéases pour générer plusieurs petites protéines. Ensuite, un brin complémentaire à polarité négative sera formé grâce à l'ARN polymérase-ARN dépendante, ou répliqueuse. Ce brin servira de matrice pour générer plusieurs copies du génome à polarité positive. Ce génome sera par la suite encapsidé par les protéines de structures de la capside virale générées auparavant.

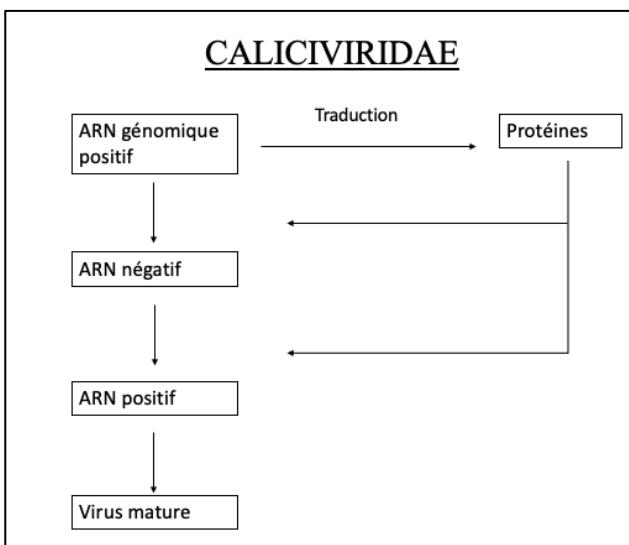


Figure 1. Représentation schématique de la réplication virale d'un virus de la famille des *caliciviridae*

Les virus de la famille des *Caliciviridae* font partie du genre *Calicivirus*. Les virions possèdent un diamètre compris entre 30-38 nm avec 32 surfaces arrangeées en symétrie icosaédrique. Ils sont aussi composés de 180 protéines associées en dimère. La taille du génome de ce virus est de 7.4-7.7 kb en taille. Les virions sont aussi résistants à l'éther, au chloroforme et aux détergents. Dans le genre *Calicivirus* humain, on retrouve aussi les virus Southampton, Snow Mountain, Hawaii et Taunton. Dans le genre *Calicivirus* animal, on trouve le *Calicivirus félin* (FCV), le virus de l'exanthème vésiculaire du porc et la maladie hémorragique virale du lapin (Fields *et al.*, 1996).

1.5 Gastroentérite, pertes économiques associées et analogues du NoV

Parmi les virus entériques humains, on compte les familles suivantes : *Adenoviridae*, *Astroviridae*, *Caliciviridae*, *Parvoviridae*, *Picornaviridae*, *Reoviridae*, *Coronaviridae* et *Hepeviridae* (Adams *et al.*, 2015). Ces virus sont présents en grande quantité dans les diarrhées (jusqu'à 10^8 - 10^{10} /g). Les rotavirus, calicivirus et astrovirus sont les agents majoritairement responsables. Ils ont commencé à être appelé « *Norwalk-Like agents* » après une élosion de gastroentérite dans une école en Ohio, à Norwalk, en 1968.

Tandis qu'au Royaume-Uni, on les nommait « petits virus ronds » (SRSV). Maintenant, ils sont dans la famille des *Caliciviridae*, du genre NoV. Les génogroupes I, II (95 % des cas) et IV sont plus particulièrement des virus entériques humains. Le temps d'incubation (temps avant l'apparition des symptômes) est de 15-50 heures et ensuite des diarrhées suivies de vomissements persistent en moyenne 24-48 heures. La transmission est faite par voie fécale-orale, incluant la transmission directe de personne-à-personne et la consommation d'eaux ou d'aliments contaminés puis aussi le contact avec des surfaces contaminées. Aux États-Unis, les NoV sont les plus grands responsables des maladies alimentaires et causent plus de 40 à 50 % de toutes les toxi-infections alimentaires (Adams *et al.*, 2015). Chaque année, il se produit environ 19-21 millions de cas de NoV, 400 000 urgences, 56 000-71 000 hospitalisations, 570-800 morts, résultant en une perte économique de plus de 777\$ millions USD en coûts de santé aux États-Unis (Hall *et al.*, 2014).

Le NoV et le FCV sont dans la même famille de virus mais possèdent des différences dans leurs propriétés biochimiques (Cannon *et al.*, 2006). Les infections causées par le MNV chez les souris impliquent des symptômes différents que le NoV chez l'humain avec la gastroentérite, mais le MNV reste tout de même un meilleur analogue que le FCV de par sa similarité avec le NoV (Arthur and Gibson, 2015). De plus, le FCV est un analogue moins robuste pour ce qui en est de l'aspect de résistance à l'environnement que le MNV pour le NoV (Cannon *et al.*, 2006). En général, le FCV est plus sensible aux traitements que le MNV ou le virus Tulane (TuV), le TuV cause des fièvres et des diarrhées chez les macaques rhésus (Esseili *et al.*, 2015). Par exemple, le FCV a été démontré comme sensible à un traitement avec du chlore à 200 ppm lorsqu'il était séché sur des surfaces en acier inoxydable alors que le MNV et le TuV sont tous deux demeurés insensibles (Cromeans *et al.*, 2014). Il est possible de déterminer le titre viral entre autres par TCID₅₀, mais aussi par « *plaque assay* ». La méthode « *plaque assay* » est quantitative et possède l'avantage de produire un événement comptable (Darling *et al.*, 1998). La mesure du titre viral est déterminée par le nombre de plaque formée divisée par le volume de l'échantillon original testé. La méthode TCID₅₀ est quantitative aussi et est privilégiée lorsque le virus ne peut pas produire de plaques, mais qu'il produit des effets cytopathogènes (CPE) sur les cellules infectées et les trous seront déterminés comme étant positifs ou négatifs en fonction de la présence d'infection (Darling *et al.*, 1998). Il est important d'avoir plusieurs réplicats afin de donner de la précision au résultat (Darling *et al.*, 1998). Il est aussi connu que la méthode « *plaque assay* » est plus sensible que la mesure réalisée avec la méthode TCID₅₀ (ATCC, 2014). Une recherche récente a été effectuée sur le MNV et le TuV en utilisant la méthode de « *plaque assay* » pour déterminer le titre viral. Les auteurs ont émis l'hypothèse que comparativement au TuV, le MNV est un meilleur analogue pour le NoV car il est capable de résister à des gammes de pH plus étendues, à du chlore à 2 ppm et à une température de 4 °C durant plus de 30 jours (Hirneisen and Kniel, 2013). Le FCV reste un choix optimal en termes d'efficacité d'infection cellulaire et

d'apparition de CPE, cela prend seulement 1.5 jour pour observer ces effets avec le FCV. Pour les autres virus comme le MNV et la TuV, 2 et 2.5 jours sont nécessaires avant d'observer les CPE (Esseili *et al.*, 2015).

1.6 Contamination des aliments frais par des agents infectieux

Les aliments frais sont très propices à des contaminations par des bactéries, parasites ou virus comme le NoV parce qu'ils ne sont pas cuits et peuvent être contaminés avant ou après la cueillette (Berger *et al.*, 2010 ; Herwaldt *et al.*, 1994). De plus, ils ne sont que très peu ou pas transformés donc sont plus propices aux contaminations (Predmore and Li, 2011). Selon des données, les fruits et légumes frais sont les véhicules majeurs d'infections alimentaires (Heaton *et al.*, 2008). Le NoV serait responsable de 40 % des toxi-infections alimentaires causées par la consommation d'aliments frais entre 1998 et 2005 aux États-Unis (Doyle *et al.*, 2008). Ces éclosions se déroulent majoritairement après contamination des laitues, des fraises, des melons ou des framboises car ils sont tous difficiles à laver à cause de leurs petites cavités (Butot *et al.*, 2009). Plusieurs maladies alimentaires virales associées avec des aliments frais sont causées par des virus entériques tels que le NoV, l'hépatite A (HAV), l'hépatite E (HEV), le rotavirus (RV) et les astrovirus (AstV) (Terio *et al.*, 2017). Actuellement, les moyens pour décontaminer les fruits et légumes frais sont majoritairement l'acide peracétique et l'hypochlorite de sodium, connu sous le nom d'eau de javel. Par contre, plusieurs inconvénients sont notés avec l'eau de javel, dont l'irritation de la peau et du tractus respiratoire. Il y aurait aussi des composés cancérogènes, mutagènes, tératogènes ou toxiques associés à l'eau de javel (Alvaro *et al.*, 2009). Il serait donc intéressant de trouver des alternatives plus propres et qui n'utilisent pas de produits chimiques.

1.7 Les traitements antiviraux utilisés et objectifs

1.7.1 L'irradiation

Les rayons γ interagissent avec les acides nucléiques du virus via la production de radicaux libres. Ces derniers peuvent engendrer des brisures simples-brins, doubles-brins et des dégradations de nucléotides (Feng *et al.*, 2011). La formation de radicaux libres (stress oxydatif) se produit quand une molécule de O_2 se divise en deux pour former des atomes O seuls avec des électrons libres qui seront hautement instables et réactifs. Une réaction en chaîne se produit alors car les radicaux libres vont aller tirer des électrons à d'autres molécules et ainsi les rendre en radicaux libres à leur tour. Les dommages causés sont généralement faits sur les protéines, les lipides et les acides nucléiques (Wolff *et al.*, 1986). Le développement de maladies dû aux radicaux libres peut se faire et ainsi causer l'Alzheimer, la maladie de Parkinson et des maladies cardiovasculaires (Götz *et al.*, 1994). Dans le cas du MNV-1, plus la dose

d'irradiation- γ utilisée contre ce virus est élevée et plus l'expression de la protéine majeure de la capsidé (VP1) est altérée, mais seule cette protéine structurale a été étudier avec SDS-PAGE dans le cas du MNV-1 (Feng *et al.*, 2011) donc il aurait été intéressant d'en étudier d'avantages. L'irradiation- γ a dégradé une majeure partie des protéines VP1, mais il en restait 50% et 30% après une irradiation à 2.8 et 5.6 kGy, respectivement, démontrant ainsi une résistance du MNV-1. De plus, l'irradiation peut briser des liens covalents et non-covalents essentiels pour la structure protéique. Feng *et al.* (2011) a démontré une diminution de 1.7 à 2.4 log PFU/ mL sur des produits frais inoculés avec le virus MNV-1 (tous traités à 5.6 kGy). Le VSV est plus susceptible par l'irradiation que le MNV-1 car une réduction de 3.3 log PFU/ mL a été observée avec ce même traitement. Les auteurs ont attribué ces résultats à la taille du génome en expliquant qu'il existerait une relation inverse entre la dose d'inactivation et la taille du génome viral, en effet le MNV-1 a une taille de 7.4 kb et le VSV de 11 kb, cela expliquerait la sensibilité face aux rayons- γ (Feng *et al.*, 2011). Les auteurs ont aussi ajouté que la taille de la particule virale pourrait aussi influencer la sensibilité à l'irradiation- γ , parce que les particules plus grosses seraient plus propices à être frappé par les rayons γ à cause de leur grande surface.

1.7.2 L'ozonation

L'ozone (O_3) est générée grâce à une grande source d'énergie qui va venir rompre les liens entre de l' O_2 , ensuite l'atome d'oxygène (O) seul va aller se lier à une molécule d' O_2 pour ensuite former de l' O_3 (Simek and Clupek, 2002). C'est un procédé plus propre et plus efficace que la chlorination car le seul résidu est de l' O_2 . C'est un procédé non thermique et non chimique pouvant être appliqué en état aqueux ou gazeux. L'utilisation de l' O_3 permet de stériliser les surfaces à décontaminer et de former de la glace à partir d'eau (Guzel-Seydim *et al.*, 2004; Kim *et al.*, 2003). L' O_3 est un fort agent oxydant, ce dernier élément cause des dommages à la capsidé virale et empêche la reproduction virale en empêchant le contact cellulaire (Elvis and Ekta, 2011). Il a été démontré que les virus non enveloppés (comme le NoV) sont plus sensibles à l' O_3 que les virus enveloppés parce qu'ils ont accès aux acides nucléiques plus facilement. Les cellules contiennent des enzymes à leur surface et sont susceptibles à une infection virale (Elvis and Ekta, 2011). Par la suite, une oxydation des composants se déroulera, ce qui mènera à la destruction des cellules infectées et donc au remplacement par des cellules en santé. La réactivité de l' O_3 est causée par l'oxydation, la peroxydation et la génération de radicaux libres, par la suite cela causera une inactivation enzymatique qui mènera à la génération de lésions et donc de morts cellulaires (Elvis and Ekta, 2011). Hirneisen (2011) a étudié l' O_3 dans l'eau à une concentration de 6.25 ppm durant des temps d'exposition de 0.5, 1, 5 et 10 minutes contre le MNV-1 et le FCV-F9 sur des oignons verts et des laitues. Une inactivation plus grande des virus a été observée plus le temps d'exposition au traitement augmentait. Pour ce qui est du FCV, une réduction de 3.08 log TCID₅₀/g a été observée après 10 minutes de traitement sur

la laitue et une réduction de 2.02 log TCID₅₀/g a été observée sur des oignons verts. Les auteurs ont attribué cette différence de réduction virale à la composition organique des oignons verts et de la laitue car l'O₃ réagit avec les composés organiques complexes des aliments en raison de son potentiel d'oxydation élevé (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011). Predmore (2015) a étudié les effets de l'ozone 6 % (w/w O₃) dans de l'O₂ durant 0, 10, 20, 30 et 40 minutes. Après 40 minutes, une diminution de 3.3 log PFU/g de MNV-1 a été observée sur des fraises, mais il y avait toujours présence de 2.5 log PFU/g, indiquant ainsi une petite présence de virus sur la laitue même après les traitements.

1.7.3 L'utilisation de jus de canneberge

Le jus de canneberge commercial (JC) est constitué de sucre, d'eau, de sirop de maïs, de JC concentré et d'acide citrique, quinique, malique et ascorbique (Ehling and Cole, 2011). Le mécanisme d'action du JC contre les virus alimentaires est encore méconnu mais est pour l'instant attribué aux altérations de la capsid virale ainsi que l'acide nucléique. L'inactivation de virus non enveloppés (comme le NoV) est due à la dénaturation de protéines de la capsid à la surface du virus et cela est causé par l'acidité des acides organiques trouvés dans le jus de canneberges (Cao, 2013). Su *et al.* (2010) a testé les effets du JC contre le MNV-1, le FCV-F9, le bactériophage MS2 (ssRNA) et le bactériophage φ X-174 (ssDNA) à des temps d'exposition variant de 0 à 60 minutes. Le virus FCV-F9 est celui dont le titre viral a diminué le plus en quantité et ce, le plus rapidement. Une diminution de 5 log₁₀ PFU/mL a été observée après 30 minutes de traitement avec le JC. Su *et al.* (2010) a aussi étudié les effets des proanthocyanidines de canneberges contre ces virus. Les CJ-PAC (0.15 mg/mL and 0.30 mg/mL) ont immédiatement abaissé le titre viral du FCV-F9 jusqu'au seuil de détection limite. Les canneberges contiennent des quantités importantes de flavonoïdes et de composés polyphénoliques qui procurent des bienfaits sur la santé. Les canneberges ont des effets antioxydants et antimicrobiens contre *Helicobacter pylori*, *Salmonella* et *Escherichia coli*. Le rôle des antioxydants est de neutraliser les dommages causés par les radicaux libres en se faisant tirer un électron par les radicaux libres au lieu qu'ils s'attaquent à nos cellules (Biswas *et al.*, 2013 ; Côté *et al.*, 2011).

1.7.4 Objectifs et hypothèses

La surface de la laitue iceberg est favorable à être contaminée par des pathogènes comme le Norovirus (NoV). Celui-ci est habituellement éliminé par la chaleur créant ainsi un défi sur les produits frais. L'irradiation-γ demeure une technologie intéressante, mais les virus en sont résistants. Le but de ce projet était de mettre au point une méthode de traitements combinés afin d'augmenter la radiosensibilité du FCV-F9 pour ensuite réduire la dose d'irradiation nécessaire pour les éliminer. Ce projet consistait à évaluer les effets d'extraits naturels et ceux de l'O₃ combinés à l'irradiation-γ sur la radiosensibilisation

virale. Un test *in-situ* a aussi été réalisé afin de voir l'efficacité du traitement sur les propriétés physico-chimiques et la qualité microbienne de la salade durant le stockage à 4 °C.

Les objectifs étaient :

- 1) évaluer les effets d'extraits naturels sur l'élimination virale,
- 2) déterminer les effets de l' O_3 sur le virus et établir la concentration optimale,
- 3) déterminer la D_{10} (kGy) en absence et en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels et la radiosensibilisation en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels,
- 4) évaluer *in-situ* les traitements combinés sur l'élimination virale, bactérienne et sur les propriétés physico-chimiques.

L'hypothèse de recherche est donc que l'utilisation de l'irradiation en combinaison de traitements permettra une meilleure radiosensibilisation virale et permettra donc l'élimination du FCV sur la laitue iceberg.

1.8 Résultats observés

Dans le chapitre 2 intitulé : Revue de littérature, l'article « Norovirus elimination on the Surface of Fresh Foods » aborde les différents traitements actuels utilisés contre le FCV-F9. Parmi les nombreux traitements, on compte l'utilisation de composés chimiques synthétiques comme le chlore et le dioxyde de chlore. On compte aussi l'utilisation de composés naturels comme les extraits de plante (carvacrol) et les extraits de fruits (CJ). Parmi les traitements non-thermiques, on compte la fermentation, l'ozonation, l'utilisation de High Pressure Homogenizer (HPH) et l'utilisation de rayons UV. Le dernier thème abordé dans la revue de littérature est l'utilisation de traitements combinés, principal sujet de ce mémoire. L'objectif de cet article était de visualiser les traitements actuellement utilisés dans le marché des aliments frais afin de trouver des combinaisons possibles avec l'irradiation- γ .

1.8.1 *In-vitro*

Le chapitre 3 aborde l'élimination virale du FCV-F9 de façon *in-vitro* et s'intitule : « Radiosensitivity increase of FCV-F9 virus using combined treatments with natural antimicrobials and γ -irradiation ». L'objectif de ce papier était de sélectionner des concentrations optimales de BS et de CJ ainsi que la dose d'irradiation optimale contre le FCV-F9 en mesurant leur D_{10} respective. Par la suite, l'hypothèse de recherche était que les combinaisons des extraits naturels avec l'irradiation- γ permettrait de diminuer la dose d'irradiation requise pour éliminer le virus FCV-F9 *in-vitro*. Le jus de canneberge et l'extrait de citron (Biosecur F420B) ont tous deux été utilisés à différentes concentrations contre le virus FCV-F9 de façon *in-vitro* dans des microtubes contenant la suspension virale, le traitement antiviral ainsi que du DPBS (**Objectif 1**). Le JC contient principalement des acides quiniques, maliques et citriques alors que

l'extrait de citron contient des acides citriques, ascorbiques et lactiques. Utilisés seuls, ils ont démontré que plus leur concentration augmentait et plus une diminution importante du titre viral était observée. Pour ce qui est de l'extrait de citron, des concentrations de BS-0.005%, BS-0.01%, BS-0.025%, BS-0.05% et finalement BS-0.1% ont été utilisées seules contre le FCV-F9. La plus grande réduction de 2.04 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée après l'utilisation du BS-0.1%. De plus, une concentration supérieure de BS-0.50% a été testé seule par la suite et a démontré qu'elle abaissait le titre viral au seuil limite de détection instantanément. La D₁₀ a été mesurée en effectuant l'inverse de la pente a =22.02, donc de 0.05 %-BS (**Objectif 3**). Pour ce qui est du JC, la même tendance a été observée, plus la concentration est élevée et plus le titre viral diminue après traitement. Des concentrations de CJ-0.10%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.5%, CJ-0.75% et CJ-1.0% ont été testées seules contre le virus FCV-F9. La plus grande réduction de 2.20 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée après l'utilisation de la plus grande concentration de CJ-1.0%. La D₁₀ a été mesurée en faisant l'inverse de la pente a =2.34, donc de 0.42 %-CJ (**Objectif 3**). Nous pouvons donc conclure que ces deux mélanges qui contiennent majoritairement des acides organiques et des composés phénolés ont un impact antiviral. Il faudra donc combiner des concentrations optimales d'acides organiques avec des doses d'irradiation afin de voir une synergie entre les traitements. Il faudra faire attention de ne pas utiliser des concentrations trop élevées qui abaisseraient le titre viral trop rapidement et qui empêcheraient de voir une synergie avec l'irradiation- γ . L'irradiation γ seule a aussi été testé seule contre le FCV-F9 *in-vitro* et encore une fois, plus la dose d'exposition était élevée et plus le titre viral diminuait rapidement. Le titre initial était de 5.37 log TCID₅₀/mL et après irradiation à 1.25 kGy, une diminution de 1.42 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée (à 3.95 log TCID₅₀/mL). Après irradiation à 3.0 kGy, une diminution de 2.11 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée. La dose optimale pour éliminer presque la totalité du virus était de 3 kGy. Le CJ et le BS ont ensuite été combinés avec l'irradiation à des doses variant entre 0 et 1.5 kGy pour toutes les concentrations sauf pour la BS-0.025% où les doses variaient entre 0 et 2.5 kGy et pour le CJ-0.5% avec des doses entre 0 et 2 kGy. Le BS-0.01% a montré la plus grande radiosensibilisation, de 1.28 par rapport au contrôle avec irradiation seule. Avec cette même concentration, la plus grande réduction était observée à 1.50 kGy avec 2.16 log TCID₅₀/mL de réduction. Par la suite, le BS-0.025% a montré une radiorésistance de 1.65. La plus grande réduction virale avec le BS-0.025% a été observée à 2.5 kGy avec une réduction de 1.42 log TCID₅₀/mL. Ce même phénomène de radiorésistance s'est produit avec le BS-0.1%, avec une radiorésistance de 3.88. La plus petite dose de BS est donc optimale en combinaison avec ces doses d'irradiation. La plus grande réduction avec le BS-0.025% a été observée à 1.5 kGy avec 0.25 log TCID₅₀/mL de réduction virale. Les deux concentrations de CJ : CJ-0.1% et CJ-0.5% ont montré une radiosensibilisation respective de 1.50 et radiorésistance de 1.31. Encore une fois, la concentration la plus faible de traitement a été la plus efficace contre le FCV-F9. La plus grande réduction virale observée après le traitement CJ-0.1% était observée à 1.5 kGy, avec 2.01

log TCID₅₀/mL de réduction. Finalement, pour le CJ-0.5%, la plus grande réduction était observée à 2.0 kGy, avec 1.04 log TCID₅₀/mL de réduction par rapport au titre viral initial. Les extraits naturels comme le JC ont permis de réduire de 8 kGy jusqu'à 5.33 kGy la dose d'irradiation requise afin d'éliminer 6 log TCID₅₀/mL du virus et le BS en combinaison avec l'irradiation a permis de réduire de 8 kGy jusqu'à 6.25 kGy la dose nécessaire pour éliminer 6 log TCID₅₀/mL du virus FCV-F9.

1.8.2 *In-situ*

Le chapitre 4 aborde le traitement de la laitue iceberg infectée en surface avec le FCV-F9 et présente l'article intitulé : « Radiosensitivity of FCV-F9 on Iceberg lettuce surface after combined treatments with γ -irradiation ». Les hypothèses de recherche de ce papier étaient que l'utilisation de l'O₃, du CJ et de l'irradiation- γ permettrait de diminuer la dose d'irradiation requise pour éliminer le virus à la surface de la laitue tout en gardant les qualités physico-chimiques de la laitue durant l'entreposage à 4 °C. L'activité antibactérienne des traitements a aussi été évaluée et l'hypothèse de recherche associée était que la combinaison de traitements permettrait d'abaisser la flore totale microbienne à la surface de la laitue durant l'entreposage à 4 °C. Les 4 objectifs de ce mémoire ont été abordés dans ce chapitre. Les effets du CJ ont été évalués contre le virus sur la laitue (**Objectif 1**), les effets de l'O₃ contre le FCV-F9 ont aussi été évalués (**Objectif 2**), les D₁₀ en absence et en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels et la radiosensibilisation en présence d'antimicrobiens naturels ont été évalués (**Objectif 3**) et dernièrement, les traitements combinés sur l'élimination virale, bactérienne et sur les propriétés physico-chimiques ont été évalués *in-situ* (**Objectif 4**).

Traitement de la laitue iceberg avec O₃, CJ et irradiation sans entreposage à 4 °C

Le modèle alimentaire sélectionné a été la laitue iceberg. En premier, l'irradiation- γ seule a été testée contre le virus FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue iceberg. Les intervalles de doses d'irradiation contre le virus ont été situées entre 0 et 2.5 kGy. Plus la dose d'irradiation était élevée et plus la réduction du titre viral était grande. Le titre viral inoculé à la surface de la laitue était de 6.31 log TCID₅₀/mL. Après des doses d'irradiation de 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 et 2.5 kGy contre le virus sur la laitue, des réductions de 0.07, 0.60, 0.64, 1.75 et 1.89 log TCID₅₀/mL. Une D₁₀ de 1.21 kGy a été observée après l'application de plusieurs doses d'irradiation contre le FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue sans aucun entreposage à 4 °C. Le traitement d'ozonation à une concentration de 5-ppm a été testée durant plusieurs temps d'exposition variant de 0, 2.5, 5.0, 7.5, 10 et 15 minutes (**Objectif 2**). Une régression linéaire a aussi démontré que plus le temps d'exposition était grand et plus la diminution virale sur la laitue iceberg était grande. Le titre viral est passé de 5.54 TCID₅₀/mL initialement jusqu'à 4.99, 4.74, 4.62, 4.57 et 4.41 TCID₅₀/mL pour les temps

ascendants respectifs de traitement à l'ozone. Une D_{10} de 14.93-ppm O₃ a été calculée à partir de la pente de la courbe des titres viraux traités à différents temps d'ozonation. Ces résultats ne sont pas effectués à partir de laitue iceberg entreposée à 4 °C durant plusieurs jours, les analyses étaient faites le jour même. Finalement, plusieurs concentrations de CJ ont été testées seules contre le virus FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue iceberg. Une régression linéaire a été observée suite aux traitements, plus la concentration de CJ augmentait et plus la réduction du titre viral était grande. Le titre viral initial était de 5.70 log TCID₅₀/mL et des réductions de 0.58, 0.71, 0.71, 0.83, 0.85 et 0.90 log TCID₅₀/mL ont respectivement été observées pour des concentrations de CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50%, CJ-0.75%, CJ-1.0% et CJ-1.5%. La D_{10} mesurée était de 2.38 %-CJ à partir de la pente de la courbe des différentes concentrations de CJ contre le FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue iceberg. En combinant le CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50% et CJ-1.5% avec l'irradiation-γ, cela a permis de mesurer les D_{10} des contrôles et des traitements afin de mesurer les radiosensibilisations après les combinaisons de traitements entre le CJ et l'irradiation. Le CJ-0.1% a donné une D_{10} de 0.95 kGy, le CJ-0.25% de 1.33 kGy, le CJ-0.5% de 1.91 kGy et finalement le CJ-1.5% de 2.08 kGy. La meilleure radiosensibilisation a été observée avec le CJ-0.25%, car la D_{10} du contrôle était de 2.00 kGy donc cela a donné une RS de 1.50. De plus, une réduction de 0.98 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée après un traitement de 1.5 kGy en combinaison avec le CJ-0.25%. Les autres radiosensibilisations étaient de 1.2 pour le CJ-0.1%, 1.09 pour CJ-0.5% et finalement 1.00 pour le CJ-1.5%. La tendance de régression linéaire plus la dose d'irradiation augmentait et plus le titre viral diminuait a été observée avec les 4 concentrations de CJ.

Traitement de la laitue iceberg avec O₃, CJ et irradiation avec entreposage à 4 °C

Les laitues iceberg ont été inoculées avec le FCV-F9 à environ 7.77 log TCID₅₀/mL. Ensuite, elles ont été traitées avec : 1) aucun traitement (contrôle), 2) CJ-0.25% seul, 3) O₃ 5-ppm durant 7.5 minutes, 4) irradiation-γ à 1.5 kGy et finalement 5) les trois traitements combinés ensemble. Par la suite, elles ont été mises dans des sacs de type Whirlpak et entreposées à 4 °C durant 10 jours pour les tests de virologie, colorimétrie, chlorophylle et de texture et analysées tous les deux jours pour ces paramètres précédemment énumérés (**Objectif 4**). Les feuilles de laitues ont été entreposées jusqu'à 13 jours pour les comptes totaux bactériens et analysées à tous les trois jours. Finalement, les laitues ont été goûtes par une vingtaine de personne aux jours d'entreposage 0, 3 et 5 après les 3 traitements sélectionnés suivants : 1) contrôle, 2) CJ-0.25% seul et 3) les 3 traitements combinés. Pour ce qui est du titre viral après tous les 5 traitements, une réduction de 1.11 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée pour un contrôle sans traitement après 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C. Après le traitement contenant du CJ-0.25% contre le FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue, une diminution de 1.20 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée au jour 8 d'entreposage et une diminution de 0.57 log TCID₅₀/mL au jour 10. Cela insinue que le pic d'activité antivirale du CJ-0.25% durant

l'entreposage à 4 °C est situé au jour 8, après quoi l'activité antivirale diminue. Après 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C, le titre viral a diminué de 1.49 log TCID₅₀/mL après ozonation de la laitue à 5-ppm durant 7.5 minutes. Après l'irradiation-γ à 1.5 kGy seulement, une réduction de 1.63 log TCID₅₀/mL a été observée 10 jours après l'entreposage. La meilleure réduction durant le stockage a été observée après le traitement combinant les trois traitements durant les 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C, pour une baisse de 2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL (99 %). Lors des analyses de l'impact des traitements contre la flore totale initialement présente à la surface de la laitue iceberg (inoculée à 5.5 log CFU/g), l'entreposage a duré 13 jours et les analyses ont été faites tous les trois jours. Le MAPAQ a posé une norme d'acceptabilité de flore totale mésophile sur les aliments frais à 7 log CFU/g. Le groupe contrôle est passé de 5.53 log CFU/g jusqu'à 8.22 log CFU/g au jour 13. La durée de vie de l'aliment sans aucun traitement était de seulement 7 jours. Après avoir traité la laitue avec le CJ-0.25%, les comptes totaux sont passés de 5.49 log CFU/g à 7.55 log CFU/g après 13 jours de stockage. La durée de vie de l'aliment est passée à 10 jours, gagnant 3 jours de plus que l'absence de traitement. Après avoir traité la laitue avec l'ozone 5-ppm durant 7.5 minutes, les comptes totaux mésophiles sont passés de 5.69 log CFU/g jusqu'à 7.34 log CFU/g. La durée de vie de l'aliment est aussi passée à 10 jours après ozonation. Le groupe d'irradiation-γ à 1.5 kGy seul est resté constant à 2.0 log durant toute la durée du stockage, n'atteignant ainsi jamais la limite du MAPAQ et finalement la combinaison de traitement a laissé les comptes totaux à 0 tout au long de l'expérience, signifiant que c'est le meilleur traitement pour le stockage durant 13 jours de la laitue iceberg. Après 13 jours de stockage, la combinaison de traitement était significativement différente de tous les groupes, l'irradiation aussi, le CJ et l'O₃ ensembles et finalement le contrôle était aussi significativement différent de tous les groupes. Visuellement l'aspect des feuilles de laitue après tous les traitements ne montrait pas de différence majeure. Cependant, l'appareil Konica Minolta a été utilisé afin de mesurer les paramètres L*, a* et b* de colorimétrie. Pour le paramètre de clarté et de noirceur de l'aliment, le paramètre L*, après 10 jours de stockage, tous les traitements ont montré une légère hausse de L*, un éclaircissement de la feuille. En ordre de plus grand L* après 13 jours, le premier étant CJ-0.25%, ensuite la combinaison de traitement, le contrôle, l'irradiation et ensuite l'ozonation. Le paramètre a* donne la valeur de vert après 13 jours de stockage à 4 °C. Le groupe contrôle et CJ-0.25% n'ont pas eu de changement significatif. Les groupes ozone et combinaison ont eu une légère diminution du vert alors que le groupe irradiation seule a eu une diminution significative du vert. Pour ce qui est du paramètre b*, celui-ci indique la différence entre le jaune et le bleu. Toutes les feuilles sont devenues un peu plus jaune après 10 jours de stockage sauf le groupe traité avec de l'irradiation. La chlorophylle a été mesurée aux jours 0, 6 et 10 d'entreposage à 4 °C. Une diminution de ce pigment a été observée linéairement pour les groupes contrôles, ozone et irradiation-γ. L'irradiation-γ a donné une diminution très significative de chlorophylle après l'entreposage à partir du jour 6. Le CJ-0.25% a causé une diminution de la chlorophylle lors des jours 0 et 6

d'entreposage mais au jour 10, une augmentation a été observée significativement différente du jour 6. Finalement, une stabilité de la chlorophylle a été observée pour l'entreposage de la laitue traitée avec la combinaison de traitement. Pour ce qui est de la texture, aucune différence significative n'a été observée après tous les traitements durant tous les 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C sauf au jour 6 où l'O₃ était significativement différent du contrôle. Finalement, l'analyse sensorielle a été effectuée sur une vingtaine de personne et aucune différence en termes de couleur, d'odeur, de goût et de texture n'a été observée aux jours 0, 3 et 5 d'entreposage des laitues traitées avec 1) contrôle, 2) CJ-0.25% seul et 3) trois traitements combinés sauf pour le contrôle qui a eu des notes inférieures au jour 5 en termes de goût et de couleur. Le traitement favori pour tous les paramètres mesurés était le CJ-0.25% seul au 5^{ème} jour d'entreposage à 4 °C.

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Le prochain chapitre intitulé : Revue de littérature abordera les différents traitements appliqués à la surface d'aliments afin d'éliminer le FCV-F9, analogue du NoV chez l'humain. C'est un article qui est soumis au journal : Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition. Le chapitre 1 présentait l'introduction générale de ce mémoire alors que le chapitre 2 est un article qui présente les traitements actuels déjà connus et appliqués sur le marché. Grâce au chapitre 2, nous pourrons sélectionner des traitements qui nous semblent intéressants et les combiner avec l'irradiation- γ afin d'éliminer le FCV-F9 *in-vitro* (**chapitre 3**) et *in-situ* (**chapitre 4**).

Chapitre 2: Revue de littérature

Norovirus elimination on the Surface of Fresh Foods

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Contribution des auteurs

Alexandra Gobeil a réalisé la rédaction de l'article.

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Abstract

Fresh foods like fruits, vegetables and shellfish are potential sources for viral infections such as human norovirus (NoV). Chemical treatment like chlorination is a well-known process for food pathogens and virus elimination. However, with the increase of the consumer demands for less toxic treatments, the use of natural antimicrobials like essential oils from spice or plants, fruit extracts, and cold pasteurisation treatments (fermentation, irradiation, ozonation and high pressure) could be considered. The aim of this review is to discuss these technologies and their efficacy to eliminate NoV on the surface of fresh food.

Keywords: Human Norovirus, Inactivation, Feline calicivirus, Murine Norovirus, Fresh Food and Food surfaces.

Abbreviations

AJ: Apple Juice

B-PACs: Blueberry Proanthocyanidins

Cl: Chlorine

ClO₂: Chlorine Dioxide

COD: Chemical Oxygen Demand

CJ: Cranberry Juice

CJ-PACs: Cranberry Juice Proanthocyanidins

CP: Cranberry Polyphenols

C₂H₄O₃: Peracetic Acid

EOs: Essential oils

FAO: Food Agriculture Organization

FCV or FCV-F9: Feline Calicivirus (Strain F-9)

GSE: Grape Seed Extract

HAV: Hepatitis-A Virus

HCV: Hepatitis-C Virus

HPH: High Hydrostatic Pressure

HPH: High-Pressure Homogenization

HSV-1 and HSV-2: Herpes Simplex Virus

H₂O₂: Hydrogen Peroxide

IAEA: United Nations International Atomic Agency

Kbp: Kilo base pair

LAB: Lactic Acid Bacteria

MNV or MNV-1: Murine Norovirus (Strain 1)

NaClO: Sodium Hypochlorite

NoV: Human Norovirus

O₂: Dioxygen

O₃: Ozone

PACs: Proanthocyanidins

PFU/mL: Plaque-forming unit /mL

PJ: Pomegranate juice

PP: Pomegranate Polyphenols

ssRNA: single-stranded RNA

ssDNA: single-stranded DNA

TCID50/mL: Tissue Culture Infectious Dose 50 / mL

USD: United State Dollars

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

UV: Ultraviolet light

UVTP: TiO₂ photocatalysis

VLPs: NoV virus-like particles

VSV: Vesicular Stomatitis

WHO: World Health Organization

ZSO: *Zanthoxylum schinifolium*

1 Introduction

Human norovirus (NoV) is the leading cause of viral gastroenteritis worldwide. Indeed, the annual costs associated with disease are high and include absences from work, hospitalization or death. In fact, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), food-borne illnesses cost between 10 to 83 billion USD each year (McLinden *et al.*, 2014). NoV is ranked among 5 of the costliest pathogens associated with foodborne infections within the United States of America (Scharff, 2012). Fruits, vegetables and shellfish are highly contaminated by viruses such as NoV (Berger *et al.*, 2010). They are mainly contaminated before and after harvest in the farm. Indeed, even before harvest, fertilizers and water used for irrigation can contaminate foods (Cheong *et al.*, 2009; Mara and Sleigh, 2010; Wei and Kniel, 2010). In addition, it only takes less than 100 infectious particles of NoV to cause the disease (Sair *et al.*, 2002).

NoV is a member of the caliciviridae family, containing a positive-sense single-stranded RNA genome (approximately 7.7 kb in size) enclosed in a non-enveloped capsid (Glass *et al.*, 2009). This type of virus is highly resistant to environmental conditions and antimicrobials in general (Watanabe *et al.*, 1989; Barker *et al.*, 2001). NoVs are enteric viruses that are present in faeces and vomit of infected individuals (Rzeżutka and Cook, 2004). Humans are involuntarily infected during their life with NoVs because of the multiple transmission modes. For example, there is direct transmission from person-to-person with contaminated individuals. Plus, there is also transmission through manipulation of surfaces or objects contaminated by NoV (dishes preparation, utensils, handles) and finally the consumption of contaminated foods with NoV such as potable water (Lopman *et al.*, 2012). The fact that NoV is able to survive on many environmental surfaces for weeks represents a major concern in finding ways to inactive it (Barker *et al.*, 2004).

People who have been exposed to the virus, usually have symptoms from 24 - 48 hours or within the first 12 hours post-consumption (Fretz-Männel *et al.*, 2005). The most common symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps (Ahmed *et al.*, 2014; Patel *et al.*, 2008; Ryu *et al.*, 2015). Currently, it remains impossible to propagate NoV and to distinguish infectious particles. There are no animal models or cell culture possible for NoV detection. However, there are NoV surrogates such as feline calicivirus (FCV) and murine norovirus (MNV) (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011; Lacombe *et al.*, 2017). They represent accurate models since they have the same shape and size as NoV (Wobus *et al.*, 2006). Foods such as lettuce are good representative models for research on NoV because of the multipliable leaves and the many inclusions, making it difficult to adequately wash (Fraisse *et al.*, 2011).

In fact, there has been an evolution of consumer's demand in correlation with food technologies. Since the 80's, consumers have desired mass-produced, ready-to-eat and individual portions (Cayot, 2007). Moreover, there is increasing need to develop safer and healthier food without synthetic additives. There are many different techniques for food decontamination; two of them are ozonation (Khadre *et al.*, 2001; Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011) and irradiation (Lacroix and Vigneault, 2007; Holley, 2014). NoV is highly resistant to chemicals such as alcohol and quaternary ammonium compounds (Donaldson *et al.*, 2008). It is important to notice that nonenveloped viruses such as NoV are resistant to many antimicrobials under various environmental conditions (Gilling *et al.*, 2014B). This contributes into viral spread of NoV during transmission.

The aim of this review is to discuss on the use of natural extracts to eliminate NoV from food surfaces by using essential oils (EOs), natural plant extracts and also various techniques such as fermentation, irradiation, ozonation and high pressure.

2 Anti-viral Treatments

2.1 Synthetic chemical compounds

Currently, industries use a washing process for ready-to-eat fruits and vegetables that includes detergents, followed by a rinsing step with water (Fraise *et al.*, 2011). Detergents have been proven effective for their antimicrobial properties. The inactivation of viral infectivity is mainly due to damage of the viral genome. For example, H₂O₂ is an oxidizing agent and produces hydroxyl free radicals ($\bullet\text{OH}$) that target essential cell components like lipids, proteins and DNA (Fraise *et al.*, 2011). Bleach is probably the most common disinfectant used in food industries, because it acts quickly and efficiently and because of its low cost (Fraise *et al.*, 2011; Seymour and Appleton, 2001). Chlorine Dioxide is known for its antiviral properties such as acting on viral nucleic acids and proteins (Li *et al.*, 2004).

Chlorine (Cl) and Chlorine Dioxide (ClO₂)

Chlorine is an important chemical for treatment of drinking water. It is also found in disinfectants or in detergents and acts as a bleaching agent (Beuchat, 1998). Chlorine Dioxide (ClO₂) and Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) are both oxidizing agents targeting nucleic acids and proteins. For enteric viruses, such as NoV, FCV and MNV, the first target should be the capsid and followed next by the nucleic acid. The gaseous form of these two compounds is more antimicrobial than the aqueous state because of increased diffusibility and the penetration (Montazeri *et al.*, 2017).

Viral FCV suspensions of 20 µL (2.6x10⁶ TCID) were treated with sodium hypochlorite (NaClO) to determine viral sensitivity to this chemical agent (10 µg/mL) (Urakami *et al.*, 2007). The study showed that the sensitivity of viral FCV increased with a reduction in the amount of cellular host debris. They

partially purified the virus from the cellular hosts and demonstrated that FCV infectivity was reduced by more than 4.6 log after a 5 minutes treatment in presence of 300 ng/mL of free chlorine (Urakami *et al.*, 2007). Thurston-Enriquez *et al.* (2003) treated FCV in presence of free-chlorine at a concentration of 0.5 mg/L for 0.25 minutes (pH 6.0 and 5 °C) and observed a 4.3 log reduction of FCV in buffered-demand-free (BDF) water.

Duizer *et al.* (2004) studied the effect of 3000 ppm of NaClO on FCV (2×10^5 TCID₅₀/mL- 1×10^6 TCID₅₀/mL) and obtained a reduction of 5.0 log₁₀ TCID₅₀/mL after 10 minutes of treatment at room temperature. Belliot *et al.* (2008) observed a reduction of 4.0 log₁₀ PFU/mL of MNV-1 after a treatment with NaClO at 36.4 mM for 0.5 minute.

Industrial processes used for ready-to-eat vegetables include a prior washing step with tap water containing a disinfectant such as NaClO followed by a rinsing step. Fraisse *et al.* (2011) demonstrated that a washing step with or without ultrasounds followed by another washing step, in presence of disinfectant such as NaClO during 2 minutes at 15 ppm, caused a decrease of 2.9 log units of an FCV population on the surface of fresh lettuce. However, MNV-1 was shown to be a bit more resistant; a 1.4 log reduction was observed with the same treatment. A simple disinfectant-free wash showed a decrease of 0.7 log for FCV and 1.0 log for MNV-1 (Fraisse *et al.*, 2011).

Chlorine dioxide is a yellow/red gas and represents an oxidized form of chlorine. It is also used as a disinfectant and bleaching agent (Du *et al.*, 2002). Thurston-Enriquez *et al.* (2005) studied the efficiency of ClO₂ against FCV after 0.75 minutes of treatment with ClO₂ at a concentration of 0.90 mg/L at pH 8.0 at a temperature of 5 °C. A reduction of 3.6 log₁₀ most probable number/mL (MPN/mL) was observed. When a concentration of 0.72 mg/L was used for 0.25 minutes of treatment at pH 8 and at a temperature of 15 °C, a reduction of more than 4.15 log₁₀ MPN/mL was observed.

Peracetic acid (C₂H₄O₃) is a biocidal agent and its degradation products (acetic acid and oxygen) are less toxic for the environment (McDonnell and Russell, 1999). The mode of action of this product results in the disruption of chemical bonds that stabilize the cell membrane of microorganisms (Block, 2001). Fraisse *et al.* (2011) demonstrated that a concentration of 100-ppm of C₂H₄O₃ can reduce the level of FCV by 3.2 log and MNV-1 by 2.3 log. Their results also showed that a simple disinfectant-free water wash showed a decrease of 0.7 log for FCV and 1.0 log for MNV-1. The washing of fruits and vegetables with chemicals can incur additional costs. For example, sodium-ortho-phenylphenate-hexamine creates dullness of fruits, which then require wax for polishing (Smith, 1962).

Industries are now moving towards more natural food-processing pathways, and many new options are being considered, notably the use of natural extracts like plants, spice and fruit extracts. These compounds could be used alone or in combination with cold processes like ozonation, irradiation or high pressure. Fermentation is also considered as an efficient process to eliminate the virus.

Table 1. Recapitulative table of the performance of synthetic chemical compounds against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
Free chlorine	300 ng/mL, 5 min	$4.6 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$	Urakami <i>et al.</i> (2007)
Free chlorine	0.5 mg/L, 0.25 min at pH 6 and 5 °C	$4.3 \log_{10} \text{MPN}/\text{mL FCV}$	Thurston-Enriquez <i>et al.</i> (2003)
NaClO	3000 ppm, 10 min at RT	$5 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$	Duizer <i>et al.</i> (2004)
NaClO	36.4 mM for 0.5 min	$4 \log_{10} \text{PFU}/\text{mL MNV-1}$	Belliot <i>et al.</i> (2008)
Washing step (with or without ultrasound) followed by washing with NaClO	2 min at 15 ppm of active chlorine	$2.9 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$ $1.4 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL MNV}$	Fraisse <i>et al.</i> (2011)
ClO₂	0.75 min at 0.90 mg/L at pH 8.0 and at a temperature of 5 °C	$3.6 \log_{10} \text{MPN}/\text{mL FCV}$	Thurston-Enriquez <i>et al.</i> (2005)
ClO₂	0.25 min at 0.72 mg/L at pH 8.0 and at a temperature of 15 °C	$4.15 \log_{10} \text{MPN}/\text{mL FCV}$	Thurston-Enriquez <i>et al.</i> (2005)
C₂H₄O₃	100 ppm	$3.2 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$ $2.3 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL MNV}$	Fraisse <i>et al.</i> (2011)

MPN: most probable number, RT: room temperature

2.2 Natural compounds used to eliminate virus

2.2.1 Plant extracts

Plant extracts are rich in polyphenols. These compounds include amongst others phenolic acids, flavonoids (flavanones, anthocyanidins) and tannins (Shahidi and Ambigaipalan, 2015). Flavonoid is the most important category and is subdivided into six classes: Flavones, Flavanones, Flavonols, Isoflavones, Anthocyanidins and Flavanols (Manach *et al.*, 2004). Flavonoids are widely found in fruits, in vegetables and in red wine. A diet rich in fruits and vegetables is correlated with low incidences of coronary heart disease and cancer (Block *et al.*, 1992). Some phenolic compounds present in fruits and vegetables such as flavonoids (apigenin, myricetin, robinetin), isoflavonoids (biochanin A) and lignans (sesamin) showed protective effects against cancer in animal models (Vercauteren and Chèze, 1998).

Carvacrol is a monoterpenic phenol (Ultee *et al.*, 2000). In fact, carvacrol is a powerful bactericidal, antiviral and anti-infectious compound (Nostro and Papalia, 2012). This compound is found in many spices like oregano, savory and thyme (Alinkina *et al.*, 2013) and has been recognized as a

natural and economic preservative (Lu and Wu, 2010). It was observed by Gilling *et al.* (2014B) that carvacrol can also inhibit murine norovirus (MNV) by acting on the capsid first and subsequently on the viral RNA. Sanchez *et al.* (2015) tested the efficiency of 0.25, 0.50 and 1% carvacrol against FCV, MNV and Hepatitis A in quantities of 6-7 log Tissue Culture Infectious Dose $_{50}/\text{mL}$ (TCID $_{50}$, quantity of pathogen agent that will produce pathological change in 50% of cell culture inoculated) during 2 hours at 37 °C. Carvacrol at a concentration of 0.5% (w/w) completely inactivated the two NoVs surrogates (FCV and MNV) and carvacrol at a concentration of 1.0% completely inactivated HAV. Carvacrol was also tested on lettuce and when added to lettuce rinse, the efficiency of carvacrol against MNV virus was dependent on the chemical oxygen demand (COD), which is an indicative measure of the amount of oxygen that is needed for the oxidation of all organic substances in the solution or the amount of oxygen that can be consumed by reactions in a measured solution. A complete elimination of FCV at a concentration of 6-7 log TCID $_{50}/\text{mL}$ was observed when carvacrol 0.5% (w/w) was added on inoculated lettuce. According to Gilling *et al.* (2014B), the efficiency of carvacrol against MNV-1 can be effective at concentrations < 0.5%. After only 15 minutes, carvacrol (0.25% and 0.5%) decreased the viral titer by 1.03 and 1.28 log $_{10}$ respectively. After 60 minutes of treatment, a decrease of 1.95 log $_{10}$ and 3.87 log $_{10}$ of MNV-1 in presence of carvacrol (0.25% and 0.50%) was respectively obtained.

Antiviral activities of flavones (apigenin, baicalein and luteolin) have been also demonstrated. For example, simultaneous application of apigenin with acyclovir showed antiviral effects against herpes simplex virus types 1 and 2 (HSV-1 and HSV-2), Poliovirus type-2 and hepatitis C virus (HCV) (Zakaryan *et al.*, 2017). A research on flavonoids showed that among all 10 flavonoids tested on FCV and MNV, kaempferol exhibited the most antiviral activity at 200 uM reducing FCV titers by 69.76% (Seo *et al.*, 2016). The efficiency of kaempferol was explained by the structure-activity relationship showing that kaempferol worked as a neuraminidase inhibitor.

Su and D'Souza (2013) studied the mechanism of action of flavonoids on NoV surrogates. They tested four flavonoids: myricetin, L-epicatechin, tangeretin and naringenin for their antiviral properties. Their results showed that in presence of myricetin at a concentration of 0.5 mM and 1 mM, FCV-F9 at an initial viral titer of 5 log $_{10}$ Plaque-forming unit (PFU)/mL, was completely inactivated to undetectable levels after 2 hours of treatment at 37 °C. Tangeretin and naringenin did not reduce the FCV viral titer. The viral titer of FCV-F9 was also decreased by 1.40 log $_{10}$ PFU/mL when treated with L-epicatechin at a concentration of 0.5 mM. The FCV-F9 (viral titer 7 log $_{10}$ PFU/mL) after a treatment with myricetin and L-epicatechin at 0.5 mM concentrations, respectively, was decreased by 3.17 and 0.72 log $_{10}$ PFU/mL and by 1.73 log $_{10}$ PFU/mL with myricetin at a concentration of 0.25 mM (Su and D'Souza, 2013).

Natural extracts can be used under the form of essential oils and are composed of volatile compounds such as terpenes, terpenoids, aldehydes, esters, phenol-derived aromatic components and

aliphatic components (Bakkali *et al.*, 2008; Oh and Chung, 2014). Steam distillation is one of the most popular methods to extract essential oils from plants (Boutekedjiret *et al.*, 2003). EOs have the potential as natural agents to increase shelf life of foods (Burt and Reinders, 2003). There are more than 3000 EOs that are already recognized (Burt, 2004) and over 300 are on the market and usable. EOs are known for their antibacterial properties against many pathogenic bacteria such as *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella*, *Staphylococcus* and *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 (Elizaquivel *et al.*, 2013; Ghabraie *et al.*, 2016). Their actions are mainly on the membrane permeability, which results in a loss of metabolites and enzyme denaturation (Oussalah *et al.*, 2006; Boumail *et al.*, 2016). So far, the antiviral effects of EOs against human enteric viruses are still mainly unknown (Elizaquivel *et al.*, 2013). On the other hand, antiviral effects have been found with *Zanthoxylum schinifolium* (ZSO) essential oil, which contains oleic acids (composition of 35.36%) and linoleic acids (22.6%) as major fatty acids present in ZSO. ZSO at a concentration of 0.01% reduced by 70% the viral titer of FCV-F9. A direct interaction between NoV surrogates and ZSO components has been proposed (Oh and Chung, 2014). Another research group has attempted to understand the antiviral mechanisms of action of several essential oils against HSV. It was shown that the altered viral multiplication step was just before adsorption or during adsorption itself but not during viral penetration of the cell. This indicates that essential oils may be acting by inhibiting components of virus essential for cell adhesion (Reichlig *et al.*, 2009). According to Gilling *et al.* (2014A) some essential oils like Allspice could act on the viral capsid of MNV to affect its integrity causing the viral genome to be exposed and targeted.

Elizaquivel *et al.* (2013) tested three essential oils including *Origanum compactum*, *Eugenia caryophyllus* and *Zataria multiflora* Boiss against NoV surrogates, FCV and MNV. The essential oils were individually mixed with each virus at titers of 7-8 log TCID₅₀/mL and incubated for 2 hours at 4 °C and 37 °C. Results showed that the presence of 2% oregano decreased the FCV titers by more than 3.75 log TCID₅₀/mL at 37 °C. A decrease in viral titers of 1.04, 1.17 and 1.62 log TCID₅₀/mL of MNV at respective concentrations of 0.5%, 1% and 2% of oregano, was observed. Cloves and zataria followed the same trends as oregano, and maximum viral reduction was achieved with 0.1% zataria at 37 °C to eliminate FCV.

Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016) investigated the antiviral effects of cinnamon (1, 2 and 7%), rosemary (1, 1.5, 2 and 2.5%) and zataria (0.01, 0.04, 0.08 and 0.1%) against FCV and MNV. The essential oils were individually mixed with viruses at titers between 7-8 log TCID₅₀/mL and incubated 2 hours at 4 and 37 °C. In samples incubated at 37 °C, cinnamon at a concentration of 3% reduced the FCV titer by 2.38 log TCID₅₀/mL. A concentration of 2.5% rosemary reduced the titer by 3.38 log TCID₅₀/mL and finally, a concentration of 0.1% of zataria reduced the FCV titer by 4.51 log TCID₅₀/mL. For MNV, results showed a reduction of 0.25 log TCID₅₀/mL when treated with zataria 0.1% and a reduction of 1.44

$\log \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL}$ in presence of rosemary (2.5%) at 37 °C (Azizkhani and Tooryan, 2016).

2.2.2 Fruit extracts

Fruit extracts are rich in polyphenols (Block *et al.*, 1992). Polyphenols from cranberries are known for their antioxidant (Côté *et al.*, 2011A; Heinonen, 2007), antibacterial (Côté *et al.*, 2011C), anti-inflammatory (Vorsa *et al.*, 2007), anti-mutagenic (Dixon *et al.*, 2005), anti-viral (Scalbert, 1991) and pharmacological properties (Wu *et al.*, 2009). These phytochemical compounds include flavanols and cinnamic acid derivatives like gallic acid. Gallic acid is a phenolic acid that is present in flavonoids (Scalbert, 1991). Tannins are distributed in two groups: proanthocyanidins and hydrolysable tannins (Scalbert, 1991). In fact, tannic acid was found to have more antiviral activity against poliovirus than gallic acid (Konowalchuk and Speirs, 1976). Many plant compounds (simple or complexed) can inactivate enteric viruses (Gilling *et al.*, 2014A). In addition, many organic acids are found in fruit extracts such as malic acid and citric acid that were detected as main organic acids in commercial pomegranate juice (Tezcan *et al.*, 2009). Organic acids have been used to inactivate NoV surrogates and its mechanism of action is not completely understood but can be attributed to alterations of the virus capsid and the nucleic acid (Cao, 2013). It was suggested that the inactivation of non-enveloped viruses (such as NoV) is due to the denaturation of capsid proteins due to acidity of organic acids (Cao, 2013). According to Lipson *et al.* (2010), the anti-viral mechanism of action of cranberry polyphenols or polyphenols originating from cranberries (CP) acts by inhibiting viral penetration in cells. Joshi *et al.* (2016) showed that lingonberry proanthocyanidins (PACs) affect viral penetration and PAC from an African resurrection plant inhibits viral attachment and penetration.

Su *et al.* (2010) tested the effects of cranberry juice (CJ) on MNV-1, FCV-F9, bacteriophage MS2 (ssRNA) and bacteriophage φ X-174 (ssDNA) at exposure times ranging from 0 to 60 minutes at room temperature. Among all these surrogates of food viruses, FCV-F9 was the viral titer that displayed the most rapid and abundant decrease. They observed a $5 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL}$ reduction after 30 minutes of treatment with CJ (pH 2.7 and 7.0). The total reduction in titer for MNV-1 was 1.90 and $1.66 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL}$ after 1 hour of treatment with CJ at pH 2.6 and CJ at pH 7.0, respectively (Su *et al.*, 2010). Similar results were observed by Côté *et al.* (2011B) where cranberry juice containing water-soluble phenolic compounds inhibited pathogens like *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Su *et al.* (2010) tested the effect of cranberry proanthocyanidins (PAC) on MNV-1, FCV-F9, bacteriophage MS2 (ssRNA) and bacteriophage φ X-174 (ssDNA) at exposure times ranging from 0 to 60 minutes at room temperature. CJ-PAC at both 0.15 mg/mL and 0.30 mg/mL (CJ-PAC concentration) decreased the FCV-F9 titer to an undetectable level immediately. For MNV-1, a reduction of 2.24 and $2.94 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL}$ at 0.15 mg/mL and 0.20 mg/mL concentration of CJ-PAC was observed respectively,

after one hour of treatment. Blueberry proanthocyanidins (B-PACs) were also shown to be able to decrease viral titers of NoV surrogates (Joshi *et al.*, 2017). The authors assessed the benefits of B-PAC in apple juice (AJ) and in 2% reduced fat milk in simulated gastrointestinal fluids infected with FCV-F9 and MNV-1 and treated at 37 °C for 24 hours. The viruses were inactivated after 15 minutes in AJ at pH 3.6 in the presence of 1, 2 or 5 mg/mL B-PAC. In contrast, B-PAC did not display much virucidal activity in 2% partly-skim milk. In milk, FCV-F9 was reduced by only 0.4 log PFU/mL in presence of 2 mg/mL B-PACs and by 1.09 log PFU/mL in presence of 5 mg/mL of B-PACs after 24 hours. MNV-1 was reduced by 0.81 log PFU/mL in presence of 5 mg/mL of B-PACs after 24 hours. This loss of the antiviral properties against MNV-1 was associated with the presence of carbohydrates, lipids and proteins in the milk matrix and then induced loss of effectiveness.

Antiviral effects of pomegranate polyphenols (PP) were evaluated in presence of 2 mg/mL and 4 mg/mL of PP against FCV-F9, MNV-1 and bacteriophage MS2 at room temperature for up to 1 hour (Su *et al.*, 2011A). Each virus ($5 \log_{10}$ PFU / mL) was mixed with an equivalent volume of PP at 4 or 8 mg/mL and incubated for 0, 10, 20, 30, 45 and 60 minutes at room temperature. A decrease of 4.02, 0.68 and 0.18 \log_{10} PFU/mL for FCV-F9, MNV-1 and MS2, was respectively observed after 20 minutes exposure in the presence of 2 mg/mL of PP (Su *et al.*, 2011A). A concentration of 4 mg/mL PP resulted in a decrease of 5.09, 1.14 and 0.19 \log_{10} PFU/mL for FCV-F9, MNV-1 and MS2, respectively after 20 minutes of treatment.

Polyphenolic compounds represent the most studied group of plant phenolics. Pomegranate juice (PJ) contains mainly anthocyanins and anthoxanthins (Aviram and Rosenblat, 2012). Among the most anti-NoV plant polyphenols, anthocyanins, proanthocyanins and catechins are the most characterized. In fact, anthocyanin's glycoside may inhibit MNV-1 during internalization or during an early replication step (Ryu *et al.*, 2015) and anthoxanthins can act as antioxidants (Pate *et al.*, 2017). Su *et al.* (2011A) tested the antiviral effects of PJ at pH 7 against FCV-F9, MNV-1 and bacteriophage MS2 at room temperature for up to 1 hour. Each virus ($5 \log_{10}$ Plaque-Forming Unit / mL, PFU/mL) was mixed with equivalent volumes of PJ and incubated for 0, 10, 20, 30, 45 and 60 minutes at room temperature. In all cases of viral surrogates, viral titers were reduced by more than 50% during only the first 20 minutes post-treatment. A decrease of 3.12, 0.79 and 0.23 \log_{10} PFU/mL in only 20 minutes of exposure with PJ for FCV-F9, MNV-1 and MS2 was observed, respectively.

Subsequently, Su *et al.* (2011B) attempted to evaluate the efficiency of grape seed extract (GSE) against hepatitis A virus (HAV) and against surrogates of NoV (FCV-9, MS2 and MNV-1). High titers and low titers of virus inoculated at $7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL (plaque-forming unit/mL) and $5 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL titer were used, respectively. Equal part of viruses ($7 \log_{10}$ or $5 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL) and GSE were mixed at different concentrations (0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL) of GSE and incubated for 2 hours at room temperature. For

FCV-F9 at high titers, reductions of 3.64, 4.10 and 4.61 \log_{10} PFU/mL in presence of three respective concentrations (0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL) was obtained. For the high titer of MNV-1 ($7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL), in presence of the three respective concentrations (0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL), a reduction of 0.82, 1.35 and 1.73 \log_{10} PFU/mL was attained, respectively. MS2 phage, at high titer ($7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL) was reduced by 1.13, 1.43 and 1.60 \log_{10} PFU/mL as the concentration of GSE increased from 0.5 to 1 and 2 mg/mL, respectively (Su *et al.*, 2011B). For HAV at high titer ($7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL), the reductions were 1.81, 2.66 and 3.20 \log_{10} PFU/mL in presence of 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL of GSE, respectively. At low titer ($5 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL), FCV-F9 was always reduced by 4.98 \log_{10} PFU/mL (Su *et al.*, 2011B).

- **Spice and herbal extracts**

Herbal extracts contain antimicrobial components such as terpenoids, alkaloids and phenolic compounds that are capable of interacting with enzymes or proteins (Mostafa *et al.*, 2018). The antiviral mechanism of herbal extracts (ex: thiophenes, polysaccharides, polyacetylenes and furyl compounds) is due to the inhibition of viral enzymes, viral replication and protein synthesis (Seo *et al.*, 2017). It has been shown that combining herbal extracts with other conditions such as low pH, storage temperature, irradiation, bacteriocins or organic acids causes synergistic antimicrobial activities (Perumalla and Hettiarachchy, 2011).

Aboubakr *et al.* (2016) tested aqueous extracts of flower of clove, fenugreek seeds, garlic and onion bulbs, ginger rhizomes, and jalapeno peppers against FCV. Results showed that non-diluted clove and ginger extracts inactivated $6.0 \log$ TCID₅₀ (tissue culture infectious dose 50) and $2.7 \log$ TCID₅₀, respectively of the initial viral titer. Eugenol, a phenylpropene (29.5%), was the major component of clove extract and R- (-)-1,2-propanediol (10.7%) was the major component of ginger extract. Eugenol tested alone showed antiviral activities. These findings confirmed that eugenol is the component most likely responsible for viral elimination in cloves.

Extracts of *Camellia sinensis* and *Ficus carica* have also been evaluated. A significant inhibition of FCV ($\sim 7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL) and MNV ($\sim 7 \log_{10}$ PFU/mL) by 87% and 49% was observed in presence of these respective extracts (Seo and Choi, 2017). In addition, FCV showed 53% inhibition by *Pleuropterus multiflorus* extracts (20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) and 50% with *Alnus japonica* extracts (20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) (Seo and Choi, 2017). MNV was also inhibited by more than 92% in the presence of 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ of *Inonotus obliquus* extracts and 58% in presence of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ of *Crataegus pinnatifida* extracts. In addition, 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ of *Coriandrum sativum* extracts reduced MNV titer by about 45% (Seo and Choi, 2017). They attributed the antiviral mechanism of action of bioactive substances to the anti-adhesion of virus on cells, direct virucidal action or immune enhancement (Seo and Choi, 2017).

Table 2. Recapitulative table of the performance of natural compounds against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
Carvacrol	0.50% for 2h at 37 °C	Complete inactivation of 6-7 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV and MNV	Sanchez <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Carvacrol	1.0% for 2h at 37 °C	Complete inactivation of 6-7 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL HAV	Sanchez <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Carvacrol	0.50%, on lettuce	Complete inactivation of 6-7 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Sanchez <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Carvacrol	0.25%, for 15 min	1.03 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV-1	Gilling <i>et al.</i> (2014B)
Carvacrol	0.50%, for 15 min	1.28 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV-1	Gilling <i>et al.</i> (2014B)
Carvacrol	0.25%, for 60 min	1.95 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV-1	Gilling <i>et al.</i> (2014B)
Carvacrol	0.50%, for 60 min	3.87 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV-1	Gilling <i>et al.</i> (2014B)
Kaempferol	200 µM	69.76% reduction of FCV	Seo <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Myricetin	0.5 mM and 1 mM, for 2 h at 37 °C (initially 5 log ₁₀ PFU/mL)	Complete inactivation of 5 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su and D'Souza (2013)
L-epicatechin	0.5 mM, for 2 h at 37 °C (initially 5 log ₁₀ PFU/mL)	1.40 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su and D'Souza (2013)
Myricetin	0.5 mM, for 2 h at 37 °C (initially 7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL)	3.17 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su and D'Souza (2013)
L-epicatechin	0.5 mM, for 2 h at 37 °C (initially 7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL)	0.72 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su and D'Souza (2013)
Myricetin	0.25 mM, for 2 h at 37 °C (initially 7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL)	1.73 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su and D'Souza (2013)
Zanthoxylum schinifolium (ZSO)	0.01% concentration	70% reduction of FCV-F9	Oh and Chung 2014
Oregano	2%, for 2 h at 37 °C	3.75 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Elizaquivel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Oregano	0.50%, for 2 h at 37 °C	1.04 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV	Elizaquivel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Oregano	1.0%, for 2 h at 37 °C	1.17 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV	Elizaquivel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Oregano	2.0%, for 2 h at 37 °C	1.62 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV	Elizaquivel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Cinnamon	3.0%, for 2 h at 37 °C	2.38 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016)
Rosemary	2.5%, for 2 h at 37 °C	3.38 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016)

Zataria	0.1%, for 2 h at 37 °C	4.51 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016)
Zataria	0.1%, for 2 h at 37 °C	0.25 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV	Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016)
Rosemary	2.5%, for 2 h at 37 °C	1.44 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL MNV	Azizkhani and Tooryan (2016)
CJ	30 min at pH 2.7 and 7.0	5 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
CJ	1 h at pH 2.6	1.90 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
CJ	1 h at pH 7.0	1.66 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
CJ-PAC	Immediately, 0.15 mg/mL and 0.30 mg/mL at RT	Complete inactivation FCV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
CJ-PAC	0.15 mg/mL, for 1 h at RT	2.24 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
CJ-PAC	0.20 mg/mL, for 1 h at RT	2.94 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2010)
B-PAC	1, 2 or 5 mg/mL, for 15 min at 37 °C in apple juice at pH 3.6	Complete inactivation of FCV and MNV	Joshi <i>et al.</i> 2017
B-PAC	2 mg/mL, for 24 h in 2% reduced-fat milk	0.4 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Joshi <i>et al.</i> 2017
B-PAC	5 mg/mL, for 24 h in 2% reduced-fat milk	1.09 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Joshi <i>et al.</i> 2017
B-PAC	5 mg/mL, for 24 h in 2% reduced-fat milk	0.81 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Joshi <i>et al.</i> 2017
PP	2 mg/mL, for 20 min at RT	4.02, 0.68 and 0.18 log ₁₀ PFU/mL for FCV, MNV and MS2 coliphage	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011A)
PP	4 mg/mL, for 20 min at RT	5.09, 1.14 and 0.19 log ₁₀ PFU/mL for FCV-F9, MNV-1 and MS2 coliphage	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011A)
PJ	pH 7.0, for 20 min at RT	3.12, 0.79 and 0.23 log ₁₀ PFU/mL for FCV, MNV and MS2 coliphage	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011A)
GSE	FCV at high titer (7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL) 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL for 2 h at RT	3.64, 4.10 and 4.61 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011B)
GSE	MNV at high titer (7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL) 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL for 2 h at RT	0.82, 1.35 and 1.73 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011B)
GSE	MS2 at high titer (7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL) 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL for 2 h at RT	1.13, 1.43 and 1.60 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MS2	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011B)
GSE	HAV at high titer (7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL) 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL for 2 h at RT	1.81, 2.66 and 3.20 log ₁₀ PFU/mL HAV	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011B)
GSE	FCV at low titer (5 log ₁₀)	4.98 log ₁₀ PFU/mL	Su <i>et al.</i> (2011B)

	PFU/mL) 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/mL for 2 h at RT	FCV for each concentration	
Clove extracts	Pre-treatment of FCV with non-diluted extract at 4 °C, for 24 h	$6 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$	Aboubakr <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Ginger extracts	Pre-treatment of FCV with non-diluted extract at 4 °C, for 24 h	$2.7 \log_{10} \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL FCV}$	Aboubakr <i>et al.</i> (2016)
<i>Camellia sinensis</i> extracts	100 µg/mL	87% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL FCV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Ficus carica</i> extracts	100 µg/mL	49% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL MNV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Pleuropterus multiflorus</i> extracts	20 µg/mL	53% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL FCV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Alnus japonica</i> extracts	20 µg/mL	50% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL FCV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Inonotus obliquus</i> extracts	150 µg/mL	92% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL MNV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Crataegus pinnatifida</i> extracts	50 µg/mL	58% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL MNV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)
<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> extracts	20 µg/mL	45% of $7 \log_{10} \text{PFU/mL MNV}$	Seo and Choi (2017)

RT: room temperature, CJ: Cranberry juice, CJ-PAC: Cranberry juice proanthocyanidins, B-PAC: Blueberry proanthocyanidins, PP: Pomegranate polyphenol, PJ: Pomegranate juice, GSE: Grape seed extract

2.3 Non-thermal treatments

- **Fermentation**

The antimicrobial potential of fermented foods is due to their acidity which is caused by the production of lactic acid and bacteriocins, but there are also important effects caused by high salinity, temperature and ripening (Dortu and Thonart, 2009; Seo *et al.*, 2014). Fermentation with lactic acid bacteria (LAB) reduces the risk of foodborne illness by inhibiting the growth of pathogens (Ross *et al.*, 2002; Kim *et al.*, 2008). Known antimicrobial factors produced by fermentation include acidity, organic acid production, bacteriocins, CO₂, hydrogen peroxide, ethanol, diacetyl production, and low redox potential (Adams and Nicolaides, 1997). Lactic acid fermentation can inactivate and inhibit the growth of pathogenic bacteria (Lee *et al.*, 2017). For example, pathogens such as *Salmonella* Typhimurium and *Staphylococcus aureus* have been eliminated with lactic acid fermentation (Nout *et al.*, 1989). The antiviral mechanism of action of fermented food is still mainly unknown but can be attributed to high acidity production (Lee *et al.*, 2012). Also, according to Aboubakr *et al.* (2014), *Lactococcus lactis*, a lactic bacteria used in fermentation, possesses an anti-FCV mechanism of action could be attributed to 1) denaturation of capsid proteins due to acid production, 2) trapping viral particles by the membrane peptidoglycans of lactic acid bacteria, 3) production of metabolites that may disturb viral penetration in

cells and 4) competition between bacteria and virus for cell attachment. Fermentation has been shown to be highly effective against NoV on the surface of foods but does not keep the product entirely fresh (Adams and Nicolaides, 1997; Lee *et al.*, 2017).

In Korea, it's a common practice to ferment foods such as cabbage, green onions, carrots, cucumbers, etc. (Lee, 1997). Kimchi is a dish made from fermented vegetables and there are many different types such as Dongchimi (Lee *et al.*, 2012). It is prepared with sliced radish, 1% green onions, 0.5% garlic, and 0.3% ginger. Salt water (2.5%) is added to the vegetable mix at a ratio of 1: 1.5 (W/V). It was observed that the viral titer of FCV was significantly reduced from $5.69 \log_{10}$ PFU/g to $1.57 \log_{10}$ PFU/g after 20 days of fermentation (Lee *et al.*, 2012). The viral titer of the MNV was reduced less significantly than FCV, from 5.63 to $3.51 \log_{10}$ PFU/g after 20 days of fermentation.

Seo *et al.* (2014) evaluated the effects of FCV and MNV-1 survival during oyster fermentation (Seo *et al.*, 2014). Lactic acid fermentations in presence of 5% and 10% salt at 18°C for 15 days were made. In fermented oysters containing 5% salt, the FCV titer decreased by 3 log and the MNV titer decreased by 1.6 log after 15 days of lactic acid fermentation. It was concluded that the antimicrobial compounds generated during the lactic acid fermentation contributed to the reduction of food viruses (Seo *et al.*, 2014).

Lee *et al.* (2017), also evaluated the level of NoV on kimchi stored at 4°C and 10°C during lactic acid fermentation (Lee *et al.*, 2017). Although, the amount of NoV, originally at $3 \log_{10}$ genomic copies/200 μL , was reduced by $1.31 \log_{10}$ genomic copies/reaction, it was detected in all samples tested after 28 days of fermentation (Lee *et al.*, 2017).

Table 3. Recapitulative table of the performance of fermentation against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
Fermentation of dongchimi	20 days	$4.12 \log_{10}$ PFU/g FCV	Lee <i>et al.</i> (2012)
Fermentation of dongchimi	20 days	$2.12 \log_{10}$ PFU/g MNV	Lee <i>et al.</i> (2012)
Fermentation of oysters	5% salt at 18°C for 15 days	$3.0 \log_{10}$ PFU/g FCV	Seo <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Fermentation of oysters	5% salt at 18°C for 15 days	$1.6 \log_{10}$ PFU/g MNV	Seo <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Fermentation of kimchi	4°C for 28 days	$1.31 \log_{10}$ genomic copies/reaction NoV GII.4	Lee <i>et al.</i> (2017)

- Ozonation

The effectiveness of ozone (O_3) on viruses can be attributed to the fact that non-enveloped viruses are more sensitive to the presence of O_3 . This could facilitate the access of O_3 to nucleic acids. Plus, O_3 is a strong oxidizing agent and disturbs the reproduction cycle of the virus by disrupting the contact with cells (Elvis and Ekta, 2011). O_3 makes the cells susceptible to viral infection and make them susceptible to oxidation and then elimination (Elvis and Ekta, 2011). Ozonation is an O_3 generation process, producing an unstable form of oxygen (highly reactive, making it a powerful oxidizing agent). O_3 is produced by a high source of energy breaking O_2 molecules. Once the bond is broken, these oxygen atoms (O) bind to a molecule of O_2 and then form O_3 . This process induces the reactive oxygen molecules specifically damage cellular DNA, usually DNA strand breakage or by chemical modification of bases, which usually leads to cell death (Boumail *et al.*, 2016). Ozonation is a cleaner process than chlorination because O_2 is the only residue at the end of the process and there is no manipulation of chemicals needed (Rice *et al.*, 2002). O_3 might also react on cell walls of bacteria by oxidizing major components like proteins and unsaturated lipids (Beuchat, 1992; Komanapalli and Lau, 1998). In addition, chlorination has the disadvantage of forming toxic and carcinogenic chlorinated compounds (Kim *et al.*, 2003; Kirk and Mitchell, 1980). There are many advantages using this method. It requires only oxygen, is faster and more efficient than chlorine. It is a non-thermal and non-chemical process and can be applied in aqueous or gaseous state (Rice *et al.*, 2002; Kim *et al.*, 2003; Khadre *et al.*, 2001; Guzel-Seydim *et al.*, 2004). Furthermore, it is a safe method because it leaves no residue while it reduces microorganisms in food (Trindade *et al.*, 2012).

A study evaluated the effectiveness of ozonated water to inactivate FCV and MNV inoculated respectively at concentrations of 10^7 TCID₅₀/mL and 10^6 PFU/mL on green onions and lettuce (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011). The lettuce and green onion samples were submerged in gaseous ozonised water from an O_3 generator (0.9 g of ozone/h at a flow rate of 2.4 L/min) (6.25 ppm). The samples were ozonized for 0.5, 1, 5 and 10 minutes. Viral inactivation was increased as duration of treatment increased. With regard to the inactivation of FCV from surface of lettuce and green onions, regardless of duration of the treatment, the virus inactivation was always greater on the surface of the lettuce compared to other vegetables. For example, after one minute of treatment with 6.25 ppm, they observed a reduction of 1.2 log TCID₅₀/mL on surface of treated lettuce compared to a reduction of only 0.5 TCID₅₀/mL on surface of green onions (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011). In the case of MNV on the surface of the same two foods, viral elimination was always more effective on the surface of lettuce, except at the 10-minutes exposure time where there was a higher viral reduction of 3.78 log PFU/g on green onions and only a 3.09 log PFU/g reduction on lettuce (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011). In conclusion, viral inactivation by ozone was lower in green onions in most cases. There is a possibility that this difference in the inactivation is due to the different organic composition of the two items. O_3 reacts with complex organic compounds because of the high oxidation potential (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011).

Predmore *et al.* (2015) studied the effects of gaseous O₃ on fresh strawberries. Samples were ozonized with 6% (w/w O₃) in oxygen during 0, 10, 20, 30 and 40 minutes. Experiments were done at room temperature at 25°C and gaseous O₃ was pumped into the chamber until 15 psi was reached. After 10 minutes of treatment in presence of gaseous O₃, MNV-1 at a concentration of 10⁸ PFU/mL demonstrated a 4.1 log PFU/g reduction in simple liquid virus stock. After 40 minutes of O₃ treatment, the viral titer decreased by 3.3 log PFU/g on the surface of strawberries, but there was still 2.5 log PFU/g remaining, indicating that MNV-1 is partially resistant to O₃.

Table 4. Recapitulative table of the performance of ozonation against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
Ozonated water	0.9 g of ozone/h at a flow rate of 2.4 L/min at 6.25 ppm on lettuce for 1 min	1.2 log TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Hirneisen <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Ozonated water	0.9 g of ozone/h at a flow rate of 2.4 L/min at 6.25 ppm on green onions for 1 min	0.5 log TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	Hirneisen <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Ozonated water	0.9 g of ozone/h at a flow rate of 2.4 L/min at 6.25 ppm on green onions for 10 min	3.78 log PFU/g MNV	Hirneisen <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Ozonated water	0.9 g of ozone/h at a flow rate of 2.4 L/min at 6.25 ppm on lettuce for 10 min	3.09 log PFU/g MNV	Hirneisen <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Gaseous O ₃	6%, 15 psi, at 25 °C and RT in liquid stock for 10 min	4.1 log PFU/g MNV	Predmore <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Gaseous O ₃	6%, 15 psi, at 25 °C and RT on surface of fresh strawberries for 40 min	3.3 log PFU/g MNV	Predmore <i>et al.</i> (2015)

- **High Pressure Homogenizer (HPH)**

Homogenization by high-pressure valve is a recent, non-thermal process where a fluid feed is forced through small orifices. High-pressure processes include high hydrostatic pressure (HHP) and high-pressure homogenization (HPH) (D'Souza *et al.*, 2009). HPH is a continuous process at low pressure (< 400 MPa) and shorter exposure than HHP (D'Souza *et al.*, 2009). The HPH process has proven effective for bacterial, enzymatic and emulsion enhancement (Diels *et al.*, 2004; Dybowska, 2005; Picart *et al.*, 2006).

Chen *et al.* (2005) demonstrated that FCV at a concentration of ~10⁶ PFU/mL was reduced by 1.7 log in culture with an HHP treatment (250 MPa) of 2 minutes (21 °C). Li and Chen (2015) also demonstrated that the same HHP treatment reduced MNV-1, from a viral concentration of 1x 10⁷ to 10⁸ PFU/ml by only

0.1 log. Therefore, it can therefore be concluded that FCV is more sensitive to this type of treatment than MNV-1 (Li and Chen, 2015).

D'Souza *et al.* (2009) evaluated the efficiency of HPH at different pressures (0, 100, 200, 250 and 300 MPa) against two NoV surrogates; MNV-1 at a concentration of 5.78 log PFU/mL and MS2 coliphage at a concentration of 6.52 log PFU/mL (D'Souza *et al.*, 2009) and found that only HPH at pressures of 300 MPa at 75 °C showed virus inactivation by more than 3 log PFU/mL for MS2 with plaque-assay. In addition, at the same pressure, viral titers decrease by more than 0.8 log PFU/mL for MNV-1.

Khadre and Yousef (2002) attempted to compare the anti-viral effects of ozonation and high-pressure treatments on human rotavirus. O₃ (25 µg/mL) decreased viral titers of about approximately 8-9 log₁₀ TCID₅₀/mL with a high initial viral titer of ~10¹¹ TCID₅₀/mL. The high-pressure treatment was shown to be extremely effective against rotavirus. Treatment at 300 MPa for 2 minutes at 25 °C decreased viral titers about 8 log₁₀ TCID₅₀/mL. Both treatments appeared to have similar effects on viruses. The mechanism of action of high pressures can be explained by protein denaturation leading to changes in conformation. It might be possible that this denaturation may occur in viral attachment proteins, thereby preventing viral infection and spread (Khadre and Yousef, 2002).

Table 5. Recapitulative table of the performance of high-pressure homogenizer (HPH) and high hydrostatic pressure (HHP) against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
HHP	250 MPa for 2 min at 21 °C	1.7 log ₁₀ PFU/mL FCV	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2005)
HHP	250 MPa for 2 min at 21 °C From 1x 10 ⁷ to 10 ⁸ PFU/ml	0.1 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	Li and Chen (2015)
HPH	300 MPa at 75 °C	3 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MS2	D'Souza <i>et al.</i> (2009)
HPH	300 MPa at 75 °C	0.8 log ₁₀ PFU/mL MNV	D'Souza <i>et al.</i> (2009)
HPH	300 MPa for 2 min at 25 °C	8 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL rotavirus	Khadre and Yousef (2002)

- Irradiation (γ- rays, electron beam and X- rays)**

Gamma irradiation has been studied extensively for its effectiveness in eliminating pathogens on food. It can lead to the production of oxygen or hydroxyl radicals (Park and Ha, 2017). Gamma rays can interact with nucleic acids because of the DNA modifications and the free radicals (Park and Ha, 2017). Among the different damages on nucleic acids, there are double and single-strand breaks, cross-linkage breaks and nucleotide degradation (Park and Ha, 2017). The expression of the MNV-1 major capsid protein (VP1) gene decreases as the irradiation dose increases. VP1 was the only protein studied in order to seek

alterations after irradiation of MNV-1 during this research (Park and Ha, 2017). Furthermore, gamma irradiation can break covalent and non-covalent bonds (hydrogen bonds, ionic bonds, van der Waals forces and hydrophobic interactions) that are essential for protein structure (Park and Ha, 2017). It has been shown that irradiation applied alone or in combination with other treatments such as using antimicrobial coatings can reduce bacterial contamination in food (Boumail *et al.*, 2016; Rahimi *et al.*, 2013). It is also a cold process that is usually applied on packaged products (Boumail *et al.*, 2016). The maximum dose that can be applied on fresh fruits and vegetables should not exceed 1 kGy (Komolprasert *et al.*, 2008). However, foodborne viruses can only be eliminated by irradiation at doses ranging from 2 to 8 kGy (Monk *et al.*, 1995). Therefore, combining this treatment with antimicrobial coatings or negative air ionization with ozone can decrease the needed dose (Boumail *et al.*, 2016). This technique is generally used to assure food safety, disinfection, extend the shelf life of foods and for delaying the germination of seeds (Farkas and Mohácsi-Farkas, 2011; Lacroix and Ouattara, 2000; Lacroix and Vigneault, 2007).

To date, food irradiation is a public concern, but is considered safe by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations International Atomic Agency (IAEA), and the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO). The use of irradiation in combined treatments has the advantage of reducing the dose required for the elimination of an organism. In the case of resistant organisms such as viruses and Gram (+) bacteria, reducing the required dose to ensure food safety, also helps to better preserve the nutritional and physicochemical quality of food (Lacroix and Ouattara, 2000). Irradiation could be done using electron-beam equipment, an X-ray machine or a source of γ -radiation. However, electron beams are much less penetrating and require higher levels of dose rate (Woo and Sandford, 2002). X-ray irradiation is an electricity-based process and rays are produced by an electron transition phenomenon that is an electron passage to another energy level (Cleland and Stichelbaut, 2013).

Feng *et al.* (2011) have evaluated the effects of γ -irradiation against NoV surrogates such as MNV-1, NoV virus-like particles (VLPs) and vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV). MNV-1 and VLPs are both resistant to gamma irradiation. A reduction of 1.7 to 2.4 log was observed on the surface of fresh products inoculated with MNV-1 and treated at 5.6 kGy. In contrast, VSV appears to be more susceptible to gamma irradiation, a reduction of 3.3 log was observed after the treatment with 5.6 kGy (Feng *et al.*, 2011). Authors attributed this sensitivity to γ -irradiation to the genome size. In fact, MNV-1 has a genome of 7.4 kb and VSV has a bigger genome with 11 kb. There are studies showing an inverse relationship between the size of the genome and the inactivation gamma-irradiation dose (Feng *et al.*, 2011). Also, there is another hypothesis suggesting that enveloped viruses are more sensitive to gamma irradiation (Feng *et al.*, 2011).

Park and Ha (2017) also showed that gamma irradiation reduced the MNV-1 viral titer in kimchi as the γ -irradiation dose increased. For γ -irradiation doses of 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10 kGy, a respective reduction of

0.34, 0.71, 0.98, 1.45 and 1.76 \log_{10} was observed. In conclusion of this study, γ -irradiation with ≥ 5.75 kGy doses could be effective against NoV contamination in the kimchi preparation industry.

Irradiation treatments in combination with heat processing at temperatures above 55°C reduce considerably the risk of viral contamination on food because of their high heat sensitivity (Farkas, 1989).

Table 6. Recapitulative table of the performance of γ -irradiation against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
γ -irradiation	Fresh produce, 2.8 kGy	1.77 \log_{10} PFU/g for spinach, 1.40 \log_{10} PFU/g for romaine lettuce and 1.31 \log_{10} PFU/g strawberries MNV-1	Feng <i>et al.</i> (2011)
γ -irradiation	Fresh produce, 5.6 kGy	1.7 to 2.4 \log_{10} PFU/g in fresh produce MNV-1	Feng <i>et al.</i> (2011)
γ -irradiation	Kimchi, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10 kGy	0.34, 0.71, 0.98, 1.45 and 1.76 \log_{10} PFU/mL MNV-1	Park and Ha (2017)

- **UV irradiation**

Ultraviolet (UV) radiation represents electromagnetic irradiation and has wavelengths of below 450 nm ($\nu \approx 10^{15}$ Hz) and a quantum energy of 3-5 eV (Adams *et al.*, 2016), which is shorter than the wavelengths of visible light at 400-700 nm (Dai *et al.*, 2012). UV-A comprises wavelengths ranging from 320 to 400 nm (Cadet and Douki, 2018), UV-B ranges from 280 to 320 nm (Cadet and Douki, 2018) and UV-C has wavelengths ranging from 200 nm to 280 nm (Dai *et al.*, 2012). The mechanism of action of UV-C against viruses is linked to the attack of the viral nucleic acids (Dai *et al.*, 2012). The most antimicrobial wavelength is between 250-270 nm, because the UV-C spectrum is strongly absorbed by the nucleic acids of the microorganisms (Dai *et al.*, 2012). The UV-C type rays have a low wavelength (200-280 nm) and are therefore less energetic and are longer than x-rays who have wavelengths < 100 nm (Dai *et al.*, 2012). UV-C is normally used for the sterilization of surfaces and transparent objects (Silindir and Ozer, 2009). Among the mutations observed after UV treatment, UV-A rays genotoxic actions involve oxidative processes by the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) after exciting photosensitizers. The ROS damage major components of cells such as proteins and lipids (Wondrak *et al.*, 2006). UV-B rays are able to create cyclobutane pyrimidine dimers (CPD) and 6-4 photoproducts (6-4 PPs) and these modifications in DNA strongly affect the functioning of the cell and can induce its death (Cadet and

Douki, 2018; Lankinen *et al.*, 1996). UV-C rays create cyclobutane pyrimidine and pyrimidine pyrimidone dimers, blocking the elongation of nucleic acid transcripts (Vreeswijk *et al.*, 1994). UV-radiation at 253.7 nm wavelength (UV-C) was tested against FCV and a 3-log reduction of viral titer was achieved with a fluence of 120 J/m² (De Roda Husman *et al.*, 2004). It was shown that the first target of UV-radiation is the capsid of the virus using capsid epitope binding experiments (Nuanualsuwan and Cliver, 2003).

Table 7. Recapitulative table of the performance of UV-irradiation against virus

Treatment	Conditions of treatment (pH, concentration, temperature and duration)	Reduction of viral titer	Author
UV-C	UV-C at 253.7 nm and 120 J/m ²	3 log ₁₀ TCID ₅₀ /mL FCV	De Roda Husman <i>et al.</i> (2004)

2.4 Combined treatments

Combining irradiation and EO_s could decrease the amount of radiation required to reduce food pathogens, while keeping all nutrients, flavours and physico-chemical aspects of the fresh products (Ndoti-Nembe *et al.*, 2015).

- **UV Irradiation combined with free Chlorine/Monochloramine**

Shang *et al.* (2007) investigated the inactivation of MS2 coliphage with different types of combined treatments. Among the treatments, they tested sequential ultraviolet (UV-C) light/free chlorine exposure, sequential UV-C light/monochloramine exposure, simultaneous UV-C light/free chlorine exposure, and simultaneous UV-C light/monochloramine exposure using either low-pressure (LP) at 254 nm (UV-C) or medium-pressure (MP) ranging from 220 nm (UV-C) to 580nm UV lamps. All tests were conducted at pH 7 and 20 ± 2°C. Sequential exposure to UV-C or simultaneous exposition (UV-C dose at 51 mJ /cm²) in the primary disinfection stage increased MS2 inactivation during the second disinfection stage by monochloramine about 4 to 5 times and with chlorine, by 1.5–2.7 times, compared to the rates by free chlorine.

- **UV-assisted TiO₂ photocatalysis combined with high hydrostatic pressure**

Kim *et al.* (2017) tested the effects of single and combined UV-C (254 nm) assisted TiO₂ photocatalysis (UVT_P) and HHP against MNV-1. UVT_P (4.5 mW/cm²) for 10 minutes decreased the MNV-1 titer by 2.9 log₁₀ post-treatment. The use of HHP at 500 MPa during 5 minutes at room temperature reduced the MNV-1 titer by 3.5 log₁₀. When UVT_P was followed by HHP, the titer was

decreased by 5.5 log₁₀ (under detection limit). The study showed a synergistic effect between those 2 treatments (Kim *et al.*, 2017).

- **UV-C light in combination with hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂)**

Xie *et al.* (2008) tested the combination of UV-C and hydrogen peroxide at a concentration of 2% vol/vol (H₂O₂) against MS2 coliphage with an initial concentration of 7.63 log PFU/mL on the surface of iceberg lettuce. UV-C light treatment alone for 60 seconds reduced the viral titer by 1.31 log PFU/mL. H₂O₂ treatment alone for 60 seconds reduced the viral titer by 3.19 log PFU/mL and finally, the treatment combining UV-C light with H₂O₂ for 60 seconds reduced the viral titer by more than 3.54 log PFU/mL. The study showed that the combination of UV-C and H₂O₂ against MS2 coliphage could represent an alternative to hypochlorite-based washes on fresh food products (Xie *et al.*, 2008).

3 Conclusion

Many chemical treatments, such as peracetic acids and chlorine compounds have been shown to be effective in the elimination of many different types of viruses. On the other hand, as consumers are increasingly looking for greener and less toxic alternatives for the environment and for health, researchers are turning to natural and non-thermal physical treatments. EOs such as: oregano, clove, zataria, cinnamon, rosemary, tea tree, Japanese alder, hasuo and fig tree were shown to be effective against NoV surrogates. Fruit extracts, including their polyphenols, like pomegranate, cranberry and grape seed showed high efficiency in viral elimination. Finally, non-thermal physical treatments like fermentations, ozonation and high-pressure treatments have also been shown to display noticeable antiviral properties. Furthermore, high-pressure treatments and ozonation seems to be effective against enteric viruses. Combined treatments against NoV are very recent and seem to be very promising. Combined treatments of irradiation or ozonation with the utilization of natural antimicrobials such as EOs alone or in combination could bring benefits to the food industry and could decrease the required dose to eliminate viruses while maintaining nutritional and organoleptic quality of food products. The hope of finding effective treatments might be in the path of combining treatments.

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Le chapitre 2 intitulé : Revue de littérature, l'article « Norovirus elimination on the Surface of Fresh Foods » abordait les différents traitements actuels utilisés contre le FCV-F9. L'utilisation de composés chimiques synthétiques comme le chlore et le dioxyde de chlore a été développée. On comptait aussi l'utilisation de composés naturels comme les extraits de plante (carvacrol) et les extraits de fruits (CJ). Les traitements non-thermiques comme la fermentation, l'ozonation, l'utilisation de High Pressure Homogenizer (HPH) et l'utilisation de rayons UV ont été abordés. Finalement, le dernier thème abordé dans la revue de littérature a été l'utilisation de traitements combinés. L'objectif de cet article était de visualiser les traitements actuellement utilisés dans le marché des aliments frais afin de trouver des combinaisons possibles avec l'irradiation- γ . Le prochain chapitre (**Chapitre 3**) aborde l'application de traitements comme le jus de canneberge et l'extrait citrus utilisés seuls ou en combinaison avec l'irradiation- γ contre le virus FCV-F9 *in-vitro*.

Chapitre 3: Radiosensitivity increase of FCV-F9 virus using combined treatments with natural antimicrobials and γ -irradiation

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Contribution des auteurs

Alexandra Gobeil a réalisé les manipulations et la rédaction de l'article.

Shiv Shankar a participé à la correction de l'article.

Monique Lacroix: Directrice de recherche, a participé à la planification des expériences et aux discussions des résultats et a aussi procédé à la correction de l'article.

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Abstract

Aims: Evaluate the possible synergistic effect of cranberry juice (CJ) and commercial citrus extract against FCV-F9 viral titer *in-vitro* in combination with γ -irradiation in order to determinate the D₁₀ values and radiosensitivity increase.

Methods and Results: Virus samples were treated with a formulation containing a mixture of citrus extract (BS) or cranberry juice (CJ). Results showed a D₁₀ of 0.05 %-BS, 0.42 %-CJ and 1.34 kGy for the virus treated with the BS, the CJ and the irradiation alone, respectively. Concentrations needed to reduce 6 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ of viral titer were BS-0.3%, CJ-2.52% and 8.04 kGy. Irradiation combined with BS-0.01% against FCV-F9 virus showed a D₁₀ value of 0.74 kGy and a viral radiosensitization of 1.28, whereas γ -irradiation combined with CJ-0.1% showed a D₁₀ of 0.72 kGy and a viral radiosensitization of 1.50.

Conclusion: These findings indicate that CJ and BS could be used as antiviral agents alone or in combination with γ -irradiation and the use of CJ and BS could be helpful in prevention of NoV outbreaks.

Significance and Impact of Study: CJ and BS could be used in hurdle approaches in combined treatment with γ -irradiation to assure food safety without detrimental effect on nutritional value and maintain low processing cost.

Keywords: Viruses, Food safety, Antimicrobials, Non-thermal processes, Post Harvest.

1 Introduction

Fresh fruits and vegetables such as iceberg lettuce are potential sources for viral infections like human norovirus (NoV). In 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated approximately 76 million new cases of foodborne diseases in the USA (Scharff, 2010). There are more than 325 000 hospitalizations and 5000 deaths by foodborne diseases (Scharff, 2010). NoV are among the top 10 infectious agents mainly responsible for foodborne diseases (Mattison *et al.*, 2007). They also represent 65 % of the nonbacterial gastroenteritis in the United States (Mattison *et al.*, 2007). Among foodborne viruses, the most common are hepatitis A and Norwalk-like gastroenteritis virus, NoV was estimated to cause 5.46 million infections per year with 14663 hospitalizations and 149 deaths representing annual costs of 2896 million US dollars (USD) per year (Cliver, 1997; Scharff, 2012). NoVs are non-enveloped viruses and are part of the *Caliciviridae* family. NoVs are stable and resistant to environmental degradation and to chemical inactivation processes (Cheesbrough *et al.*, 2000; Kuusi *et al.*, 2002; Widdowson *et al.*, 2004). NoVs are excreted in the feces and vomitus of the infected person (Cannon *et al.*, 2006). The main modes of transmission of NoVs are directly from person to person, consumption of contaminated food, and vomitus (Fankhauser *et al.*, 2002). Personal hygiene and effective food safety measures, especially for ready-to-eat foods such as salad bars, deli meats, fresh produce, and shellfish are important for the control of NoVs infection (Cannon *et al.*, 2006). However, waterborne outbreaks have been reported but do not represent a large fraction of all diseases (Lopman *et al.*, 2012).

The safety of food products can be enhanced by appropriate implementation of effective control and preventive strategies. Owing to the consumers' preference of natural compounds over artificial chemicals, natural compounds that possesses antimicrobial properties without causing any undesirable sensory changes of the product, toxicity and adverse health effects are in growing demand. Among the fruit extracts, cranberry extracts attracted much attention as they are known to exhibit a range of antibacterial, antiviral, and pharmacological properties (Côté *et al.*, 2011; Zhao *et al.*, 2018; Kim *et al.*, 2019). CJ reportedly helps prevent and reduce the recurrence of urinary tract infections (Liu *et al.*, 2008; Pinzón-Arango *et al.*, 2009; Maki *et al.*, 2016, 2018). CJ is rich in polyphenols (Côté *et al.*, 2010) and organic acids like quinic, malic, and citric acid (Coppola *et al.*, 1978). Previous studies have demonstrated *in-vitro* (Côté *et al.*, 2011) and *in-situ*, good capacity to inhibit *E. coli* and *Listeria* (Lacroix and Ouattara, 2000). In addition, other natural antimicrobials such as citrus extracts are full of organic acids and are qualified as non-genetically modified organism (OGM), clean label and generally recognized as safe (GRAS) product. Citrus extracts contain organic acids including citric acid, ascorbic acid, and lactic acid (Methot *et al.*, 2017). These acids are responsible for the acidity of the product and also aid in the stabilization and protection of anthocyanins (Caillet *et al.*, 2011). Suzuki *et al.* (2005) demonstrated that ethyl acetate layer of *Citrus unshiu* peel extract could decrease viral HCV; the authors attributed these

results to the antioxidant and anti-tumor properties of the extract. Also, it has been showed that polyphenol compounds present in green tea can inhibit HCV. Epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG) has been identified as an inhibitor of HCV entry in the cell. Authors demonstrated that EGCG acts by blocking viral attachment to target cells (Ciesek *et al.*, 2011).

Also, γ -irradiation is a non-thermal process used to assure food safety and to enhance the shelf-life of food (Lacroix and Ouattara, 2000). γ -irradiation acts directly on microbial DNA and can inhibit bacterial growth at doses range from 1-10 kGy (Severino *et al.*, 2015). Viruses are more resistant to inactivation by ionizing radiation than bacteria, parasites, or fungi because of their small size and their type of nucleic acid (_{ss}RNA, _{ds}RNA, _{ss}DNA, _{ds}DNA), but it has been showed that foodborne viruses can be inactivated by γ -irradiation at doses from 2.7 to 3.0 kGy (Bidawid *et al.*, 2000). However, the doses of irradiation required to eliminate viruses can affect the physico-chemical quality of fresh vegetables like lettuce (Diehl, 1992). ⁶⁰Co is mostly used for the emission of γ -rays (Bidawid *et al.*, 2000). According to Feng *et al.* (2011), it is suggested that enveloped viruses (like VSV virus) are more sensitive to γ -irradiation than non-enveloped virus. NoV are non-enveloped viruses and possesses a highly stable capsid that protects their genetic material.

Generally, NoV surrogates such as Feline Calicivirus (FCV) and Murine Norovirus (MNV) represent the best substitute for inactivation studies, because there is no animal or cell culture available for NoV propagation. Both FCV and MNV have the same size and shape as the human NoV (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011). NoV are not enveloped viruses and possess round viral particles with a diameter of 27 to 40 nm (Buckow *et al.*, 2008). According to Cannon *et al.* (2006), NoV have a low infectious dose of 10-100 virus particles for infection.

There are reports available on the antimicrobial and antiviral activities using natural antimicrobial compounds or heat treatment (Su *et al.*, 2010; Gibson and Schwab, 2011). Heat treatments cannot be used for products like fresh fruits and vegetables and the reductions found with natural antimicrobials are more effective at high concentrations (Gilling *et al.*, 2014).

The present study aims to evaluate the possible synergistic effect of CJ and commercial citrus extract against NoV (FCV-F9 virus) viral titer *in-vitro* used in combination with γ -irradiation.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Cellular Culture of CRFK cells

CRFK cells (ATCC-CCL94) were used as hosts for the virus and were maintained in Dulbecco's minimum essential medium (DMEM: Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) supplemented with 10 % fetal bovine serum (FBS, Wisent, Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Québec, Canada) and 1 % Streptomycin-Penicillin antibiotic (Gibco, Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada). The medium was added to a 75

cm² culture flasks and incubated at 37 °C, in a humidified incubator containing a 5 % CO₂ atmosphere. Cells were subcultured every 2-3 days.

2.2 Preparation of FCV-F9 viral stocks

CRFK cells (ATCC-CCL94) were grown to 90 % confluency in 25 cm² culture flasks (Sarstedt, Montréal, Québec, Canada), then the culture medium (DMEM+ 10 % FBS) was aspirated out and the monolayer of cells adhered to the bottom of the flask was washed twice with Dulbecco's Phosphate-Buffered Saline (Ph 7.0) (DPBS) (HyClone, GE Healthcare Life Sciences, Utah, USA). Thereafter, a 200 µL aliquot of viral inoculum (FCV-F9 virus (ATCC VR-651)) was added to each flask and incubated at 37 °C under 5 % CO₂ atmosphere for 90 min to allow viral adsorption. Subsequently, 7 mL of medium (DMEM+ 2 % FBS + 1 % strep-pen) was added to each flask and incubated for 16-18 h at 37 °C in 5 % CO₂ incubator that resulted in virus-induced destruction of nearly 90 % of the monolayer. Each virus-infected flask was first frozen at -80 °C for 5 min and then thawed at 37 °C for 5 min and this cycle was repeated twice. The content was centrifuged at 1500 x g for 15 min to remove cell debris and the supernatant containing viruses at ~ 5 log TCID₅₀/mL was dispensed into 1 mL aliquot and stored at -80 °C.

2.3 Preparation of CJ and BS formulation

Cranberry Juice Concentrate (CJ) 12100-5/ °BRIX (ATOKA, Manseau, Québec, Canada) was prepared in distilled water. Quantities of 0.1g, 0.25g, 0.50g, 0.75g and 1.0 g of CJ were respectively added in 99.90 mL (CJ-0.1%), 99.75 mL (CJ-0.25%), 99.50 mL (CJ-0.5%), 99.25 mL (CJ-0.75%) and 99.0 mL (CJ-1%) of distilled water, respectively. Citrus Extract Biosecur F420B (BS) (Biosecur, Mont Saint-Hilaire, Québec, Canada) was also prepared in distilled water. Quantities of 0.005g (BS-0.005%), 0.01g (BS-0.01%), 0.025g (BS-0.025%), 0.05 (BS-0.05%) and 0.1g (BS-0.10%) were respectively added to 99.995 mL, 99.99 mL, 99.975 mL, 99.95 mL and 99.90 mL of distilled water, respectively.

2.4 Treatment of virus

Thereafter, 100 µL of various concentrations of CJ or BS was mixed with 90 µL DPBS and 10 µL virus stock in a 1.5 mL microtube. This mix was incubated for 2 h in an agitator (Forma Scientific Model 435 Orbital Shaker Incubator) at 37 °C, 150 RPM (0.31 x g) in order to reduce viral titer.

2.5 γ -irradiation treatment

Viral samples ($5\text{-}5.75 \log \text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 virus were treated at doses from 0 to 3 kGy in order to determine the D_{10} value (kGy). Irradiation was also applied on pre-treated virus samples with BS-0.01%, BS-0.025%, BS-0.10% treated with doses ranging from 0 to 1.5 kGy for BS-0.01% and BS-0.10% and doses ranging from 0 to 2.5 kGy for BS-0.025%. A treatment was also done with CJ-0.1% and CJ-0.5% on $5\text{-}5.75 \log \text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$ against FCV-F9 virus and treated at doses ranging from 0 to 1.5 kGy in order to reduce viral titer and calculate the D_{10} values. The irradiation treatments were done at the Canadian Irradiation Center, in a UC-15 A (SS canister) underwater calibrator (Nordion Inc., Kanata, Ontario, Canada) equipped with a ^{60}Co source and having a dose rate of 9.5 kGy h^{-1} .

Relative radiation sensitivity was determined using the following equation:

$$\text{Relative radiation sensitivity} = (\text{radiation } D_{10} \text{ of control sample}) / (\text{radiation } D_{10} \text{ of sample treated in presence of antimicrobial compound})$$

The D_{10} value (kGy) is defined as the radiation dose required reducing 90 % of the population (reduction by $1 - \log \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL}$) of viable feline calicivirus infecting the CRFK cell. To calculate D_{10} value (kGy), viral titer counts ($\log \text{TCID}_{50}/\text{mL}$) were plotted against radiation doses, and the reciprocal of the slope of the trendline was extracted from the plot.

2.6 Infection of CRFK cells in 96-well plate

The above treated viral particles were serially diluted from 10^2 to $10^9 \log \text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$ using Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) in a 96 well plate in order to determine viral titer by TCID_{50} method. Infection of CRFK cells by FCV-F9 virus was performed after 90 % confluency was reached. Confluence is the degree of separation that exists between adherent cells and is measured by visual inspection under microscopy. For this, the CRFK cells were grown to the 90 % confluency, then the medium was discarded followed by washing twice with DPBS. Then the CRFK cells were trypsinized by adding 1 mL of trypsin-EDTA (0.25%, pH 7.2-8.0) (Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) and the cells were seed in a new 96 well plates (flat bottom for adherent cell culture) with the density of 10^5 cells per well in 100 μl DMEM (10 % FBS, 1 % Pen/Strep), and incubated overnight at 37°C under 5 % CO_2 . The cells reached confluence of 80 – 90 % after overnight incubation, then the media was removed, cells were washed with PBS buffer twice and 20 μl of diluted treated virus particles were added to the corresponding wells. The cells without virus particles were taken as control. The microplates were incubated for 30-60 min at 37°C and a quantity of 150 μl of DMEM + 2 % FBS was then added to the microplate and incubated for 2 days (5 % CO_2 , 37°C). Cytopathic effects were determined by visual inspection under the optical microscope

in order to measure the viral titer of FCV-F9 virus. The limit of detection of this method is 3.20 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹.

2.7 Analysis by Tissue Culture Infectious Dose 50 (TCID₅₀)

The viral titer was measured with the endpoint dilution assay with Tissue Culture Infective Dose 50 (TCID₅₀) in order to evaluate the FCV-F9 titer. This method of endpoint dilution quantifies the quantity of virus needed to infect 50 % of the cellular culture or to produce cytopathic effects in 50 % of cellular culture. To calculate viral titer (TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) after infection (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011), the Spearman-Karber method was used (Brié *et al.*, 2017).

2.8 Statistical analysis

Each experiment was done in triplicate ($n = 3$) and for each replicate, three samples were analyzed. Analysis of variance (ANOVA), Tukey's multiple range tests for equal variances and Tamhane's test for unequal variances were performed for statistical analysis using SPSS 18.0 software (SPSS Inc., Illinois, USA). Differences between means were considered significant when the confidence interval was lower than 5 % ($P \leq 0.05$).

3 Results

3.1 Effect of CJ and BS on CRFK cells and FCV-F9 virus titer

Results showed that CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.5% and CJ-1% and BS-0.01%, BS-0.025%, BS-0.1% and BS-0.5% did not show any signs of cytotoxicity against CRFK cells used in the present study. This showed that CJ and BS at the concentrations used for viral titration had no obvious effect on the viability of these cell lines and would hamper our ability to use these cell lines to determine antiviral effects (Su *et al.*, 2010). However, the FCV-F9 virus titer (TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) was strongly affected by treatment with BS. A decrease of the viral titer with an increase of BS concentration was observed (Fig.1A). A treatment of the virus with BS-0.005% decreased the viral titer from 5.49 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ to 5.32 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹. A treatment of BS-0.01% did not significantly affect the viral titer, the same reduction from 5.49 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ to 5.32 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ was observed. A treatment with BS-0.025% decreased the viral titer from 5.49 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ to 4.62 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹. The two last concentrations of BS, BS-0.05% and BS-0.1%, induced a significant ($p \leq 0.05$) decrease of viral titer to 3.66 and 3.45 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹, respectively (Table 1). The value of the D₁₀ after treatment with different concentrations of BS measured was 0.05 %-BS.

Similar to BS, the treatment with CJ also exhibited a strong reduction in FCV-F9 virus titer at various concentrations (Fig. 1B). A linear negative regression was also observed. The initial virus titer was about 5.57 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹, which decreased to 5.49 (0.08 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ reduction), 5.45 (0.12 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ reduction), and 4.24 (1.33 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ reduction) log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ when CJ at the concentration of CJ-0.10%, CJ-0.25%, and CJ-0.5% was used, respectively. The treatments with CJ-0.75% and CJ-1% reduced the FCV-F9 virus titer by 1.54 log (4.03 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) and 2.2 log (3.37 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹, respectively (Table 1). The D₁₀ calculated when FCV-F9 was treated with CJ was 0.42 %-CJ.

3.2 Effect of γ -irradiation on FCV-F9 virus titer

γ -irradiation treatment also induced the diminution of virus titer of FCV-F9 (Fig. 1C). γ -irradiation also exhibited a negative linear regression on viral titer (Table 1). As the dose of γ -irradiation increased, a concomitant decrease in viral titer was observed. The initial viral titer was 5.37 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹, which was reduced to 5.08 (0.29 log reduction), 5.07 (0.30 log reduction), 4.57 (0.80 log reduction), 4.52 (0.85 log reduction), 3.95 (1.42 log reduction), 3.82 (1.55 log reduction), 3.82 (1.55 log reduction), 3.73 (1.64 log reduction), and 3.26 (2.11 log reduction) log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ after γ -irradiation treatment at doses of 0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.0 and 3.0 kGy, respectively. The D₁₀ calculated when FCV-F9 was treated with irradiation was 1.34 kGy.

Table 1. Recovery of viral titers after different treatments used alone (γ -irradiation, CJ or BS)

Treatment	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (Log)	Treatment	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction
BS (%)	(log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	(Log)	Irradiation (kGy)	TCID ₅₀	
0	5.49 ^{abc}	0	0	5.37 ^{abc}	0
0.005	5.32 ^{abc}	0.17	0.25	5.08 ^{abcdef}	0.29
0.01	5.32 ^{abc}	0.17	0.50	5.07 ^{abcd}	0.30
0.025	4.62 ^{bc}	0.87	0.75	4.57 ^{bdefg}	0.80
0.05	3.66 ^d	1.83	1.0	4.52 ^{de}	0.85
0.10	3.45 ^d	2.04	1.25	3.95 ^{bdfgh}	1.42
CJ (%)	(log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	(Log)	1.50	3.82 ^{dfghi}	1.55
0	5.57 ^{ab}	0	1.75	3.82 ^{bdfgh}	1.55

0.10	5.49 ^{ab}	0.08	2.0	3.73 ^{fghi}	1.64
0.25	5.45 ^{ab}	0.12	3.0	3.26 ^{gi}	2.11
0.50	4.24 ^{abc}	1.33			
0.75	4.03 ^{bc}	1.54			
1.0	3.37 ^{bc}	2.20			

¹Within each column, means with the same letter are not significantly different ($P > 0.05$).

In Fig. 1A, the effects of various concentrations of BS on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -22.02 and a constant “b” of 5.34. The standard deviation of the regression is 4.29 and the coefficient of determination (R^2) is 0.87. In Fig. 1B, the effects of various concentrations of CJ on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -2.34 and a constant “b” of 5.71. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.27 and the R^2 is 0.95. In Fig. 1C, the effects of various doses of γ -irradiation on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.75 and a constant “b” of 5.21. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.08 and the R^2 is 0.92. In analyzing these results, the steepest slope is the one with the BS used alone, which implies that the treatment used alone that is the most efficient is BS because it reduces the viral titer the most strongly. BS is also the treatment showing the highest standard deviation, meaning that the values are more spread around their mean. All three of R^2 are really high, with values that are more than 0.87, meaning that the majority of the values fits the regression.

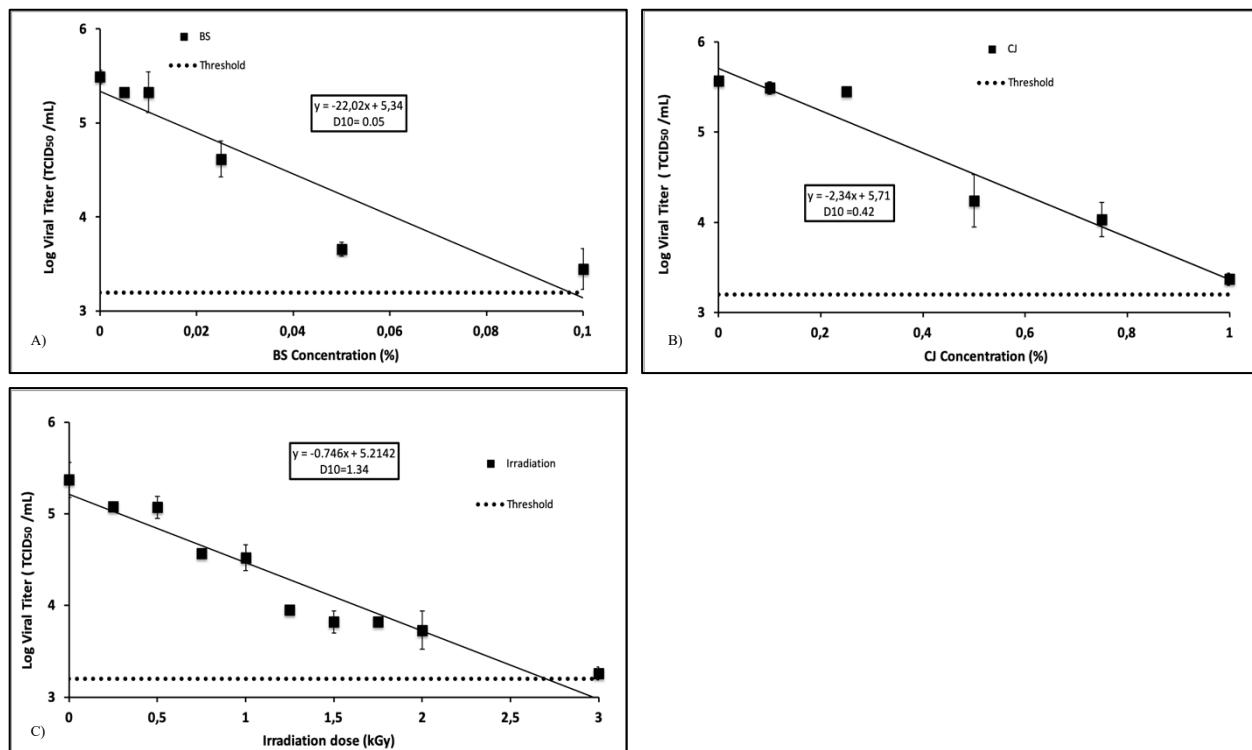


Fig. 1 (A) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS at different concentrations. (B) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with CJ at different concentrations. (C) Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at different doses.

3.3 Effect of combined treatment of γ -irradiation and BS on virus titer

A combined effect of γ -irradiation doses in the range of 0-3 kGy and BS concentrations at BS-0.01%, BS-0.025% and BS-0.1% was also tested, and the results are presented in Fig. 2. The results showed a slope of treatment regression and a more accentuated slope was found when the lowest concentration of BS was used. As shown in Fig. 2A, the D₁₀ values of the samples treated with BS-0.01% and the D₁₀ of the control were 0.74 and 0.95 kGy, respectively, meaning a relative radiosensitivity (RS) of 1.28. When this previous BS concentration (BS-0.01%) was treated in combination with γ -irradiation doses of 0.25 to 1.50 kGy, the viral titers decreased from 5.36 log to 3.20 log $\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$. The relative RS values are presented in table 4 for further comparison. The higher the concentration of BS was, lower the relative RS was, exhibiting an inverse relation between the concentration of BS and efficacy of combined treatment. Fig. 2B illustrated the D₁₀ values of the combined treatment consisting of γ -irradiation with BS-0.025% curve in comparison with the control curve, 1.75 kGy and 1.06 kGy, respectively, showing a relative radioresistance (RR) of 1.65. The viral titers decreased from 4.62 log to

3.20 TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹, when samples were treated with BS-0.025% in combination with a γ -irradiation dose range from 0 to 2.5 kGy. In presence of BS-0.1%, the D₁₀ values found was 5.55 kGy as compared to 1.43 kGy for the control, showing a relative RR of 3.88 (Fig. 2C). When BS-0.1% was combined with γ -irradiation doses of 0 to 1.5 kGy, the viral titers decreased from 3.45 log to 3.20 TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹. The reductions in viral titers were not found to be significant when BS-0.1% was used in combination at these γ -irradiation doses (Table 2).

Table 2. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of BS in combination with γ -irradiation

BS-0.01%	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)	Control	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)
Irradiation					
			n		
			(kGy)		
0	5.36 ^a	0	0	5.20	0
0.25	4.87 ^b	0.49	0.25	5.20	0
0.50	4.32 ^c	1.04	0.50	5.07	0.13
0.75	4.24 ^c	1.12	0.75	4.70	0.50
1.0	4.16 ^c	1.20	1.0	4.45	0.75
1.25	3.45 ^d	1.91	1.25	4.07	1.13
1.50	3.20 ^d	2.16	1.50	3.70	1.50
BS-0.025%	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)	Control	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)
Irradiation					
			n		
			(kGy)		
0	4.62 ^{abc}	0	0	5.57	0
0.50	4.16 ^{abcde}	0.46	0.50	5.20	0.37
1.0	3.62 ^{abcd}	1.0	1.0	4.57	1.0

1.5	3.37 ^{bcd e}	1.25	1.5	3.95	1.62
2.0	3.24 ^{bde}	1.38	2.0	3.45	2.12
2.5	3.20 ^{abcde}	1.42	2.5	3.45	2.12
BS-0.1%	Viral titer (log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹)	Reduction (log)	Control	Viral titer (log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹)	Reduction (log)
Irradiation (kGy)			n		
0	3.45 ^a	0	0	5.57	0
0.25	3.45 ^a	0	0.25	5.20	0.37
0.50	3.45 ^a	0	0.50	5.09	0.48
0.75	3.37 ^a	0.08	0.75	4.57	1.0
1.0	3.32 ^a	0.13	1.0	4.57	1.0
1.50	3.20 ^a	0.25	1.50	4.57	1.0

¹Within each column, means with the same letter are not significantly different ($P > 0.05$).

In Fig. 2A, the effects of BS-0.01% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -1.35 and a constant “b” of 5.24. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.13 and the R^2 is 0.95. In Fig. 2B, the effects of BS-0.025% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.57 and a constant “b” of 4.41. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.09 and the R^2 is 0.89. In Fig. 2C, the effects of BS-0.1% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.18 and a constant “b” of 3.49. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.03 and the R^2 is 0.91. According to our results, the steepest slope is the treatment with BS-0.01%, meaning that this treatment in combination with γ -irradiation is the most efficient for increasing the radiosensitization of the virus. All three standard deviation are really low (0.13, 0.09 and 0.03 for BS-0.01%, BS-0.025% and BS-0.1%, respectively). The R^2 of all three treatments are above 0.89, meaning that the majority of the values fits the regression.

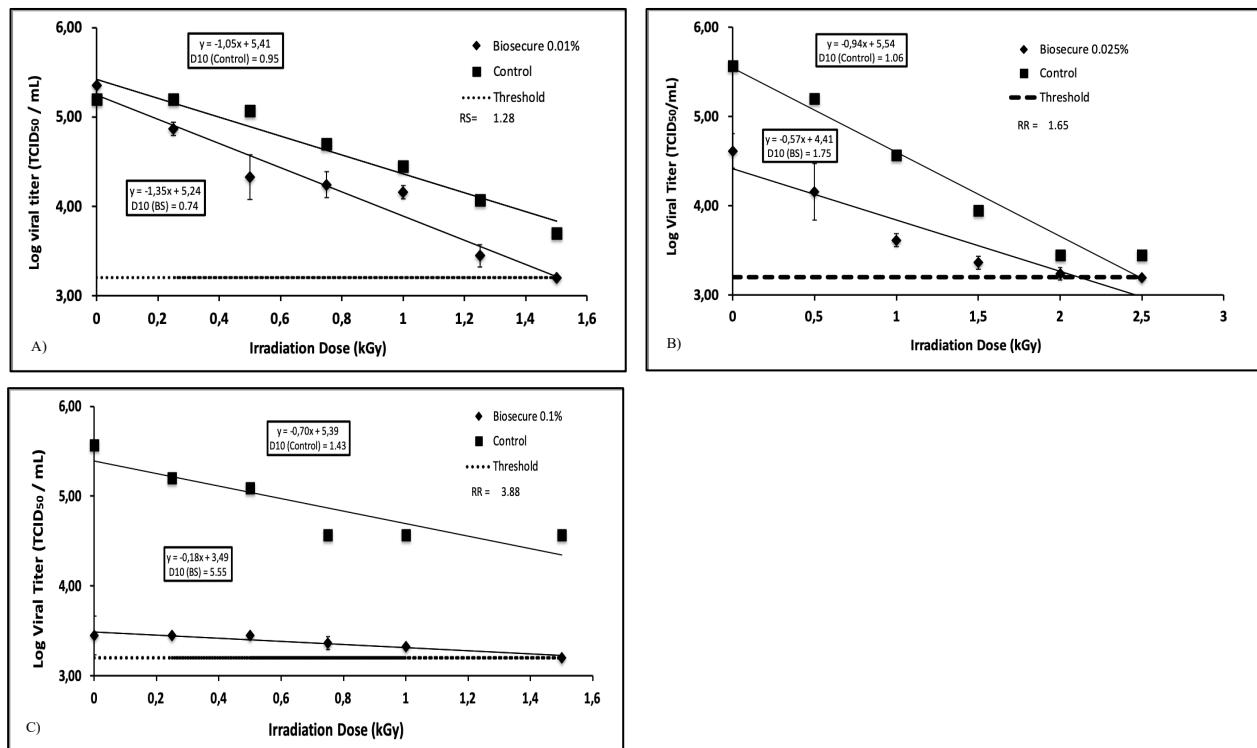


Fig. 2 Viral titer reduction (TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at various doses in combination with BS at (A) BS-0.01%, (B) BS-0.025%, and (C) BS-0.1%.

3.4 Effect of combined treatment of γ -irradiation and CJ on viral titer

The results of the effect of combined treatment of γ -irradiation at doses between 0 kGy and 3 kGy and CJ at A) CJ-0.1% and B) CJ-0.5% are shown in Fig. 3. The slope of treatment regression was found to be more accentuated when the lowest concentration of CJ was used. In Fig. 3A with CJ-0.1%, the D₁₀ values of the treatment and of the control were 0.72 kGy and 1.08 kGy, respectively, exhibiting a relative RR of 1.50. The viral titer reduced from 5.75 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ to 3.74 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ when samples were treated with CJ-0.1% in combination with γ -irradiation at doses of 0 to 1.5 kGy (Table 3). The relative RS values are regrouped in Table 4. As the concentration of CJ increased, RS was found to decrease proportionally, which shows an inverse relation between the concentration of CJ and efficacy of combined treatment. In Fig. 3B, when the virus was treated with CJ-0.5%, the D₁₀ values of the treatment and the control were 1.52 kGy and 1.16 kGy respectively, showing a relative RR of 1.31. The viral titer reduced from 4.24 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ to 3.20 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ for CJ-0.1% in combination with γ -irradiation doses.

Table 3. Recovery of viral titers after different concentration of CJ in combination with γ -irradiation

CJ-0.10%	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)	Control	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)
Irradiation (kGy)					
0	5.75 ^a	0	0	5.20	0
0.25	5.57 ^a	0.18	0.25	5.20	0
0.50	4.99 ^b	0.76	0.50	5.20	0
0.75	4.66 ^{bc}	1.09	0.75	4.82	0.38
1.0	4.32 ^{cd}	1.43	1.0	4.57	0.63
1.25	4.07 ^{cd}	1.68	1.25	4.32	0.88
1.50	3.74 ^d	2.01	1.50	3.82	1.38
CJ-0.50%	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)	Control	Viral titer (log TCID ₅₀ mL ⁻¹)	Reduction (log)
Irradiation (kGy)					
0	4.24 ^{abc}	0	0	5.20	0
0.25	4.32 ^{ab}	-0.08	0.25	5.07	0.13
0.50	4.32 ^{ab}	-0.08	0.50	4.95	0.25
0.75	4.20 ^{ab}	0.04	0.75	4.57	0.63
1.25	3.57 ^{abc}	0.67	1.25	3.95	1.25
1.50	3.28 ^{ac}	0.96	1.50	3.82	1.38
2.0	3.20 ^{abc}	1.04	2.0	3.70	1.50

¹Within each column, means with the same letter are not significantly different ($P > 0.05$).

In Fig. 3A, the effects of CJ-0.1% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -1.39 and a constant “b” of 5.77. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.07 and the R^2 is 0.99. In Fig. 3B, the effects of CJ-0.5% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.66 and a constant “b” of 4.47. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.11 and the R^2 is 0.88. According to our results, the steepest slope is the treatment with CJ-0.1%, meaning that this treatment in combination with γ -irradiation is the most efficient for increasing the radiosensitization of the virus. Both standard deviations are really low,

meaning that the values are not much spread around the mean. The R^2 of both treatments are above 0.88, meaning that the majority of the values fits the regression.

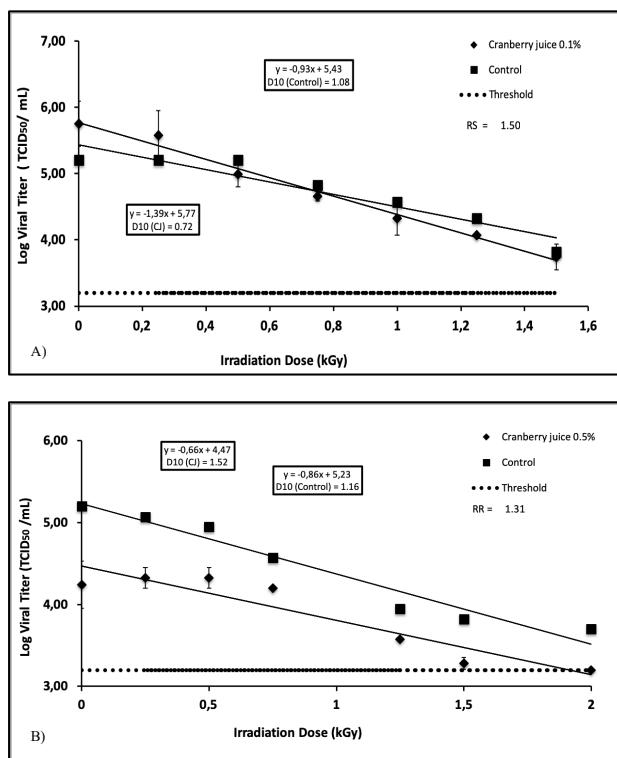


Fig. 3 Viral titer reduction ($\text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$) of FCV-F9 after treatment with γ -irradiation at various doses in combination with CJ at (A) CJ-0.1% and (B) CJ-0.5%.

Table 4. Relative Radiosensitivity or Radioresistance (D_{10} control/ D_{10} treatment) of FCV-F9 after treatment with BS and CJ

Treatment	D_{10} treatment (kGy)	Relative RS or RR
BS (%)		
0.01 (C)	0.95	RS 1.00
0.01 (BS)	0.74	RS 1.28
0.025 (C)	1.06	RS 1.00
0.025 (BS)	1.75	RR 1.65
0.10 (C)	1.43	RS 1.00
0.10 (BS)	5.55	RR 3.88
CJ (%)		
0.1 (C)	1.08	RS 1.00

0.1 (CJ)	0.72	RS 1.50
0.5 (C)	1.16	RS 1.00
0.5 (CJ)	1.52	RR 1.31

RR: Radioresistance. **RS:** Radiosensitization. **BS:** Biosecur in combination with γ -irradiation. **CJ:** Cranberry juice in combination with γ -irradiation. **C:** Control with irradiation only.

4 Discussion

One of the important aims of the study of antimicrobial agents derived from plants and natural extracts is to find natural products for preventing viral infections. Humans have been consuming a variety of plant extracts as traditional medicine, natural therapies, and phytochemicals for centuries. The advantages of plant extracts in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases include cost-effectiveness and safety, as compared to synthetic chemical antimicrobials and disinfectants. However, studies on the effectiveness of plant extracts against NoV are limited and focused on specific phytochemical compounds such as tannins and flavonoids from berries and other fruits (Zhang *et al.*, 2012; D’Souza, 2014). In the present study, the antiviral effect of CJ and BS alone or in combination with γ -irradiation in FCV-F9 using CRFK cells was investigated. An FCV-F9 model was used due to the difficulty of cultivating human NoV in the laboratory. It is well documented that cranberries and BS possess antibacterial and antiviral properties (Su *et al.*, 2010; Methot *et al.*, 2017). Overall, the antiviral activity of CJ and BS was found to be concentration dependent and increased concentrations were more effective against virus, which is similar to previously reported results for organic acids (Su *et al.*, 2010; Joshi *et al.*, 2019).

In the present study, a reduction of $2.04 \log \text{TCID}_{50} \text{ mL}^{-1}$ of FCV-F9 viral titer was observed at a concentration of BS-0.1%, that might be due to the presence of citric acid, ascorbic acids and lactic organic acids (Table 1). The D_{10} value calculated from the slope was 0.05% -BS (Fig. 1A). It has been shown that vitamin C (ascorbic acid) possesses antiviral activities against RNA and DNA viruses (Jariwalla and Harakeh, 1996). Ascorbate can inactivate a wide spectrum of viruses *in-vitro* such as herpes simplex, vaccinia, foot-and-mouth disease, rabies, tobacco mosaic, and bacterial viruses (Jungeblut, 1935). Citric acid at pH 2.5 and at an active concentration of 2.5 % is also efficient against FCV at a short-contact time (1 min) (Whitehead and McCue, 2010). Lactic acid is very efficient against FCV virus (Lee *et al.*, 2012). In fact, during the fermentation of Dongchimi, lactic acid bacteria (LAB) and acidity increases (Lee *et al.*, 2012). It was also showed that the LAB might be responsible for the denaturation of capsid proteins, which can reduce attachment from the virus to the host (Aboubakr *et al.*, 2014). Macinga *et al.* (2008) tested the effect of a new ethanol-based sanitizer containing a synergistic blend of

polyquaternium polymer (PQ-37) and organic acid (citric acid). These results showed a reduction greater than $3 \log_{10}$ PFU mL⁻¹ after a 30 seconds exposure of MNV-1 and FCV-F9. PQ-37 and citric acid together maximizes the activity against mammalian non-enveloped viruses because of the high acidity.

Also, a reduction of 2.20 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ of initial FCV-F9 viral titer was achieved when the virus was treated with CJ-1% (Table 1). The D₁₀ value calculated from the slope is 0.42 %-CJ (Fig. 1B). Su *et al.* (2010) tested the effects of CJ on FCV-F9 at exposure times ranging from 0 to 60 min at room temperature. A viral titer reduction of $5 \log_{10}$ PFU mL⁻¹ after 30 min of treatment with CJ (pH 2.7 and 7.0) was observed. By comparing these results with this present study, it is shown that the authors showed a higher inactivation of FCV using a different viral titration method where the cells are overlaid with DMEM and agarose. It was proposed that the CP inhibit viral penetration to the cells (Lipson *et al.*, 2010). The mechanisms of action of organic acids or polyphenols against NoV surrogates are not yet understood but some hypothesis proposed that it could be attributed to the alteration of the viral capsid and also the nucleic acid (Cao, 2013). NoV is a non-enveloped virus and it was also suggested that due to the acidic nature of organic acids, they denature the proteins of viral capsid, resulting in the inactivation of virus (Cao, 2013). Bioactive compounds such as gallic acid, epicatechin, tannins, and proanthocyanidins found in berry fruits are known to be effective antimicrobial agents (Bahadoran *et al.*, 2013; Khurana *et al.*, 2013; Li *et al.*, 2013). Polyphenols from fruits such as pomegranate, blueberry, and other plant extracts have been shown to possess antiviral properties including against NoV surrogates (Su *et al.*, 2010; Oh *et al.*, 2012). However, the phenolic composition and amounts vary between the various fruit types, where cranberries mainly contain A-type proanthocyanidins. Also, Seo and Choi (2017) showed that pre-treatment with fisetin (50 and 100 μM), EGCG (100 μM), quercetin (100 μM), daidzein (50 μM), and ECG (150 μM), five flavonoids, significantly reduced MNV titer by 50.00 ± 7.14 to 60.67 ± 9.26 %. Authors attributed the antiviral effects of flavonoids to upregulation of expression of antiviral cytokines (IFN-α, IFN-λ, and TNF-α) and interferon-stimulating genes (Mx and ZAP).

γ-rays can interact with nucleic acids by the production of free radicals, oxygen and hydroxyl radicals (Park and Ha, 2017). Foodborne viruses can be eliminated by irradiation at doses ranging from 2 to 8 kGy (Monk *et al.*, 1995). In this present study, the highest viral titer reduction of 2.11 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ was achieved after treatment with a 3.0 kGy γ-irradiation dose (Table 1). The D₁₀ value calculated from the slope was 1.34 kGy (Fig. 1C).

γ-irradiation has been shown to inactivate MNV-1 by altering virion geometry, by damaging the capsid protein and genomic RNA and might also disrupt the primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary structures of viral proteins (Feng *et al.*, 2011). Kang *et al.* (2016) showed that γ-irradiation at a dose > 7 kGy was effective in reducing MNV-1 titers by more than $1 \log_{10}$ PFU mL⁻¹ in half-dried seafood products during the cold storage at 10 °C. Also, it was shown that ultrafast laser irradiation at 60 femtosecond (fs)

pulses at a repetition rate of 80 Megahertz (MHz) induces partial unfolding of viral proteins of the capsid by disrupting hydrogen bonds and/or hydrophobic interactions, leading to aggregation of closely associated viral proteins and inactivation of the virus (Tsen *et al.*, 2012). A reduction of more than 5 log PFU mL⁻¹ of murine cytomegalovirus (MCMV) was observed and no significant change in virion structure of capsid and membranes was observed.

The combinations of CJ or BS with γ -irradiation showed synergy against FCV-F9. The lower the concentration of BS (Fig. 2) or CJ (Fig. 3) was, higher the relative RS value was, exhibiting an inverse relation between the concentration of BS or CJ and efficacy of combined treatment. Relative RS can be observed after combining quercetin to radiotherapy against DLD-1 human colon tumor fragment. Quercetin is one of the main components in flavonoids which have been characterized to have the functions of enhancing immune function, anti-oxidation, anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and anti-tumoral. The *in-vitro* relative RS of the tumor after X-rays irradiation with quercetin in DLD1 cells line was 1.87 kGy (Lin *et al.*, 2012).

It is possible that the relative RR observed with higher concentrations of natural extracts is explained by presence of polyphenols in BS and CJ that both act as antioxidants. Assemand *et al.* (2003) have demonstrated that the irradiation of caeruloplasmin, a protein with good antioxidant properties, did not affect its structure and biological properties when sterilized by γ -irradiation in presence of tyrosine. Tyrosine can act as an antioxidant by forming bi-tyrosine by oxidation, which could protect the caeruloplasmin protein. The viral capsid is composed of proteins and it is possible that the proteins may have been protected by the high quantities of antioxidants in the natural extracts. Relative RR may also be caused by the chemical components of the substrate medium. For example, the presence of alcohols, carbohydrates and proteins in food could increase the tolerance of microorganism (Lawrence and Block, 1968). Scavengers of reactive oxygen species (ROS) may react with the free radicals produced by γ -irradiation and could protect the radiation damage to the virus-infected cell normally attacked by the free radicals (Thornley, 1963). The presence of antioxidants in meat such as carnosine can decrease the antimicrobial efficacy of irradiation because they neutralize the free radicals before they attacked the DNA of the microorganism (Sommers and Fan, 2002). It has also been showed that high quantities of protein in the medium when treated with γ -irradiation of FCV-F9 virus induced RR of virus (de Roda Husman *et al.*, 2004). Yeasts are also radioresistant because of their production of organic acids like lactic acid, acetic acid and alcohols that act as scavengers to protect yeasts from free radicals produced by γ -irradiation (Aquino, 2011). Other studies showed the effects of hydrostatic pressure, ultraviolet (UV) light, and γ -irradiation on FCV-F9 as a human NoV surrogate and around 3 log reductions were reported for all the three processing methods (Husman *et al.*, 2004; Sharma *et al.*, 2008). Jung *et al.* (2009) revealed that the presence of organic substances (protein, sugar, and fat) and irradiation temperature were the important

factors for the inactivation of viruses by γ -irradiation, but pH and salt had a little effect on the effectiveness of γ -irradiation. It was shown that cold temperature (-20 °C) increased RR of poliovirus, a surrogate of NoV. Also, the efficiency of γ -irradiation is inhibited by organic substances such as protein, sugar and fat as they act as scavengers (Jung *et al.*, 2009).

The present study helps to provide a better understanding on the effective optimum concentration levels of CJ and BS in combination with γ -irradiation to inactivate the target viruses for use as viral elimination. At respective concentration of BS-0.01% and CJ-0.1%, a relative RS of more than 1.28 and 1.50 was respectively observed (Table 4). Natural extracts in combination with γ -irradiation has permitted to reduce the needed irradiation dose to eliminate 6 log TCID₅₀ mL⁻¹ of virus from 8 kGy to 5.33 kGy for CJ and from 8 kGy to 6.25 kGy for BS. The reported results provide useful data for designing new chemical and physical treatments to reduce or eliminate viral contamination.

The present study demonstrates the effect of combined cold processes like the addition of natural extracts and γ -irradiation treatment on the growth of FCV-F9. It was shown that BS used alone is more efficient than CJ used alone against FCV-F9 virus *in-vitro*. Furthermore, the viral titer reduction was highest with the higher concentrations of CJ (CJ-1%) or BS (BS-0.10%) used alone. However, when CJ and BS were used in combination with γ -irradiation, the maximum viral titer reduction was obtained with the lowest concentrations of CJ (CJ-0.1%) and BS (BS-0.01%) and showed a viral radiosensitization of 1.50 and 1.28, respectively. This finding indicates that CJ and BS could be used as antiviral agents alone or in combination with γ -irradiation. The results show promise for the utilization of CJ and BS in the prevention of NoV outbreaks. Potential applications include use for viral reduction in ready-to-eat foods, such as dressings for deli meats, salads, or for use in juices or juice-cocktail combinations. CJ and BS could also be used in Hurdle technology along with other processing technologies such as high pressure or low heat to maintain low processing cost. However, further studies need to be undertaken with food models, as well as sensory evaluations on treated products, before any claims can be made or to be used or recommended for prevention and control. Future work is currently being undertaken *in-situ* using CJ, BS in combination with γ -irradiation on lettuce as a food model to determine antiviral effects.

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Conflict of interest

No conflict of interest declared.

6 References

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Le chapitre 3 abordait l'élimination virale du FCV-F9 de façon *in-vitro* et s'intitule : « Radiosensitivity increase of FCV-F9 virus using combined treatments with natural antimicrobials and γ -irradiation ». L'objectif de ce papier était de sélectionner des concentrations optimales de BS et de CJ ainsi que la dose d'irradiation optimale contre le FCV-F9 en mesurant leur D_{10} respective. L'hypothèse de recherche était que les combinaisons des extraits naturels avec l'irradiation- γ permettrait de diminuer la dose d'irradiation requise pour éliminer le virus FCV-F9 *in-vitro*. Nous avons donc sélectionné le jus de canneberge afin de poursuivre nos recherches de traitements efficaces contre le FCV-F9 à la surface de laitue iceberg. Nous avons ensuite testé dans le chapitre 4 intitulé : « Radiosensitivity of FCV-F9 on Iceberg lettuce surface after combined treatments with γ -irradiation » l'ozonation, l'utilisation de jus de canneberge et l'irradiation- γ de façon seule ou en combinaison afin de trouver la combinaison optimale de traitement. Le CJ-0.25%, l' O_3 à 5 ppm durant 7.5 minutes et l'irradiation à 1.5 kGy étaient les conditions les plus optimales de traitements.

Chapitre 4: Radiosensitivity of FCV-F9 on Iceberg lettuce surface after combined treatments with γ -irradiation

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Contribution des auteurs

Alexandra Gobeil a réalisé les manipulations et la rédaction de l'article.

Shiv Shankar a participé à la correction de l'article.

Monique Lacroix: Directrice de recherche, a participé à la planification des expériences et aux discussions des résultats et a aussi procédé à la correction de l'article.

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Abstract

The surface of iceberg lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.) is favorable to the survival of pathogens like bacteria, parasites, and viruses such as Norovirus. The present study investigates the antiviral properties of cranberry juice (CJ), ozone (O_3) and gamma irradiation (γ -irradiation) alone or in combination against FCV-F9 virus present on the surface of iceberg lettuce. The lettuce leaves were inoculated with viral suspensions at titers of ~ 6 log TCID₅₀/mL and treated with CJ, O_3 , and γ -irradiation alone and in combination during storage at 4°C. The D₁₀ values of 1.21 kGy, 2.23 %-CJ, and 14.93 ppm- O_3 were obtained when samples were treated with various doses of irradiation, CJ, and O_3 , respectively. Relative radiosensitization (RS) of FCV-F9 virus on lettuce was 1.20, 1.50, 1.09, and 1.00 after combined treatments with CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50%, and CJ-1.50%, respectively. Optimum doses of treatments were found to be 5 ppm for 7.5 min for O_3 , CJ-0.25%, and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy when each treatment was executed alone. The combination of the three treatments showed the highest reduction of 2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL from initial inoculated viral load on lettuce (~ 7 log TCID₅₀/mL) during 10 days of storage at 4 °C. Also, the antibacterial properties of treatments and physico-chemical quality of lettuce were investigated during 13 days of storage at 4 °C. The treatment of lettuce alone with γ -irradiation (1.5 kGy) reduced by 3 log CFU/g the total flora, however, the combination of CJ (0.25%) with irradiation (1.5 kGy) reduced ~ 5 log CFU/g after 13 days of storage at 4 °C. The texture and color of the treated lettuce with the combined treatment changed slightly during storage, while chlorophyll increased by 3.81 µg/mL after 10 days of storage at 4 °C. Significant differences in taste and color were observed in lettuce without treatments after 5 days of storage, whereas no difference was observed after treatments with CJ-0.25% or with combined treatments.

Keywords: Human Norovirus (NoV), Feline calicivirus (FCV), Lettuce, Organic acids, Irradiation, Ozone.

Highlights

- Combination of γ -irradiation, CJ and O₃ is more efficient against FCV than alone treatment.
- Irradiation alone and combined treatments exhibited potent antibacterial activity.
- Combined treatment did not change the physico chemical and sensorial properties of lettuce.
- Chlorophyll pigment increased in iceberg lettuce after combination of treatments.

1 INTRODUCTION

Leafy green vegetables like iceberg lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.) are known for transmission of human pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, and parasites and for causing major foodborne diseases worldwide (Aw *et al.*, 2016; Mescle *et al.*, 1988). Human Noroviruses (NoV) are the cause of 50 % of foodborne disease outbreaks in the United States (Widdowson *et al.*, 2004) and cause 26 % of hospitalizations and 11 % of all deaths linked to foodborne diseases (Kniel *et al.*, 2017). NoV are transported by fecal-oral route and can occur before and after harvest by cross-contamination (Kniel *et al.*, 2017; Leuenberger *et al.*, 2007; Su and D'Souza, 2013).

Since there is no actual cellular model for NoV, MNV-1 and FCV-F9 surrogates are used because of their same size and shape of NoV. CRFK and RAW264.7 cell lines were used to propagate FCV-F9 and MNV-1 viruses, respectively (Su and D'Souza, 2013). Since NoV is inactivated by heat treatment during cooking at more than 145 °F (CDC, 2019; Kniel *et al.*, 2017), the use of cold pasteurisation in combined treatments could be an alternative method to assure food safety. For example, ozonation (Elvis and Ekta, 2011; Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011), fermentation (Lee *et al.*, 2012), γ -irradiation (Feng *et al.*, 2011), and edible coatings using natural antimicrobials like fruit extracts (Su and D'Souza, 2011) could be used.

The use of combined treatments could be more effective by reducing the time of the treatment or the treatment level (Yuk *et al.*, 2006). The maximum irradiation dose permitted for lettuce is between 1-4 kGy depending of the country (Adams *et al.*, 2016, Fan *et al.*, 2012B) but the technology is not yet accepted in Canada for fresh lettuce (CFIA, 2019). Several studies on the quality of vegetables such as lettuce mentioned that the visual quality is maintained up to a dose of 1 kGy (Fan and Sokorai, 2008). Fan *et al.* (2012A) found that fresh-cut lettuce stored under modified atmosphere packages (MAP) after an irradiation treatment at 1 or 2 kGy did not get deteriorated in appearance and texture.

Cranberry juice (CJ) contains organic acids; the most predominant are quinic, malic, shikimic and citric acids, which show strong antimicrobial activity (Côté *et al.*, 2011; Jensen *et al.*, 2017). These organic acids have pKas around 4.5 and transform into the protonated form at low pH and cross the cell membrane to destroy microbial cells (Kniel *et al.*, 2017). CJ has also antiviral activities and this property is mainly due to the decrease in pH (Akbas and Ölmez, 2007).

Ozone (O_3) is also an effective disinfectant agent that has a large antimicrobial spectrum against bacteria, viruses, as well as bacterial and fungal spores (Khadre *et al.*, 2001). In addition, it can be applied in aqueous or gaseous states, leaves no residues and only requires air for its production (Agriculture-Manitoba, 2019). O_3 damages the proteins and peptidoglycan molecules present on the viral capsid (Wysok *et al.*, 2006).

Irradiation treatment can also inhibit food viruses but requires doses in excess of 10 kGy to eliminate HAV (Bidawid *et al.*, 2000). The use of combined treatments allows for a reduction of treatment

levels, while increasing viral sensitivity and permits a better preservation of the physico-chemical and nutritional quality of the food (Gibriel *et al.*, 2013).

Therefore, the aim of this research is to verify the possible effectiveness of CJ and O₃ in combination with γ -irradiation to eliminate the viral load on the surface of iceberg lettuce.

2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Culture of CRFK cells.

CRFK cells (ATCC-CCL94) were used as cellular host for FCV-F9 virus and were maintained in Dulbecco's minimum essential medium (DMEM: Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) supplemented with 10 % fetal bovine serum (FBS, Wisent, Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Québec, Canada) and 1 % Streptomycin-Penicillin antibiotic (Gibco, Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada). The medium was added to a 75 cm² culture flasks and incubated at 37 °C, in a humidified incubator containing 5 % CO₂. Cells were subcultured every 2-3 days.

2.2 Preparation of viral pool.

CRFK cells were grown to 90 % confluence in 25 cm² culture flasks (Sarstedt, Montréal, Québec, Canada), the culture medium (DMEM + 10 % FBS) was then removed, and the monolayer of cells was washed twice with Dulbecco's Phosphate-Buffered Saline (DPBS) (pH 7.0-7.2). A 200 µL aliquot of viral inoculum (FCV-F9 virus (ATCC VR-651)) was then added to each flask and incubated at 37 °C under 5 % CO₂ for 90 min to allow viral adsorption. Then, 7 mL of medium (DMEM + 2 % FBS + 1 % strep-pen) was added to each flask and incubated for 16-18 h at 37 °C and 5 % CO₂ which resulted in virus-induced destruction of nearly 90 % of the monolayer verified by microscopy. Each virus-infected flask was first frozen at -80 °C for 5 min and then thawed at 37 °C for 5 min followed by centrifugation at 1500 x g for 15 min to remove cell debris. The supernatant containing the virus at ~ 6 log TCID₅₀/mL was dispensed into 1 mL aliquots and stored at -80 °C.

2.3 Antimicrobial formulation preparation.

Cranberry juice concentrate (CJ) 12100-5°BRIX (ATOKA, Manseau, QC, Canada) was prepared in distilled water. Respective concentrations of CJ were prepared by adding 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1, 1.5 and 2 g of CJ in 99.9 (CJ-0.1%), 99.75 (CJ-0.25%), 99.5 (CJ-0.5%), 99.25 (CJ-0.75%), 99 (CJ-1.0%), 98.5 (CJ-1.5%) and 98 (CJ-2.0%) mL of distilled water. The CJ solutions were produced next to a Bunsen burner and also tested for possible bacterial contamination.

2.4 Raw material and spraying treatment with the formulation.

Iceberg lettuce was purchased from a local store IGA (Montréal, IGA extra Supermarché Pierre Leduc Inc.). Each lettuce sample (5 g) was washed with 200 ppm bleach water (La Parisienne, Montréal, Québec, Canada) and dried for 60 min under UV-light in a level 2 biosafety cabinet. The samples were then placed

on a sterile aluminum sheet and inoculated with 250 µL of viral suspension at titers of ~ 6 log TCID₅₀/mL. All samples were left to dry for 45-60 min under sterile conditions. The formulation containing CJ was uniformly sprayed on lettuce in order to cover the surface of the leaf using an Air Spray Gun (MasterCraft), at a distance of 30 cm and an outlet air pressure of 30 psi. Samples were left to dry for 1 h and stored overnight at 4 °C before microbiological analysis.

2.5 Ozonation treatment.

The lettuce samples (5 g) were inoculated with virus as above. Then the samples were transferred on stainless steel (SS) perforated plate and put into a SS O₃ diffusion chamber. Ozonation treatment at 5 ppm was performed using an ozone generator (Ozone Innovations Inc., Drummondville, Qc, Canada) at 15 standard cubic feet/h (SCFH) for 0, 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, and 15 min. Samples were stored overnight at 4 °C before microbiological analysis.

2.6 γ-irradiation treatment.

Lettuce samples were inoculated with ~ 6 log TCID₅₀/mL of FCV-F9 virus and irradiated with γ-irradiation doses from 0 to 2.5 kGy to determine D₁₀ values. Irradiation was also applied from 0 to 1.5 kGy on pre-treated lettuce with CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.5%, and CJ-1.5% against FCV-F9 virus. Another treatment was performed with a combination of CJ-0.25%, O₃ at 5 ppm for 7.5 min, and γ-irradiation at 1.5 kGy to evaluate the total flora and physico-chemical parameters of lettuce. γ-irradiation was carried out at the Canadian Irradiation Center, in a UC-15 A underwater calibrator (Nordion Inc., Kanata, Ontario, Canada) equipped with a ⁶⁰Co source and having a dose rate of 9.5 kGy/h. The D₁₀ is defined as the radiation dose required for reducing 90 % population (reduction by 1 log TCID₅₀/mL) of viable feline calicivirus in the CRFK cell line.

To calculate the D₁₀ value, viral titer counts (log TCID₅₀/mL) were plotted against radiation doses, and the reciprocal of the slope of the trend line was extracted from the plot. Relative radiation sensitivity was determined using the following equation:

$$\text{Relative radiation sensitivity} = (\text{D}_{10} \text{ of control sample}) / (\text{D}_{10} \text{ of sample treated in presence of antimicrobial compound}).$$

2.7 Viral analysis and infection of CRFK cells.

Iceberg lettuce samples (5 ± 0.5 g) were homogenized for 2 min at 230 rpm in 24.75 mL of sterile peptone water (0.1 % w/v) with a stomacher 400-Circulator (Seward Laboratory Systems Inc., Davie, FL, USA). The homogenate was 10-fold serially diluted in Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) using a 96 well plate with a round bottom. Infection of CRFK cells by FCV-F9 virus was made after 90 % confluence was reached. The cells were washed twice with DPBS. The confluent CRFK cells were trypsinized with 1 mL of trypsin (concentration 1X, pH 7.2-8.0) (Fisher Scientific, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) in 75 cm² flasks.

Cells were seeded in 96 well plates (flat bottom for adherent cell culture) with a density of 10^5 cells per well in 100 μL of DMEM + 10 % FBS + 1 % Pen/Strep and then incubated overnight in 5 % CO₂ at 37 °C. Cells reached a confluence of 80- 90 % after overnight incubation. Once viral dilutions were completed, 20 μL of each dilution was added into the corresponding wells in the microplate containing cells. The medium was removed before addition of diluted viral samples. The last 2 columns were kept as controls without virus. Microplates with flat bottom were incubated for 30-60 min at 37 °C. A quantity of 150 μL of DMEM + 2% FBS was then added to the microplate. The microplate was incubated for 48 h in 5 % CO₂ at 37 °C. Cytopathic effects were determined by visual inspection under the optical microscope.

2.8 Analysis by TCID₅₀.

The viral titer was measured with the endpoint dilution assay with Tissue Culture Infective Dose 50 (TCID₅₀) in order to evaluate the FCV-F9 titer. This method quantifies the quantity of virus needed to produce cytopathic effects in 50 % of cellular culture. The Spearman-Karber method was used (Brié *et al.*, 2017) to calculate viral titer (TCID₅₀/mL) after infection (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011).

2.9 Preparation of bacterial suspension.

A quantity of 25 g iceberg lettuce was immersed in 75 mL of peptone water (0.1 % w/v) and homogenized for 2 min using a Stomacher. Subsequently, 1 mL of the resulting mixture was incubated in 9 mL of Tryptic Soy Broth (TSB; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI, USA) at 37 °C for 24 h. Total mesophilic flora (TMF) were stored at -80 °C in TSB in the presence of 10 % (v/v) glycerol. Before each experiment, bacteria were propagated through 2 consecutive cycles of 24 h in TSB at 37 °C. The cultivated cultures were centrifuged at 5,000 x g for 15 min and the pellets were washed twice in peptone water (0.1 % w/v) to obtain working cultures containing ~ 10^8 CFU (colony forming unit)/g.

2.10 Effects of bioactive coating, ozonation, and γ -irradiation on total flora.

Iceberg lettuce samples (25±1 g) were washed with 200 ppm of chlorine water and then dried on an aluminum sheet under a biological hood under UV light. Samples were inoculated with 1 mL of TMF at ~ 10^5 CFU/g and dried for 1 h. Treatments of O₃ (Ozone Innovations Inc., Drummondville, QC, Canada) at 5 ppm for 7.5 min, uniform spraying of CJ-0.25%, and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy were made alone or in combination. Samples were stored at 4°C in Whirlpak bags sealed under normal atmosphere. Five groups were tested (1) no treatment, (2) CJ-0.25%, (3) γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy, (4) O₃ at 5 ppm for 7.5 min and (5) combination of the three treatments. Microbiological analysis was done on day 0, 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13. On analysis day, samples (25±1 g) were homogenized for 2 min at 230 rpm in 225 mL of sterile peptone water (0.1 % w/v) with a stomacher. A quantity of 100 μL of the homogenate and all serial dilutions 1:10 in peptone water were inoculated on TSA (Tryptic Soy Agar) for bacterial enumeration of TMF. Inoculated plates were incubated at 37 °C for 24 h.

2.11 Color, chlorophyll and texture measurements.

Color determination was carried out on 5 preselected locations of 5 cm diameter (on the extremity and on the center) on the surface of each lettuce sample using a Minolta Colorimeter Color reader CR10 (Konica Minolta Sensing, Inc, Mahwah, NJ, USA). L* (lightness, + = lighter, - = darker), a* (+ = redder, - = greener), b* (+ = yellower, - = bluer) and H*, hue angle° (difference in hue) were quantified in each sample. Chlorophyll content was determined at 1 preselected location on the surface of each sample according to Lichtenthaler and Welburn (Lichtenthaler and Wellburn, 1983). A quantity of 2.0 g of sample was combined with 2 mL acetone 80 % and blended using a mortar and pestle. This homogenate was then centrifuged at 5,000 RPM for 5 min at 4 °C. The blending step was repeated until the homogenate became transparent and all supernatants were pooled together and made the volume to 10 mL with acetone 80 %. Absorbance was taken at 663 and 646 nm using a DMS 100S spectrophotometer (Varian Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON, Canada). Texture analysis was carried out on the samples during the storage using a Stevens LFRA TA-1000 Texturometer (Texture Technology Corp., Scarsdale, NY, USA). Each sample was measured on 3 different parts of the leaf. The analysis was conducted with TA7 probe of 2 mm diameter. The distance through the sample was set at 10 mm. Color, chlorophyll and texture analysis was measured during storage on day 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 after all treatments.

2.12 Sensory evaluations.

Sensory evaluation was carried out using a hedonic test with a nine points scale (1 = dislike extremely; 5 = neither like nor dislike; 9 = like extremely) with three samples (combination of irradiated at 1.5 kGy, sprayed with CJ-0.25% and ozonated at 5ppm; sprayed with CJ-0.25% alone; and a control without any treatment) by 15 panelists during storage at days 1, 3, 5. For each panelist, 3 pieces of lettuce (~ 5 cm × 5 cm) were served to evaluate for the texture, the smell, the appearance, and the flavor.

2.13 Statistical analysis.

Each experiment was done in triplicate ($n=3$) and for each replicate, 3 samples were analyzed. Analysis of variance (ANOVA), Tukey HSD's test for equal variances and Tamhane's T2 test for unequal variances were made for statistical analysis with SPSS 18.0 software (SPSS Inc., USA). Differences in means were significant when confidence interval was less than 5 % ($p \leq 0.05$).

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Effects of γ -irradiation, CJ, and O₃ against FCV-F9 virus.

γ -Irradiation at doses ranging from 0 to 2.5 kGy were used against FCV-F9 inoculated on iceberg lettuce and results are presented in Figure 1A). The lettuce was inoculated with an initial viral load of FCV-F9 at 6.31 ± 0.05 log TCID₅₀/mL and after irradiation at 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 2.5 kGy, viral titers were reduced to 6.24 ± 0.0 , 5.71 ± 0.05 , 5.67 ± 0.05 , 4.56 ± 0.07 , and 4.42 ± 0.02 log TCID₅₀/mL, respectively, showing a 1.89 log TCID₅₀/mL reduction after a treatment of 2.5 kGy. A previous study on

kimchi showed that γ -irradiation was effective on a NoV surrogate as the dose increased and a dose of 10 kGy was necessary to reduce the NoV surrogate by 1.76 log PFU/mL (Park and Ha, 2017). Feng *et al.* (2011) tested the effect of γ -irradiation at 5.6 kGy against vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) and MNV-1 inoculated on fresh food and found that VSV was more susceptible than MNV-1 most likely due to the size of its genome. γ -irradiation generates oxygen and hydroxyl radicals that damage biological structures of microorganisms and nucleic acids of viruses (Park and Ha, 2017).

In Figure 1B), various concentrations of CJ (from 0.1% to 1.5%) were used against FCV-F9 on iceberg lettuce leaf. The initial virus titer present on lettuce was 5.70 log TCID₅₀/mL which was reduced to 5.12, 4.99, 4.99, 4.87, 4.85 to 4.80 log TCID₅₀/mL with CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50%, CJ-0.75%, CJ-1.0%, and CJ-1.5%, respectively. NoV is normally stable under acidic conditions including those found in the human stomach (Leuenberger *et al.*, 2007). Organic acids in small concentrations, in combination with nisin, can be effective against flavor flaws in meat products (Thurston-Enriquez *et al.*, 2005). Su *et al.* (2010) showed that CJ at pH of 2.6 and pH of 7.0 decreased the FCV-F9 viral titer from 5 log₁₀ PFU/mL to undetectable levels within 30 and 10 min, respectively.

Figure 1C) shows an exposition time from 0 to 15 min of O₃ at 5 ppm was sufficient to reduce the FCV viral titer on iceberg lettuce. The initial viral load was 5.54 log TCID₅₀/mL on lettuce and after a treatment with O₃ at 5 ppm for 2.5, 5.0, 7.5, 10 and 15 min, the viral titer was reduced to 4.99, 4.74, 4.62, 4.57, and 4.41 log TCID₅₀/mL, respectively. A reduction of 90 % of the initial viral load was observed on the surface of iceberg lettuce after 15 min of contact with 5 ppm O₃. Some authors found that FCV is inactivated by 4.28 log with 1 mg/L of deionized sterile ozonated water for 15 sec, at pH 7 and 5 °C (Thurston-Enriquez *et al.*, 2005). NoV has also been reduced by more than 3 log after an O₃ treatment in water during 10 sec, at pH 7 and 5 °C (Shin and Sobsey, 2003). Hirneisen *et al.* (2011) showed that a 5-10 min exposition with O₃ 6.25 ppm (0.9 g of O₃/h) was needed to decrease viral titers of FCV on lettuce and green onions. The authors attributed this to the organic composition of the vegetable because O₃ reacts with the complex organic compounds in foods due to the high oxidation potential (Hirneisen *et al.*, 2011).

In Fig. 1A, the effects of various γ -irradiation doses on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.83 and a constant “b” of 6.52. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.13 and the coefficient of determination (R^2) is 0.91. The p-value calculated is 0.003, meaning that the regression is significant ($p \leq 0.05$). In Fig. 1B, the effects of various concentrations of CJ on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.42 and a constant “b” of 5.29. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.17 and the R^2 is 0.54. The p-value calculated is on the threshold of statistic of =0.059, meaning that the regression is not significant ($p > 0.05$) but is close to be significant. In Fig. 1C, the effects of various O₃ exposition time on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope

of -0.07 and a constant “b” of 5.26. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.02 and the R^2 is 0.80. The p-value calculated is 0.02, meaning that the regression is significant ($p \leq 0.05$). Despite the fact that the slope of treatment with CJ is not significant of very little, the treatment with the steepest slope is with the γ -irradiation alone. The highest standard deviation is observed with CJ treatment (0.17) and showed the lowest R^2 (0.54). Overall, the best treatment to use alone against FCV-F9 on lettuce is the γ -irradiation.

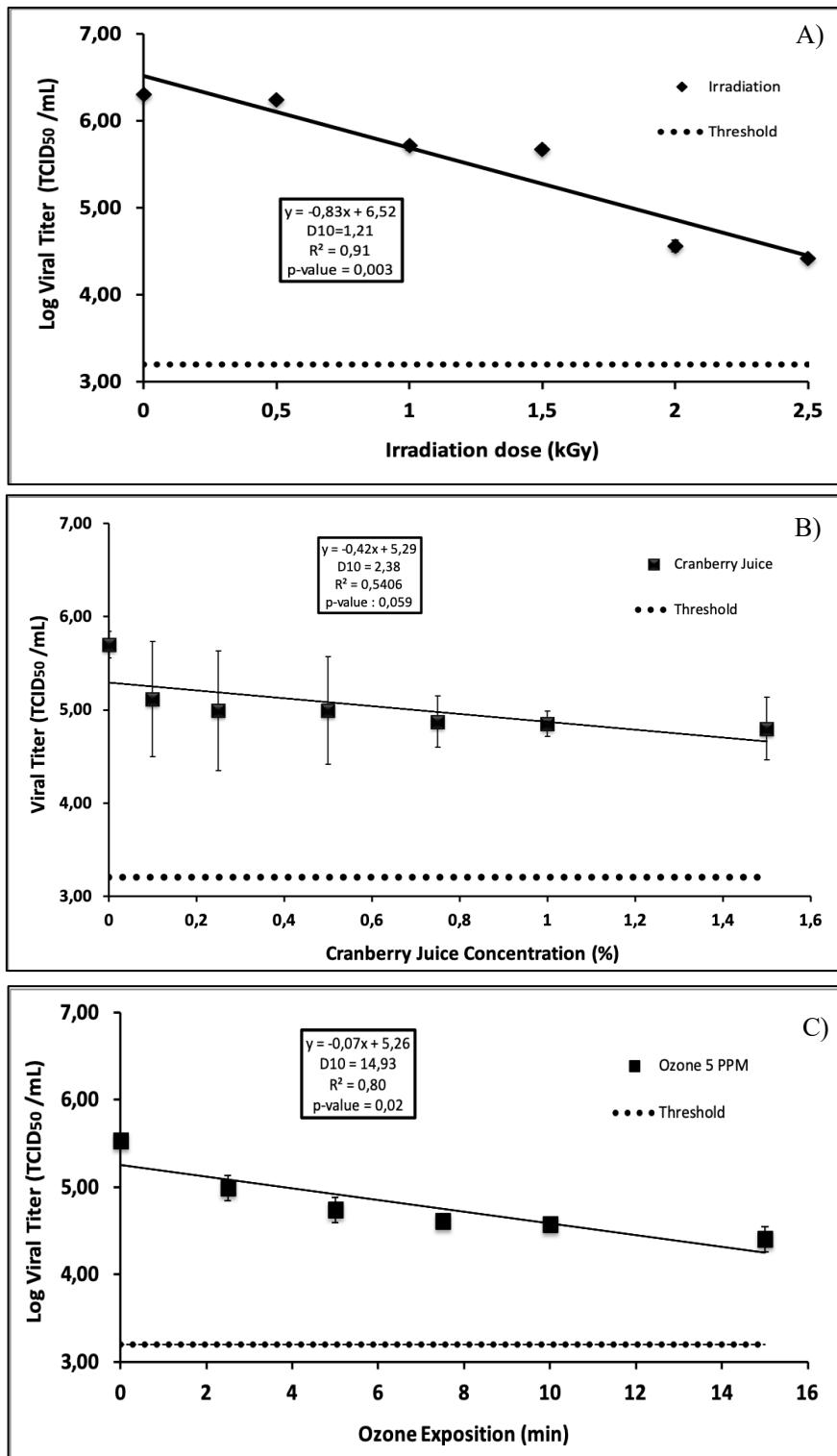


Fig. 1. Individual effects of (A) γ -irradiation, (B) CJ and (C) O_3 on the viral titer of FCV-F9 at different doses on iceberg lettuce at Day 0 of storage

3.2 Combined effects of γ -irradiation and CJ against FCV-F9 virus.

Figure 2A) shows the effect of combined treatments of CJ-0.10 with γ -irradiation doses of 0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0 and 1.5 kGy on virus. The initial viral load was 6.16 log TCID₅₀/mL which reduced by 0.71, 0.84, 0.96, 1.21 and 1.67, respectively, as the irradiation doses increased. The D₁₀ values (kGy) for combined treatment with CJ-0.10% and control were 0.95 and 1.14 kGy respectively. Relative radiosensitization (RS) is 1.2 for the combined treatment using γ -irradiation with CJ-0.10% showing that the used of combined treatment of irradiation with CJ-0.10% concentration is better than the irradiation treatment without CJ.

Figure 2B) shows the effect of combined treatments of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation. The initial viral load on lettuce was 6.05 log TCID₅₀/mL and the reductions from 0.02 to 0.98 log TCID₅₀/mL for doses ranging from 0.25 to 1.5 kGy were observed. A higher reduction was observed at 1.5 kGy in presence of CJ-0.1%. The D₁₀ values (kGy) of samples treated with CJ-0.25% and control (irradiation without CJ) were 1.33 and 2.0, respectively, showing a relative RS of 1.5. By extrapolation, γ -irradiation alone at 4 kGy would be needed to eliminate the FCV-F9 virus on lettuce but when irradiation was done in combination in presence of CJ-0.25%, an irradiation dose of only 2.66 kGy would be needed to eliminate the virus.

Figure 2C) shows the effect of combined treatments of CJ-0.50% with the same γ -irradiation doses as above. It was demonstrated that there was a significant difference between 0 kGy and 1.5 kGy ($p \leq 0.05$). Initial viral load on lettuce was 5.95 log TCID₅₀/mL, and after irradiation at 0.25 and 1.5 kGy, virus titer reductions were from 0.08 to 0.71 log TCID₅₀/mL, respectively. The D₁₀ values (kGy) of samples irradiated in presence of CJ-0.5% and of sample without CJ were 1.91 and 2.08 respectively, showing a relative RS of 1.09 when the irradiation treatment was done in presence of CJ.

Figure 2D) illustrates the effect of combined treatment of CJ-1.5% with the irradiation doses as above. The initial viral load was 5.80 log TCID₅₀/mL and reductions of 0.02 to 0.60 log TCID₅₀/mL were observed as the irradiation doses increased. The viral titer decreased slowly after treatment with CJ-1.5%. The D₁₀ values (kGy) of samples irradiated in presence of CJ-1.5% and without CJ (control) were 2.08 and 2.09, respectively, showing a relative RS of 1, meaning no significant difference ($p > 0.05$) against FCV-F9 virus when CJ-1.5% is added before irradiation treatment. The highest RS is observed when combining CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation. The phenomenon is a synergy between two factors (γ -irradiation and CJ), where a low concentration of CJ is better for viral RS, but CJ-0.1% was not as effective as CJ-0.25%. There are not many studies combining organic acids or even no study using CJ and γ -irradiation in combination against NoV on the food surface. Organic acids and γ -irradiation combined were more effective against microbial counts and coliforms during storage of pork meat (Kim *et al.*, 2004). Previous

research has shown an interaction between ascorbic acid and γ -irradiation on total coliforms and aerobic plate counts (APCs) on beef patties (Giroux *et al.*, 2001).

In Fig. 2A, the effects of various γ -irradiation doses combined with CJ-0.1% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -1.05 and a constant "b" of 6.27. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.15 and the R^2 is 0.92. The p-value calculated is 0.002, meaning that the regression is significant ($p \leq 0.05$). In Fig. 2B, the effects of various γ -irradiation doses combined with CJ-0.25% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.75 and a constant "b" of 6.25. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.15 and the R^2 is 0.87. The p-value calculated is 0.007, meaning that the regression is significant ($p \leq 0.05$). In Fig. 2C, the effects of various γ -irradiation doses combined with CJ-0.50% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.52 and a constant "b" of 6.30. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.04 and the R^2 is 0.97. The p-value calculated is 0.0002, meaning that the regression is highly significant ($p \leq 0.05$). In Fig. 2D, the effects of various γ -irradiation doses combined with CJ-1.50% on FCV-F9 viral titer are shown. According to statistical analyzes, the data showed a regression slope of -0.48 and a constant "b" of 6.29. The standard deviation of the regression is 0.05 and the R^2 is 0.96. The p-value calculated is 0.0007, meaning that the regression is highly significant ($p \leq 0.05$). In correlation with our results, the most efficient combination of CJ with γ -irradiation is CJ-0.1% because of the steepest slope of -1.05. All four of R^2 are high, 0.92, 0.87, 0.97 and 0.96 for CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50% and CJ-1.5%, respectively. The respective standard deviations are 0.15, 0.15, 0.04 and 0.05 (for ascending CJ concentrations), meaning that the treatment with values that are not much spread around the mean is CJ-0.5%. All four treatments show p-values that are really significant ($p \leq 0.05$).

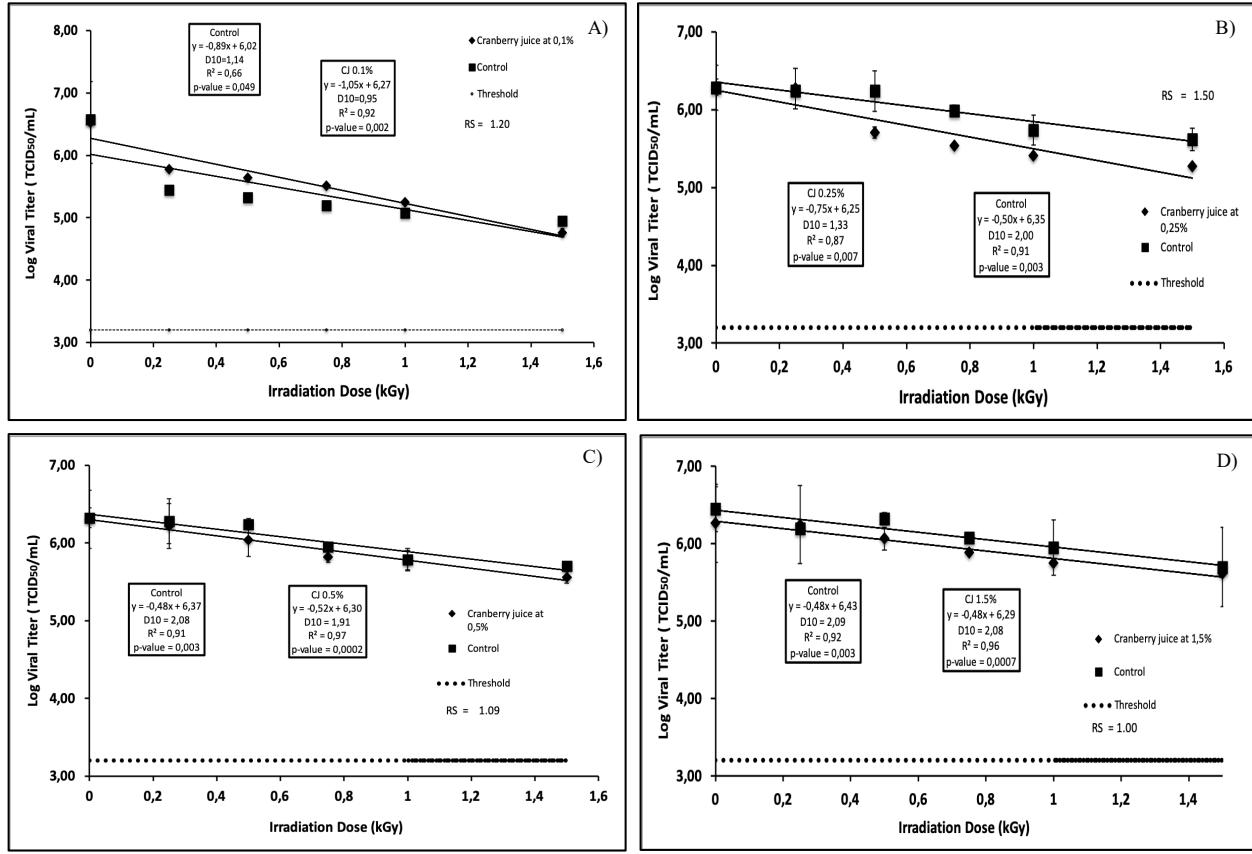


Fig. 2. Combined effects of various concentrations of CJ (A) CJ-0.10%, (B) CJ-0.25%, (C) CJ-0.50% and (D) CJ-1.5% with γ -irradiation at doses of 0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0 and 1.5 kGy on viral titer of FCV-F9 on iceberg lettuce at day 0

3.3 Effect of treatments on FCV-F9 viral titer on lettuce during storage at 4°C for 10 days.

The iceberg lettuce was treated with CJ-0.25%, O₃ at 5 ppm for 7.5 min, γ -irradiation (1.5 kGy), and the effect of the combined treatment was evaluated after inoculation of FCV virus (~ 7 log TCID₅₀/mL). After 48 h of incubation at 37 °C and 5 % CO₂, visual inspection of 96 well plates were carried out to verify the presence of cytopathic effects such as rounding and aggregation of cells in order to measure viral titer.

At day 0, the control sample exhibited a viral titer of 7.77 log TCID₅₀/mL (Fig. 3), and after treatment with CJ-0.25%, O₃ at 5 ppm for 7.5 min, or by γ -irradiation (1.5 kGy), the viral titer was reduced by 1, 0.96 and 1.22 log TCID₅₀/mL, respectively. However, the combination of the three treatments showed a viral titer reduction of ~ 0.91 log TCID₅₀/mL.

After 10 days of storage at 4 °C, the combination of the three treatments showed the highest reduction (2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL reduction) of viral titer inoculated on lettuce. Bidawid *et al.* (2000)

reported an instant reduction of viral titer of Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) on lettuce, when treated with γ -irradiation at different doses (1, 2, 3 and 10 kGy) (Bidawid *et al.*, 2000). After inoculation with 6.90 ± 0.04 log PFU/mL, the level of HAV virus titer was 6.90, 6.20, 5.60, and 3.36 log PFU/mL, respectively.

In the present study, the lettuce treatment with CJ-0.25% was efficient against FCV virus on day 8 showing a reduction of 1.20 log TCID₅₀/mL, however, the viral titer increased further after 8 days and reached 7.2 log TCID₅₀/mL on day 10, CJ-0.25% was not as much efficient anymore on day 10 post-treatment. Konowalchuk and Speirs (1975) showed that among tested vegetables (celery, lettuce, and radishes *etc.*), enteric viruses such as Coxsackievirus type B5, poliovirus type 1 (Sabin), echovirus type 7, reovirus type 1, and adenovirus type 7a could survive longer on lettuce. The authors attributed this virus survival to the moisture of the food. Celery was also shown to be a good survival medium for enteric virus survival because of its level of moisture. According to the author's hypothesis, it is possible that CJ obviously containing a high level of moisture, made lettuce more hydrated and increased the survival of the virus over time (Konowalchuk and Speirs, 1975).

Ozonation at 5 ppm for 7.5 min showed a reduction of 1.49 log TCID₅₀/mL after 10 days of storage at 4 °C. The reduction of the virus titer during storage time was almost constant. Katzenelson *et al.* (1974) reported a kinetic of effects caused by O₃ against poliovirus-1 at concentrations of O₃ from 0.3 to 1.5 mg/L at 4 °C (Katzenelson *et al.*, 1974). They observed two stages of reduction of poliovirus; the first step took less than 8 sec with viral inactivation of 99.5 % and the second step lasted from 1 to 5 min, where viral counts remained stable. At an O₃ concentration of 1.5 mg/L, there was an increase of inactivation rate during the second stage (Katzenelson *et al.*, 1974). Park and Ha (2017) reported the increase in the shelf life of kimchi by γ -irradiation due to the generation of oxygen and hydroxyl radicals by γ -irradiation. Irradiation of kimchi treated with 1 to 10 kGy induced a reduction of 0.34 to 1.76 log PFU/mL in MNV-1 titers (Park and Ha, 2017).

The control group reduced FCV viral titer by 1.11 log TCID₅₀/mL after 10 days of storage at 4 °C. Viral titer reduction can be seen in Table 1, and statistically ($p \leq 0.05$) different groups are also shown. A previous study by Kurdziel *et al.* (2001) showed more than 90 % natural decrease (without treatments) of viral titer of poliovirus (enterovirus) on lettuce and white cabbage after 12 days of storage at 4 °C (Kurdziel *et al.*, 2001). These results are in agreement with the observations in the present study, where a natural decrease of 90 % of viral titer is observed after 10 days of storage at 4 °C (Fig 3).

Table 1 shows the reduction of viral titer in log TCID₅₀/mL after all treatments during 10 days of storage at 4 °C. The viral titer in all samples on day 0 before treatments was 7.77 log TCID₅₀/mL.

In control samples, the viral titer was reduced to 6.66 log TCID₅₀/mL on day 10, which represents a decrease of 1.11 log TCID₅₀/mL. After every treatment, the viral titers were instantly reduced on day 0, and the final reductions were compared on day 0 before treatments and day 10 after storage at 4 °C.

After ozonation on day 0, the viral titer was reduced from 7.77 to 6.81 log TCID₅₀/mL and on day 10 to 6.28 log TCID₅₀/mL which represent a reduction of 1.49 log TCID₅₀/mL.

After treatment with CJ-0.25%, there was an instant reduction of 0.99 log TCID₅₀/mL on day 0, however, on day 10, it increased to 7.20 log TCID₅₀/mL which represents a 0.57 log TCID₅₀/mL reduction of initial inoculated virus. We are aware that an increase of the viral titer on such a day of storage is unexpectable since viruses don't multiplicate on food, however the viral titer observed on day 10 is not higher than the viral quantity inoculated on lettuce on day 0 before treatments (7.77 log TCID₅₀/mL). This means that CJ stopped being effective from day 8. A similar study was conducted on celery and spinach irrigated with water containing polio virus and stored for 76 days at 4 °C after harvest, and the virus levels varied greatly over time (Ward and Irving, 1987). The authors hypothesized that the amounts of vegetables in the bags were too variable (0.5-3.0 kg), leading to variation in the amounts of virus. In our case, quantities were standardized so this hypothesis is not feasible. A similar trend with variations in viral titer during storage of green onions, lettuce, white cabbage and raspberries was observed. The authors attributed these variations to the sampling size and the complexity of the surface on food (Kurdziel *et al.*, 2001). Another study evaluated the viral titer of polio virus in cranberry sauce and orange juice after storage at 4 °C for 168 h. In cranberry sauce, between 48 h and 96 h of storage at 4 °C, the viral titer went from 2.0×10^4 to 2.7×10^4 PFU/mL, respectively. Also, in orange juice, between 96 h and 168 h of storage at 4 °C, the viral titer went from 5.0×10^4 to 5.7×10^4 PFU/mL, respectively (Heidelbaugh and Giron, 1969). The authors attributed the variation in the viral titer to the change in the adherence of the viral particle to the food and the change in the ability to form plaques under the conditions studied. The authors also suggested the need for a better method for separation of virus particles from foods (Heidelbaugh and Giron, 1969).

It is difficult to say whether an increase in viral titer after treatments consists of a possible biological phenomenon or an artefact. These variations have been observed before (Heidelbaugh and Giron, 1969, Kurdziel *et al.*, 2001, Ward and Irving, 1987) and these increases were justified by the amount of food studied in a bag, the smoothness of the food, the size of the sampling, the complexity of the food, the viral adherence on food, and even the ability of the virus to make plaques. As long as we do not have absolutely ideal methods to collect all the viruses on food and good methods of detection and confirmation of the viral presence (Heidelbaugh and Giron, 1969), this possible biological phenomenon of increase in viral titer can be attributed to handling errors. To increase the rigor of the results and to validate the possibly observable biological phenomenon, it would be necessary to increase the number of replicates. The methods of determination of the viral titer (TCID₅₀, *plaque assay*) must be carried out meticulously because if not, they are not reliable (Darling *et al.*, 1998).

Irradiation caused instant reduction of 1.22 log TCID₅₀/mL and after 10 days of storage, it decreased to 6.14 log TCID₅₀/mL representing a reduction of 1.63 log TCID₅₀/mL.

The most efficient treatment is the combination of the three treatments after 10 days of storage with a reduction of 2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL from the inoculated virus.

In the MAPAQ report of 2013-2014, several files transferred were related to gastroenteritis of viral origin for which the identification of the virus was not confirmed by stool samples, this proportion of food-related infection was therefore called “undetermined virus” because they couldn’t confirm the virus implicated. In the MAPAQ thermoguide (MAPAQ, 2006), there are no viral standards associated with fresh vegetables currently. Level 2 viruses are now in the category “unacceptable microbiological quality with high risk to human health” and are their presence is difficult to detect and confirm. Considerable viral titers for public health as high as those studied in this research will probably never occur in actual foods (Heidelbaugh and Giron, 1969). A study was conducted in Denmark on 191 calicivirus-associated episodes between 2005 and 2011 (Franck *et al.*, 2014). This revealed that in 27% of cases, the contaminations occurred during the production of frozen berries, lettuce and oysters. In another 29% of the cases, the contaminations took place with food of self-serve buffets. In the majority of other cases (34%), the contaminations occurred with food handlers during the preparation, and in 64% of these previous cases, the food handler was asymptomatic. A research on transfer from fecally-contaminated fingers to foods showed that a 3 log inactivation (>1000 viral particles) of these agents is required to reduce the contamination of food by infected food handlers (Koopmans and Duizer, 2004). The reductions observed after 10 days of storage at 4 °C of lettuce treated with combined treatments (2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL) were close to the suggested reductions (3 log) from the previous research.

Table 1. Diminution of viral titer (log TCID₅₀/mL) after treatments with O₃ at 5-ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ-irradiation 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Treatment	Day 0	Day 0	Day 10	Diminution
	(Before treatment)	(After treatment)	(After treatment)	(Log TCID ₅₀ /mL)
Control	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	6.66±0.28 ^{b, BC}	1.11
O₃ 5-ppm, 7.5 min	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	6.81±0.47 ^{b, B}	6.28±0.43 ^{b, AB}	1.49
CJ-0.25%	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	6.78±0.14 ^{b, B}	7.20±0.37 ^{b, C}	0.57
Irradiation 1.5 kGy	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	6.55±0.20 ^{b, B}	6.14±0.28 ^{b, AB}	1.63

Combination of O₃, CJ-0.25%, & γ-irradiation (1.5 kGy)	7.77±0.21 ^{a, A}	6.86±0.26 ^{b, B}	5.61±0.31 ^{c, A}	2.15
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For each treatment, means followed by the same lowercase letter from Day 0 to Day 10, are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). For each day of analysis, means followed by the same uppercase letter for the comparison of treatments are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$).

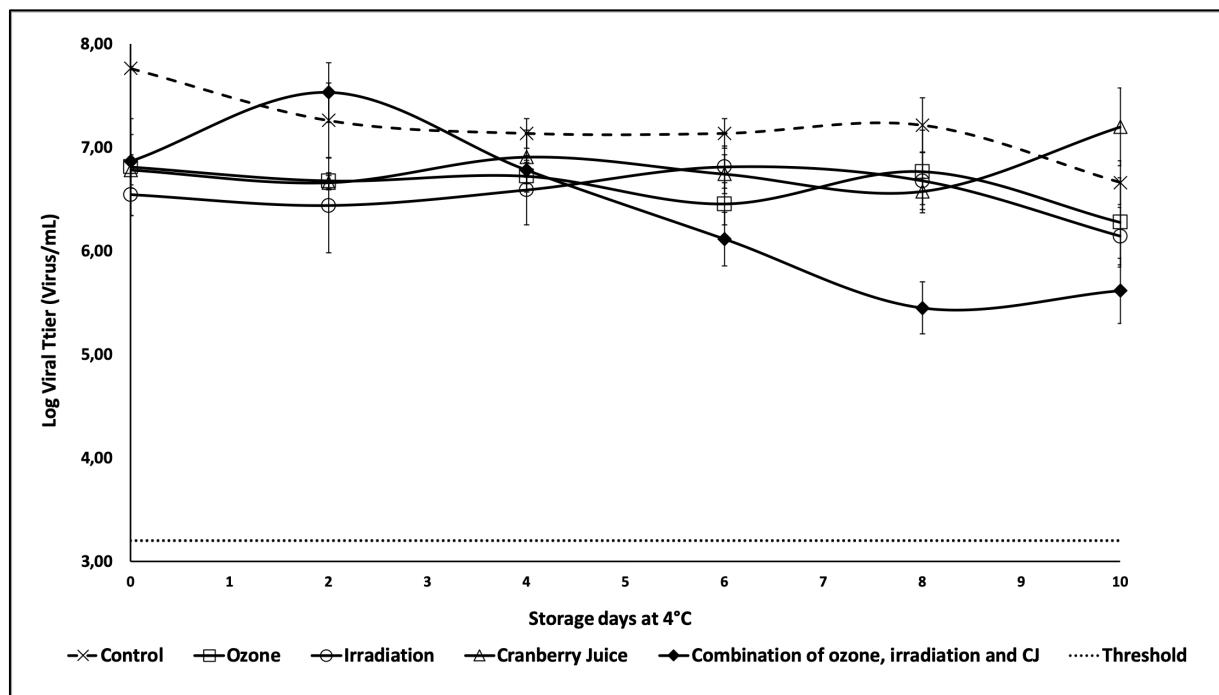


Fig. 3. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on viral (in log TCID₅₀/mL) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

3.4 Effect of treatments on total mesophilic flora of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4°C.

Figure 4 shows the effects of treatments on the total flora inoculated (~ 5.5 log CFU/g) on the lettuce leaves. Total microflora was inhibited by the γ -irradiation and combination of the three treatments (CJ-0.25%, O₃ at 5ppm for 7.5 min, and γ -irradiation (1.5 kGy) during the entire storage of 13 days at 4 °C. The results are in agreement with the finding of Monk *et al.* (1995), where they reported that the combination of γ -irradiation at doses of 1.0 or 3.0 kGy in presence of 0.19 % sodium benzoate (salt of benzoic acid found in cranberries) extended the shelf life of Dover sole stored at 5.6-6.7 °C (Monk *et al.*, 1995). They also stated that the aerobic microbial populations of 10⁶ CFU/g were attained in 6 and 10 days after irradiation treatment when they were only irradiated with 1.0 and 3.0 kGy, respectively. However,

with the combination of γ -irradiation at doses of 1 or 3 kGy in presence of sodium benzoate treatment increased the shelf life to 9 and 19 days, respectively. In the present study, the lettuce was treated with CJ-0.25% and O₃ at 5ppm for 7.5 min before irradiation (1.5 kGy), and results showed that these combined treatments helped to increase the shelf-life of lettuce during storage.

After γ -irradiation alone at 1.5 kGy, the total flora present on lettuce stayed stable at 2 log CFU/g during the entire storage period. Both, irradiation treatment alone and the combination of treatments maintained the shelf-life of lettuce longer than experiment duration (13 days). The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of Quebec (MAPAQ, 2006) has established a standard for fresh vegetables such as lettuce in terms of the amount of total mesophilic bacteria negatively affect the quality of food at 7 log CFU/g (MAPAQ, 2006). It has been reported that γ -irradiation alone at 1.0 kGy increased the shelf-life of fresh pork after storage at 25 °C (Monk *et al.*, 1995). This irradiation dose reduced mesophilic bacterial populations by 2 log CFU/g. The bacteria grown in unirradiated pork rose to unacceptable levels after 2 days of storage, however, it took more than 10 days for pork samples irradiated at 1.0 kGy to reach these levels (Monk *et al.*, 1995).

A control sample without any treatment showed a significant increase in total flora count from 5.5 log CFU/g to 7.44 log CFU/g during the first 7 days of storage and finally to 8.22 log CFU/g on day 13 ($p \leq 0.05$). Without any treatment, the shelf-life of iceberg lettuce is 7 days and with the three combined treatments, the shelf-life of lettuce increased to more than 13 days. In the MAPAQ thermoguide document, it is mentioned that lettuce should be kept for 7 days at 4°C, which is in confirmation with the results we found (MAPAQ, 2006).

After treatment with CJ-0.25%, the shelf-life of lettuce was extended to 10 days, where total flora growth increased to 7.37 log CFU/g and 7.55 log CFU/g on day 10 and 13, respectively. The addition of CJ as a natural antimicrobial containing phenolic compounds and organic acids represents a good alternative to reduce food poisoning and economic losses due to microbiological contaminations, and to extend the shelf-life of processed food. Cranberries have been found to be active against pathogens like *Helicobacter pylori*, *Salmonella*, and *Campylobacter*. Bacterial growth inhibition properties of cranberries are related to the low pH of cranberries and the presence of phenolic compounds (Côté *et al.*, 2011). Akbas and Ölmez (2007) showed that dipping in citric or lactic acid resulted in lower mesophilic and psychrotrophic counts than those of other dipping treatments during 12 days of storage of fresh-cut iceberg lettuce (Akbas and Ölmez, 2007). The authors attributed this antimicrobial property to the reduction in pH, the ratio of the undissociated fraction of the acids, chain length, cell physiology, and metabolism.

After using O₃ at 5ppm for 7.5 min, the shelf-life was also extended from 7 to 10 days at 4 °C and the growth of total flora increased from 5.69 log CFU/g to 7.12 and 7.34 log CFU/g on day 10 and 13,

respectively. Some studies showed that O_3 at 4 mg/L for 2 min reduced populations of mesophilic and psychrotrophic organisms by ~ 3.0 log CFU/g after 12 days of storage. They proposed that the antimicrobial properties of O_3 are attributed to the oxidative changes in numerous cellular constituents (proteins, unsaturated lipids and peptidoglycans) (Akbas and Ölmez, 2007). According to Yuk *et al.* (2006) dipping lettuce in water containing O_3 (5 ppm) for 10 min reduced the aerobic bacteria by more than 1.5 log CFU/g (Koseki *et al.*, 2001). O_3 inactivates bacteria due to oxidative changes to cellular components such as proteins, unsaturated lipids and respiratory enzymes, peptidoglycans in cell envelopes and enzymes (Yuk *et al.*, 2006).

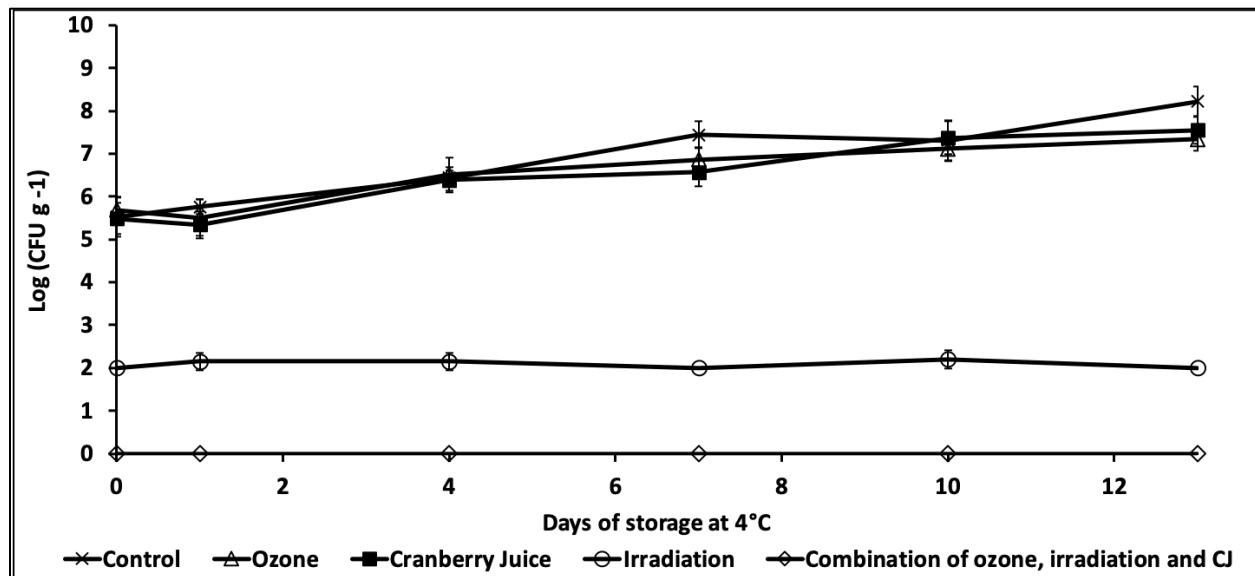


Fig. 4. Effects of CJ-0.25% in combination with γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy and ozonation at 5ppm on bacterial (in log CFU/g) shelf-life of iceberg lettuce during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

3.5 Effects of treatments on color properties of iceberg lettuce during storage.

After treating iceberg lettuce and storing them at 4 °C, color parameters were recorded, every two days. Figure 5 shows the graphs of the variation of specific parameters: L* (variation in darkness and brightness, positive values are desirable), a* (variation between red and green, negative values are desirable), b* (variation in yellow and blue, positive values are desirable), and H* (defines the Hue angle).

Figure 5A shows the variation of L* during storage which did not change significantly during storage ($p > 0.5$). After 10 days of storage the L* values changed from 53.02 to 54.13 on control samples. For samples treated with O_3 at 5ppm for 7.5 min the L* values changed from 46.62 to 48.59. For samples treated with γ -irradiation (1.5 kGy), the L* values changed from 50.82 to 52.58. When the 3 treatments

were done in combination the L* values changed from 58.18 to 60.03. The sample treated with O₃ exhibited that the lettuce leaves were darker, whereas combination of the three treatments showed higher L* values which indicate that the leaves were lighter. Significant changes of L* value was observed after 10 days of storage after treatment with CJ-0.25% ($p \leq 0.05$). The lettuce leaf seemed lighter (high L* value) after storage when treated with CJ-0.25%.

The a* values shown in Figure 5B specify the effects of treatments after 10 days of storage at 4 °C. After storage at 4 °C, the lettuce leaf treated with O₃ showed a significant difference ($p \leq 0.05$) in a* value of the leaf (a* from -6.94 to -5.74), which appeared less green even if the a* value remained stable during the entire storage period. The a* value of samples treated with γ -irradiation showed a significant difference ($p \leq 0.05$) after 10 days of storage (a* from -5.3 to -2.97) but values fluctuated during entire storage. In samples treated with CJ-0.25% and the use of the 3 combined treatment samples, no significant change was observed (a* value from -5.28 to -5.86 for CJ-0.25% and from -5.32 to -4.63 for the combined treatments).

The b* value (Figure 5C) specifies the difference in blue and in yellow. The general pattern of almost all treatments observed is that the lettuce leaf initially has a low b* value and then, on day 2, the degree of yellow (B* value) increases, on day 4 return to a low b* value and then the value increases with time until day 10 of storage at 4 °C. The pattern is slightly different for the control and the O₃ treated samples, both of which remained stable during entire storage, with no significant changes ($p > 0.05$). Both samples showed average values of b* (from 22.10 to 23.03 for control and from 21.81 to 22.71 for O₃) during the entire storage time. After 10 days of storage, the γ -irradiated samples did not show any significantly change of b* values (from 21.06 on day 0 to 19.7 on day 10) which indicates that the lettuce was less yellow. For the combination of the three treatments and for samples treated with CJ-0.25%, there was a significant difference after 10 days of storage ($p \leq 0.05$). The b* values of the 3 combined treatments increased from 24.9 to 29.5 on day 10 and samples treated with CJ-0.25% showed an increase of the b* values from 23.5 to 27.9 on day 10 showing that the lettuce leaves were becoming more yellow during storage, both of these treatments exhibited highest b* values during the entire storage.

The H* value (Fig. 5D) shows the difference in hue, showing the difference/similarity from pure red, blue and green. Green is generally between °60 and °180. In control samples, the H* value decreased from 103.3 on day 0 to 101.2 on day 10 which shows that the lettuce leaves became slightly yellow. O₃ treated samples did not show any significant difference in H* values between day 0 (104.5) and day 10 (103.4). However, the γ -irradiated samples showed the increased yellowness of the samples where H* value decreased significantly ($p \leq 0.05$) from 103.5 (day 0) to 98.7 (day 10). The combination of the 3 treatments showed a similar pattern as the γ -irradiation treated samples where the H* value decreased

from 102.5 to 98.3 ($p \leq 0.05$). Samples treated with CJ-0.25% showed a small but significant decrease in H* value ($p \leq 0.05$) from 103.3 to 101.3.

Baur *et al.* (2004) showed that the lettuce samples treated with O₃ at 1 mg/L for 120 sec exhibited an increase in L* and a* values, but a decrease in b* and H* values (Baur *et al.*, 2004).

Prakash *et al.* (2000) showed an increase in a* values (loss of green) and b* values (increasing of yellow), but a decrease in L* values in the irradiated sample after storage during 22 days at 4 °C (Prakash *et al.*, 2000). The authors attributed this to the chlorophyll breakdown that would increase the a* value. This correlates with our research, where we observed a decrease of chlorophyll over time of storage after γ -irradiation treatment. The authors also mentioned that phenolic oxidation and bacterial spoilage can cause darkening of the leaves over time.

Akbas and Ölmez (2007) showed the effect of dipping in organic acid on storage quality of fresh-cut iceberg lettuce (Akbas and Ölmez, 2007). Dipping the lettuce in citric (5 g/L) and lactic (5 mL/L) acid solutions did not change the L*, a*, b* values of lettuce just after dipping. However, after 8 days of storage, significant reductions in b* values were observed, whereas, after 12 days of storage, L* and b* values decreased while a* value increased. Bolin and Huxsoll (1991) also did not observe an increase in a* value.

Sagong *et al.* (2011) reported that a combination of organic acids (malic acid, lactic acid, and citric acid) and ultrasound (5 L at 40 kHz) did not significantly change lettuce quality and L*, a* and b* during more than 7 days of storage at 4°C ($p > 0.05$) (Sagong *et al.*, 2011).

Bolin and Huxsoll (1991) showed that storage temperature influenced the colorimetry parameters of lettuce (Bolin and Huxsoll, 1991). They showed that storage at 10 °C darkened the lettuce samples compared to lettuce stored at 2 °C. In addition, a loss in green pigment (increasing a* value) was observed in samples stored at a higher temperature (10 °C). Green color disappeared (when a* value became 0) on day 11, 20 and 38 during storage of the same products stored at 10, 5, and 2 °C, respectively. In this current study, we stored lettuce at refrigerator temperature (4 °C) explaining why a* values increased, and chlorophyll dropped. Figure 6 shows the pictures of lettuce leaves on day 0 after treatments and on day 10 after treatments.

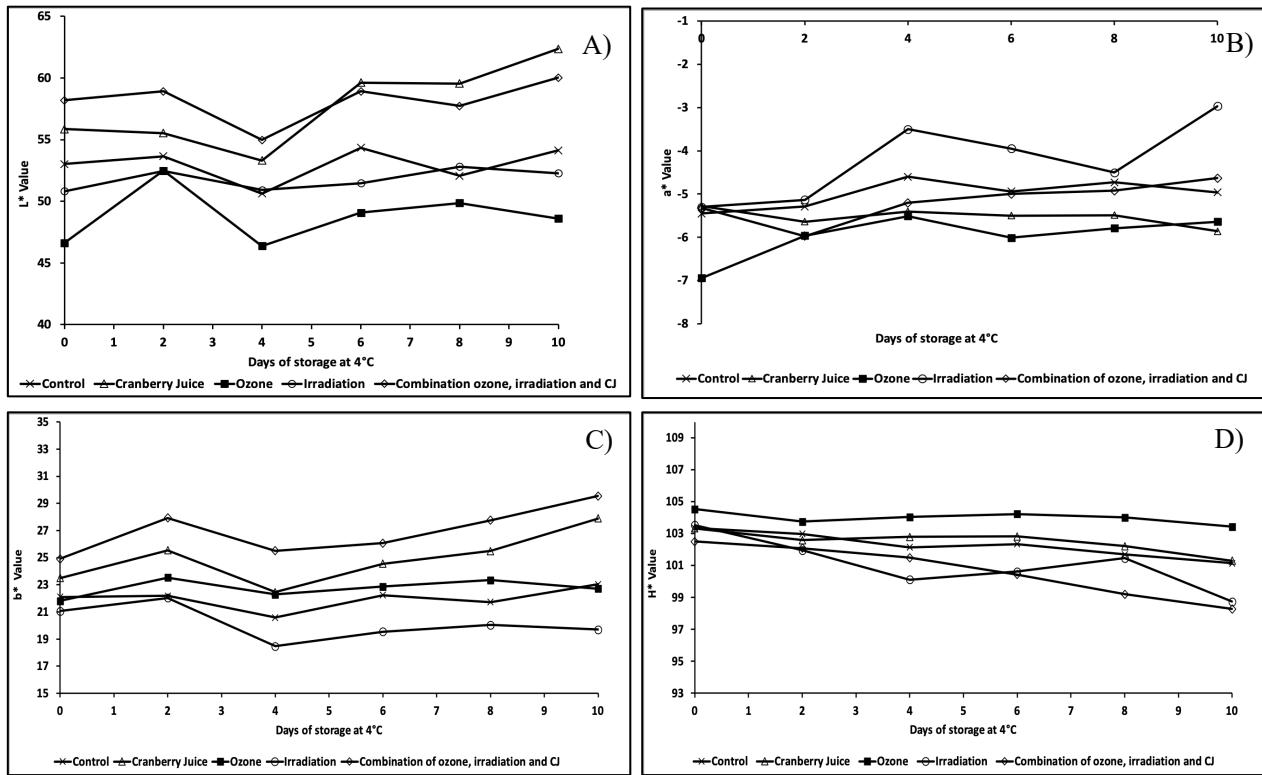


Fig. 5. Effect of CJ coating of CJ-0.25% in combination with O₃ at 5-ppm or γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy on the color parameters (A) L*, (B) a*, (C) b* and (D) H* of the CIELab color scale of iceberg lettuce samples during storage at 4 °C for 10 days

On Figure 6 are shown the physical differences of the aspect of the lettuce leaves between day 0 and day 10 post-treatment. Overall, the lettuce leaves seemed brighter on day 10 post-treatment. In comparison with Figure 5A, the only treatment that has shown a significant brightening (higher L*) on day 10 is CJ-0.25% used alone. A loss of the green color (negative a* value) should be observed on day 10 after treatment with O₃ only and γ -irradiation only but is not predominant on Figure 6, the only area where a significant loss in green is noticeable is on top of the leaf. A significant increase in yellow (positive b* value) should be observed 10 days after combined treatments and the use of CJ-0.25% alone. On Figure 6, the combination of treatments on lettuce has shown the more gain of yellow after 10 days of storage. The H* value shows the difference in hue, showing the difference/similarity from pure red, blue and green. Green is generally between °60 and °180. On Figure 5D, all treatments induced a decrease in H* value, meaning that the lettuce leaves were more yellow, this is in correlation with Figure 6.



Fig. 6. Visual appearance of iceberg lettuce with various treatments during storage at 4 °C on day 0 (on top) and 10 (on the bottom).

3.6 Effects of treatments and storage time on chlorophyll pigment of iceberg lettuce.

Analysis was made every 2 days for 10 days and results of day 0, 6 and 10 are shown in Table 2. It is important to mention that in this study, chlorophyll analysis is complementary to colorimetry. The colorimetry was an overview of the lettuce leaf and the chlorophyll takes into account the upper part of the leaf during sample. Chlorophyll is the green pigment that captures light energy and transforms it into chemical energy by photosynthesis (Rabinowitch, 1965). A previous study has shown the different parameters that consumers are paying attention to when buying a lettuce. The authors recommended to the grocery merchants to refrigerate lettuce at 4 °C in order to keep the visual appearance and to retain more chlorophyll, because consumers will prefer a brighter green lettuce than a yellowish one (Nam and Kwon, 1997). After grinding 2 g of the piece of lettuce untreated (control) in acetone 80 % on day 0, 9.02 µg/mL of total chlorophyll was detected.

On day 6 and 10, in control samples, the chlorophyll content decreased significantly to 7.91 µg/mL and 3.12 µg/mL, respectively, which represents a reduction of 5.90 µg/mL (65%). Studies showed that storage temperature (4 °C or 10 °C) of *Valeriana* salad caused significant reduction in chlorophyll. After 8 days of storage, a 22 % decrease of the initial amount of chlorophyll was observed on lettuce stored at 4 °C while a 35 % reduction was observed during storage at 10 °C. In our study, after 6 days of storage at 4 °C, the total chlorophyll was reduced by more than 12 % which is correlated with previous studies where chlorophyll naturally decreased during storage at 4 °C (Ferrante and Maggiore, 2007). The total chlorophyll content of leafy vegetables starts declining a few days after harvest and this decrease is

temperature-dependent (Ferrante and Maggiore, 2007). Production of ethylene during storage of lettuce can increase the chlorophyllase activity causing the natural decrease of chlorophyll during storage at 4 °C (Agüero *et al.*, 2008).

The same tendency of chlorophyll reduction was observed after treating the lettuce leaf with O₃ at 5 ppm for 7.5 min. On day 0 after treatment, the chlorophyll was at 10.04 µg/mL which is significantly different from the 3 combined treatments on this day 0 of analysis. On day 6 and 10, it was reduced to 7.56 µg/mL and 3.37 µg/mL, respectively. A research on fresh-cut lettuce showed no significant differences in chlorophyll a or chlorophyll b comparing a control unwashed, a control washed with distilled water and also after treatment of fresh-cut lettuce with O₃ at 12.0 ± 0.5 mg/L during water wash (Karaca and Velioglu, 2014). In fact, the authors found 16.4, 16.1 and 16.4 g/kg dry matter of chlorophyll-a after no washing, washing with distilled water and O₃ wash respectively. For chlorophyll b, they found 7.9, 7.7, 7.9 g/kg dry matter, respectively (Karaca and Velioglu, 2014).

In our study, after CJ (0.25%) treatment of lettuce, total chlorophyll was reduced from 7.60 µg/mL to 4.35 µg/mL on day 6 and increased to 8.38 µg/mL on day 10. Since the chlorophyll content increased after treatments, it is normal that the a* value did not change significantly. Chlorophyll breakdown in the cells would increase a* values (Bolin and Huxsoll, 1991). Some speculations of the increase in chlorophyll observed previously will be explained later in this paragraph.

In the irradiated sample, the total chlorophyll on day 0 was 13.27 µg/mL which significantly reduced to 3.06 µg/mL and 2.53 µg/mL after 6 and 10 days of storage, respectively. Bolin and Huxsoll (1991) proposed that the decrease in green pigmentation would probably result from loss of chlorophyll pigment during storage of lettuce (Bolin and Huxsoll, 1991).

After combining the 3 treatments, on day 0, 5.23 µg/mL of total chlorophyll was observed that increased to 5.64 and to 9.03 µg/mL on days 6 and 10, respectively. Each day of analysis for the combined treatments are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). Lemoine *et al.* (2008) reported that the combination of irradiation with UV-C light (8 kJ/m²) and then heating (45 °C, 3 h in air oven) decreased chlorophyll content in control and in treated samples during storage at 20 °C of broccoli florets (Lemoine *et al.*, 2008). According to Agüero *et al.* (2008) the location of chlorophyll sampling on lettuce leaves provides different variations in chlorophyll levels (Agüero *et al.*, 2008). If the sample is taken at the bottom or on the middle of the leaf, a variation of chlorophyll will be observed. On top of the leaf, there is a lot of chlorophyll initially due to easier access to light and O₂. More chlorophyll variation will be found on the top of the leaf will be observed during storage at 4 °C. The authors noted an increase in chlorophyll in the outer zone of the leaf without any treatment between days 5 and 8 and between days 16 to 28. They proposed that the presence of environmental factors such as humidity, acidity, temperature, light, oxygen, ethylene is responsible for the loss of chlorophyll (Agüero *et al.*, 2008). By speculating with the results

shown in this research, it is possible that water movements and water losses may have concentrated chlorophyll in the top of the leaf after our treatment with CJ-0.25% and thus demonstrated an increase in pigment during storage at 4 °C.

Table 2. Evaluation of chlorophyll content ($\mu\text{g/mL}$) after treatments with O_3 at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Treatment	Day	Chl. A ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	Chl. B ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	Chl. Total ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)
Control	0	5.80±1.19 ^{ab, B}	3.22±0.66 ^{bc, B}	9.02±1.46 ^{abc, B}
	6	5.21±0.69 ^{b, B}	2.70±0.48 ^{b, B}	7.91±1.12 ^{b, B}
	10	2.59±0.31 ^{a, A}	0.53±0.34 ^{a, A}	3.12±0.62 ^{a, A}
O_3 at 5 ppm, 7.5 min	0	6.89±1.48 ^{ab, B}	3.15±0.18 ^{bc, C}	10.04±1.67 ^{bc, B}
	6	5.26±1.32 ^{b, AB}	2.30±0.51 ^{ab, B}	7.56±1.78 ^{ab, B}
	10	2.49±0.52 ^{a, A}	0.88±0.16 ^{a, A}	3.37±0.66 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	0	5.12±1.15 ^{a, AB}	2.48±0.63 ^{ab, A}	7.60±1.74 ^{ab, AB}
	6	2.82±0.64 ^{ab, A}	1.53±0.74 ^{ab, A}	4.35±1.37 ^{ab, A}
	10	5.81±0.69 ^{b, B}	2.57±0.49 ^{b, A}	8.38±0.97 ^{b, B}
γ-irradiation at 1.5 kGy	0	9.17±1.78 ^{b, B}	4.10±0.58 ^{c, B}	13.27±2.35 ^{c, B}
	6	2.18±0.39 ^{a, A}	0.88±0.13 ^{a, A}	3.06±0.52 ^{a, A}
	10	1.57±0.46 ^{a, A}	0.96±0.14 ^{a, A}	2.53±0.59 ^{a, A}
Combination of O_3, CJ-0.25% and γ-irradiation 1.5 kGy	0	3.68±0.94 ^{a, A}	1.55±0.59 ^{a, A}	5.23±1.34 ^{a, A}
	6	3.83±1.42 ^{ab, A}	1.81±1.0 ^{ab, AB}	5.64±2.39 ^{ab, A}
	10	5.73±1.58 ^{b, A}	3.30±0.19 ^{b, B}	9.03±1.52 ^{b, A}

For each treatment, means followed by the same lowercase letter (a, b, c) for the comparison of days of analysis (0, 6, 10), are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). For each day of analysis, means followed by the same uppercase letter (A, B, C) for the comparison of treatments are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). *Chl.b = chlorophyll b; Chl.a = chlorophyll a; Ch. Total = total chlorophyll.

3.7 Effects of treatments on texture of iceberg lettuce.

The texture of lettuce leaves was analyzed every two days for 10 days (Table 3). Results showed that after the measuring texture of control samples without treatment, it was found to be 1.43, 0.80 and 1.13 N/mm for day 0, 6, and 10, respectively which is not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). In another

study, storage temperatures of 2, 5, and 10 °C did not affect the texture of the shredded lettuce (Bolin *et al.*, 1977). Similarly, in our study the texture of lettuce without treatment stored at 4 °C did not change significantly.

After O₃ at 5 ppm treatment, 7.5 min, the texture was 1.54, then 1.43 and 1.14 N/mm for day 0, 6 and 10 respectively, with no significant difference ($p > 0.05$). Baur *et al.* (2004) performed a similar experiment on shredded iceberg lettuce where they used ozonated water containing 1 mg/L O₃ on lettuce and stored at 4 °C for 7 days (Baur *et al.*, 2004). They found that the crispness of all samples dropped during storage (Baur *et al.*, 2004) but no significant changes were observed in the texture of samples washed with O₃. Fan *et al.* (2003) also did not find significant changes in measurement of firmness of iceberg lettuce after 14 days of storage at 3 °C; these results are in agreement with this current study (Fan *et al.*, 2003).

After CJ-0.25% treatment, the texture on day 0 was 1.12 N/mm and it increased to 1.31 N/mm on day 6 and remained at 1.31 N/mm on day 10, without a significant difference ($p > 0.05$). Another report showed that there was no significant change in texture observed in samples of lettuce dipped in lactic acid at 5g/L (pH 2.3) and citric acid at 5 mL/L (pH 2.4) (Akbas and Ölmez, 2007). The authors mentioned that firmness could decrease by loss of cell turgor due to water loss during storage.

Irradiation at 1.5 kGy resulted in a texture of 1.44 N/mm on day 0, which decreased to 1.00 on day 6 and then increased to 1.28 N/mm on day 10 after irradiation treatment, representing a non-significant change ($p > 0.05$). Prakash *et al.* (2000) demonstrated that irradiation of romaine lettuce at doses of 0.15 kGy and 0.35 kGy and storage for 21 days reduced the firmness of food during storage (Prakash *et al.*, 2000).

After combining the three treatments, the texture of the lettuce did not change significantly during storage ($p > 0.05$). The texture values of lettuce on day 0, 6 and 10 were 1.11, 1.15 and 1.07 N/mm, respectively. Overall there is no difference in texture applied by the treatments compared to the control without treatments during entire storage at 4°C. Baur *et al.* (2004) found no significant changes in texture after 9 days of storage of shredded iceberg lettuce after washing with water, chlorine-water and ozonated water (Baur *et al.*, 2004). Also, Sagong *et al.* (2011) showed that the combination of organic acids and ultrasound did not significantly change lettuce texture during more than 7 days of storage at 4°C ($p > 0.05$) (Sagong *et al.*, 2011).

Table 3. Evaluation of texture (N/mm) after treatments with O₃ at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ-irradiation at 1.5 kGy or the combination after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Treatment	Day	Texture (N/mm)
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Control	0	1.43±0.44 ^{a, A}
	6	0.80±0.22 ^{a, A}
	10	1.13±0.04 ^{a, A}
O₃ at 5 ppm, 7.5 min	0	1.54±0.43 ^{a, A}
	6	1.43±0.33 ^{b, A}
	10	1.14±0.06 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	0	1.12±0.13 ^{a, A}
	6	1.31±0.33 ^{ab, A}
	10	1.31±0.10 ^{a, A}
γ-irradiation at 1.5 kGy	0	1.44±0.22 ^{a, A}
	6	1.00±0.12 ^{ab, A}
	10	1.28±0.50 ^{a, A}
Combination of O₃, CJ-0.25%, and γ- irradiation 1.5 kGy	0	1.11±0.16 ^{a, A}
	6	1.15±0.32 ^{ab, A}
	10	1.07±0.20 ^{a, A}

For each treatment, means followed by the same lowercase letter (a, b, c) for the comparison of days of analysis (0, 6, 10), are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). For each day of analysis, means followed by the same uppercase letter (A, B, C) for the comparison of treatments are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$).

3.8 Effects of treatments on sensory analysis of lettuce with storage at 4 °C for 5 days.

Sensory analysis was performed on lettuce on three groups: (1) control, (2) CJ-0.25% treated samples and (3) combination of O₃ at 5ppm, 7.5 min, CJ-0.25%, and γ-irradiation at 1.5 kGy. The color, the smell, the texture, and the taste parameters at day 0, 3 and 5 of storage at 4°C were recorded in Table 4.

Results showed that control's color changes significantly from day 0 to day 5 from 7.87, 7.47 and 6.27 for day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. There was a change in the color of lettuce without treatment observed by panelists. The analysis of smell on control was not significantly different for day 0, 3 and 5 with values of 7.67, 7.73 and 7.33, respectively. The texture of iceberg lettuce did not significantly change over the storage of lettuce at 4 °C, from 8.20 to 8.27 and finally to 8.20 for day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. The taste of lettuce without treatment significantly changed ($p \leq 0.05$) from day 0 to day 3 and 5 with values 8.40, 8.0 and 7.07, respectively. The panelists found that the taste was not fresh after 5 days of storage of iceberg lettuce at 4 °C.

The CJ-0.25% treated samples were also tested for sensory analysis during storage at 4 °C after treatment. Results showed that color did not significantly change throughout the storage with values of 7.60, 7.87 and 7.47 on days 0, 3 and 5, respectively. The smell of lettuce after CJ-0.25% treatment did not significantly change during storage but an increase in the evaluation was observed. The level of appreciation on day 0, was 7.47, on day 3 it was 7.67 and finally, on day 5, it was 8.00. The texture of lettuce after CJ-0.25% treatment did not significantly change during storage and a level of appreciation of 8.00, 7.80 and 8.27 were observed at day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. The taste did not significantly change, and a level of appreciation of 7.67, 7.60 and 8.07 on days 0, 3 and 5, was observed, respectively. On day 5, the highest level of appreciation was observed for CJ-0.25% treated samples on all parameters (color, smell, taste, and texture).

The combination of the three treatments was tested for sensory analysis during 5 days of storage. The results showed that the color did not significantly change, and values of 7.07, 6.93 and 6.27 were observed on day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. The smell of lettuce did not change during storage and the values were 8.00, 7.80 and 7.60 after day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. The texture decreased slightly over time, but it was not significant ($p > 0.05$). The level of appreciation was 7.53, 7.27 and 7.20 after day 0, 3 and 5, respectively. Finally, the taste did not change significantly during storage at 4°C after the 3 combined treatment and the level of appreciation were 7.07, 6.53 and 7.20 after day 0, 3 and 5 of storage, respectively.

Samples treated with the 3 combined treatments after 5 days of storage were better than control for smell and taste parameters and had the same color grade as the control. No significant changes ($p > 0.05$) were observed in color, taste, texture and taste parameters between the different treatments (groups) for the same day of analysis. Zhang *et al.* (2006) showed that γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy slightly affected the color of lettuce after 8 days of storage at 4°C (Zhang *et al.*, 2006). In general, lettuce leaves irradiated at doses of 0 and 0.5 kGy were the least appreciated and the lettuce leaves irradiated at 1.0 kGy had the optimal effects on the sensory quality of lettuce (Zhang *et al.*, 2006). Another study tested the effects of an organic acid like Peroxyacetic acid (PAA) at two concentrations of 80 mg/L and 250 mg/L on iceberg lettuce. None of the treatments affected the sensory quality of iceberg lettuce when compared with water washing samples (Vandekinderen *et al.*, 2009). Acetic acid seems to be an optimal choice, considering it increases shelf life and adds an extra flavor in food. A study on marinated mussels evaluated the antiviral effects of acetic acid-based marinade against HAV, NoV and FCV. A reduction from 10.3 log TCID₅₀/mL of FCV in a PBS-based solution to 7.8 log TCID₅₀/mL was observed, and a reduction from 10.3 log TCID₅₀/mL of FCV in an acetic acid marinade to < 1.6 log TCID₅₀/mL was observed after 1 week of marination (Hewitt and Greening, 2004) showing the efficiency of acetic acid.

Table 4. Sensory analysis after treatments with combination of O₃ at 5 ppm, CJ-0.25% and γ -irradiation at 1.5 kGy, CJ-0.25% alone and control after storage at 4°C for 10 days

Parameter	Day 0	Day 3	Day 5
Color			
Control	7.87 ± 1.36 ^{a, B}	7.47 ± 1.68 ^{a, AB}	6.27 ± 1.67 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	7.60 ± 1.40 ^{a, A}	7.87 ± 1.68 ^{a, A}	7.47 ± 1.46 ^{a, A}
O ₃ , γ - irradiation and CJ-0.25%	7.07 ± 1.49 ^{a, A}	6.93 ± 1.39 ^{a, A}	6.27 ± 1.87 ^{a, A}
Smell			
Control	7.67 ± 1.11 ^{a, A}	7.73 ± 1.10 ^{a, A}	7.33 ± 1.72 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	7.47 ± 1.55 ^{a, A}	7.67 ± 1.54 ^{a, A}	8.00 ± 1.00 ^{a, A}
O ₃ , γ - irradiation and CJ-0.25%	8.00 ± 0.85 ^{a, A}	7.80 ± 1.15 ^{a, A}	7.60 ± 1.68 ^{a, A}
Texture			
Control	8.20 ± 1.26 ^{a, A}	8.27 ± 0.88 ^{a, A}	8.20 ± 1.15 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	8.00 ± 1.00 ^{a, A}	7.80 ± 1.32 ^{a, A}	8.27 ± 1.28 ^{a, A}
O ₃ , γ - irradiation and CJ-0.25%	7.53 ± 1.30 ^{a, A}	7.27 ± 1.33 ^{a, A}	7.20 ± 1.47 ^{a, A}
Taste			
Control	8.40 ± 0.83 ^{a, B}	8.0 ± 1.00 ^{a, AB}	7.07 ± 1.33 ^{a, A}
CJ-0.25%	7.67 ± 1.05 ^{a, A}	7.60 ± 1.30 ^{a, A}	8.07 ± 1.22 ^{a, A}
O ₃ , γ -irradiation and CJ-0.25%	7.07 ± 2.12 ^{a, A}	6.53 ± 1.41 ^{a, A}	7.20 ± 1.52 ^{a, A}

For each day of analysis, means followed by the same lowercase letter (a, b, c) for the comparison of treatments (control, CJ-0.25% and combination) are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). For each treatment, means followed by the same uppercase (A, B, C) letter for the comparison of days of analysis (0-3-5), are not significantly different ($p > 0.05$).

In conclusion, it was shown that the combination of the 3 treatments was the most effective against viruses during 10 days of storage at 4 °C, against total flora for more than 13 days of storage at 4 °C, without affecting the overall quality of lettuce. Irradiation alone at 1.5 kGy was also effective against total flora of lettuce, reducing it to 2 log CFU/g. An irradiation dose of more than 7 kGy would be needed to completely inhibit FCV virus. The combination of the 3 treatments reduced the viral titer by 2.15 log TCID₅₀/mL whereas, irradiation alone at 1.5 kGy reduced it by 1.63 log TCID₅₀/mL after 10 days of storage, representing a gain of efficiency of more than 25%. There was no significant change in texture after treatments during 10 days of storage at 4 °C. After combining the 3 treatments, the quantity of chlorophyll pigment remained stable after 10 days of storage.

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Chapitre 5: Discussion générale

1.1. Discussion générale *in-vitro*

1.1.1. Traitements seuls

Au cours de cette étude, l'effet antiviral du JC et du BS, seul ou en combinaison avec l'irradiation- γ , contre le virus FCV-F9 à l'aide de cellules hôte CRFK a été étudié. L'activité antivirale du JC et du BS s'est avérée être dépendante de la concentration et puis une augmentation de la concentration semblait plus efficace contre le virus, ce qui est similaire aux résultats précédemment rapportés pour les acides organiques (Su *et al.*, 2010). Les mécanismes d'action des acides organiques et des polyphénols contre les analogues du NoV ne sont pas encore totalement compris, mais certaines hypothèses ont insinué que ce mécanisme pourrait être attribué à l'altération de la capsid virale et de l'acide nucléique dû à l'acidité environnante et au bas pH (Cao, 2013).

Lors de cette étude, une réduction de 2.20 log de TCID₅₀ / mL du titre viral initial de FCV-F9 a été obtenue à CJ-1% *in-vitro*. Su *et al.* (2010) ont testé les effets du JC sur le FCV-F9 à des temps d'exposition allant de 0 à 60 minutes à température ambiante. Une réduction du titre viral de 5 log₁₀ UFP (Unité formatrice de plaque) / mL après 30 minutes de traitement par le JC (pH 2.7 et 7.0) a été observée. De plus, une réduction de 2.04 log TCID₅₀ / mL du titre viral FCV-F9 a été observée à une concentration de BS-0.1%. Le BS contient des acides organiques de type citrique, ascorbique et lactique. L'acide ascorbique (connu comme la vitamine C) peut inactiver un large spectre de virus *in-vitro*, tels que l'herpès simplex, la vaccine, la fièvre aphteuse, la rage, la mosaïque du tabac et les virus bactériens (Jungeblut, 1935). Macinga *et al.* (2008) ont aussi testé l'effet d'un désinfectant à base d'éthanol contenant un mélange synergique de polymère de polyquaternium (PQ-37) et d'acide organique (acide citrique). Ces résultats ont montré une réduction supérieure à 3 log₁₀ UFP / mL après une exposition contre le MNV-1 et le FCV-F9 pendant 30 secondes. La PQ-37 et l'acide citrique maximisent ensemble l'activité contre les virus non-enveloppés des mammifères en raison de leur forte acidité. Les rayons- γ peuvent interagir avec les acides nucléiques via la production de radicaux libres, d'oxygène et de radicaux hydroxyles (Park and Ha, 2017). En conclusion, l'utilisation seule des trois traitements contre le FCV-F9 semblait efficace contre le virus et des concentrations optimales de JC et de BS ont été ensuite testées en combinaison avec l'irradiation- γ .

1.1.2. Traitements combinés

Les combinaisons de JC ou de BS avec l'irradiation- γ ont montré une synergie contre le FCV-F9 et plus la concentration de BS ou JC utilisée était faible et plus la valeur de la radiosensibilité était élevée. Aux concentrations les plus faibles d'acides organiques contre le virus, des radiorésistances étaient observés. La radiorésistance observée aux plus hautes concentrations d'acides organiques utilisées peut

être expliquée de plusieurs façons. Premièrement, les « *scavengers* » d'espèces réactives de l'oxygène (ROS) peuvent réagir avec les radicaux libres (R-OH) produits par irradiation- γ et ainsi protéger des dommages des rayons sur la cellule infectée par le virus normalement attaqué par les radicaux libres (Thornley, 1963). La radiorésistance peut également être causée par les composants chimiques présents dans le substrat. Par exemple, les alcools, les glucides et les protéines augmentent la radiorésistance des microorganismes (Lawrence and Stanton, 1968). Les levures sont également radiorésistantes en raison de leurs productions d'acides organiques tels que l'acide lactique, l'acide acétique et les alcools qui agissent comme des *scavengers* pour protéger les levures des radicaux libres produits par irradiation- γ (Aquino, 2011). Le JC utilisé seul est plus efficace que le BS utilisé seul contre le virus FCV-F9 *in-vitro*. De plus, la réduction du titre viral était maximale avec les concentrations plus élevées de JC (CJ-1%) ou de BS (BS-0.10%) utilisé seul.

1.2. Discussion générale *in-situ*

1.2.1. Traitements seuls antiviraux sans stockage à 4 °C

Les effets des traitements seuls avec l'irradiation- γ , le JC à plusieurs concentrations et l' O_3 à 5-ppm durant plusieurs temps d'exposition ont été évalués à la surface de la laitue sans entreposage à 4°C. Feng *et al.* (2011) ont testé l'effet d'une irradiation- γ à 5.6 kGy contre le virus de la stomatite vésiculaire (VSV) et le MNV-1 inoculé sur des aliments frais et ont constaté que le VSV était plus susceptible à l'irradiation que le MNV-1 en raison de la taille de son génome. Les tailles respectives du génome viral du VSV et du MNV-1 sont respectivement de 11 et 7 kpb. Les rayons- γ interagissent avec les acides nucléiques via les radicaux libres et via une interaction directe avec l'ADN. De plus, ce type de rayons peut briser des liaisons covalentes et non-covalentes comme les liaisons hydrogènes, les liaisons ioniques, les forces van der Waals et les liaisons hydrophobes, qui sont essentielles pour les structures protéiques (Park and Ha, 2017).

De plus, diverses concentrations de JC (de 0.1 % à 1.5 %) ont été utilisées contre le FCV-F9 sur une feuille de laitue iceberg. Le titre viral initial présent sur la laitue était de 5.70 log TCID₅₀ / mL. Après traitement, des réductions jusqu'à 5.12, 4.99, 4.99, 4.87, 4.85 à 4.80 log TCID₅₀ / mL avec des concentrations respectives de JC de CJ-0.1%, CJ-0.25%, CJ-0.50%, CJ-0.75%, CJ-1.0% et CJ-1.5% ont été observées. Le mécanisme d'action du JC contre les virus n'est pas encore totalement compris, mais pourrait être dû à l'altération des protéines de la capsidé à cause de l'acidité engendrée par le bas pH. Divers temps d'exposition variants de 0 à 15 minutes d' O_3 à une concentration de 5-ppm ont été utilisés pour réduire le titre viral du FCV sur la laitue iceberg. La charge virale initiale était de 5.54 log TCID₅₀ / mL à la surface de la laitue et, après traitement avec de l' O_3 aux temps de 2.5, 5.0, 7.5, 10 et 15 minutes, des réductions à 4.99, 4.74, 4.62, 4.57 et 4.41 log TCID₅₀ / mL ont été respectivement observées.

Hirneisen *et al.* (2011) ont montré qu'une exposition de 5 à 10 minutes avec 6.25 ppm d'O₃ (0.9 g d'O₃ / h à un débit de 2.4 L / min) était nécessaire pour réduire les titres viraux du FCV-F9 sur de la laitue et des oignons verts. Après un traitement avec de l'O₃ durant 10 minutes, le titre viral du FCV était réduit de 3.08 log TCID₅₀ / g sur la laitue et de 2.02 log TCID₅₀ / g sur les oignons verts. Les auteurs ont attribué ces résultats à la composition organique des oignons verts et de la laitue, car l'O₃ réagit avec les composés organiques complexes des aliments en raison de son potentiel d'oxydation élevé.

1.2.2. Traitements combinés antiviraux sans stockage à 4 °C

Par la suite, des combinaisons entre le JC et l'irradiation ont été testées sans entreposage contre le virus FCV-F9 à la surface de la laitue. Le CJ-0.25% a été utilisé en combinaison avec les doses d'irradiation de 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1 et 1.5 kGy. La charge virale initiale sur la laitue était de 6.05 log TCID₅₀ / mL. Des réductions de 0.02 à 0.98 log TCID₅₀ / mL pour des doses allant de 0.25 à 1.5 kGy après traitement en combinaison avec CJ-0.25% ont été observées. Une réduction plus élevée a été observée à 1.5 kGy avec le CJ-0.1%. La valeur D₁₀ du CJ-0.25% est 1.33 kGy et la valeur D₁₀ du contrôle est 2.0 kGy, de sorte que la radiosensibilité relative est égale à 1.5. À ce jour, il n'existe pas beaucoup d'études associant des acides organiques et de l'irradiation γ contre le NoV à la surface d'aliments frais. Certaines études évaluent cette combinaison d'aliments contaminés par des bactéries. Une de ces études a montré que la combinaison de l'irradiation avec les acides organiques était préférable pour décontaminer la surface de la viande. En fait, les acides organiques et l'irradiation combinés étaient plus efficaces contre les numérations microbiennes lors du stockage de porc (Kim *et al.*, 2004).

1.2.3. Traitements seuls ou combinés antiviraux avec stockage à 4 °C

Après l'inoculation virale du virus FCV-F9 à ~ 7 log TCID₅₀ / mL sur la laitue iceberg, les traitements ont été effectués et testés durant le stockage durant 10 jours à 4 °C. En effet, au jour 0, la laitue sans traitement (contrôle) présentait des titres viraux significativement plus élevés ($p \leq 0.05$) que tous les autres traitements. Après le traitement avec du CJ-0.25% seul, le titre viral sur la laitue a été réduit de 1 log TCID₅₀ / mL. Lorsqu'il a été traité avec de l'O₃ à 5-ppm pendant 7.5 minutes, une réduction de 0.96 log TCID₅₀ / mL a été observée et quand le virus a été traité avec l'irradiation seule à 1.5 kGy, une réduction de 1.22 log TCID₅₀ / mL a été mesurée. Durant ce temps d'entreposage, la combinaison des trois traitements a montré la réduction la plus faible du titre viral, avec seulement 0.91 log TCID₅₀ / mL de réduction. Une étude sur de la laitue romaine a montré une réduction instantanée du titre viral du virus de l'hépatite A (HAV) inoculé initialement à 6.90 ± 0.04 log PFU / mL après irradiation à des doses allant de 1 à 10 kGy. Après irradiation à 1, 2, 3 kGy, des réductions de 6.90, 6.20 et 5.60 log PFU / mL de HAV ont été respectivement observées sur la laitue. La réduction la plus importante sur la laitue était à 10 kGy,

montrant un titre viral de 3.36 log PFU / mL, soit une réduction de 3.54 log PFU / mL (Bidawid *et al.*, 2000). Après 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C, les traitements les plus efficaces contre le FCV-F9 étaient la combinaison, l'irradiation seule, l'ozonation et finalement l'utilisation du JC. Des auteurs ont démontré que l'irradiation du kimchi avec des doses allant de 1 à 10 kGy induisait une réduction de 0.34 à 1.76 log₁₀ UFP / mL du titre viral du MNV-1. L'irradiation γ est utilisée pour améliorer la qualité et la durée de conservation de produits frais comme le kimchi. Les auteurs ont attribué ces résultats à la génération de radicaux de type oxygène et hydroxyle par irradiation (Park and Ha, 2017).

1.2.4. Traitements seuls / combinés antiviraux testés contre la flore totale bactérienne durant l'entreposage

Dans la littérature, la combinaison de l'irradiation- γ à des doses de 1 ou 3 kGy avec du benzoate de sodium à 0.19 % (sel de l'acide benzoïque présent dans les canneberges) a prolongé la durée de conservation de la sole « Dover » conservée à une température de 5.6 à 6.7 °C. Des populations microbiennes aérobies de 10⁶ / g ont été atteintes en 6 et 10 jours, alors qu'elles n'étaient irradiées que respectivement avec des doses de 1 et 3 kGy. Avec l'irradiation combinée à des doses de 1 ou 3 kGy, l'utilisation de benzoate de sodium a prolongé la durée de conservation à 9 et 19 jours, respectivement (Monk *et al.*, 1995). Le MAPAQ a émis un seuil de contamination par des bactéries aérobies mésophiles à 7 log CFU/mL. La durée de vie de la laitue iceberg sans aucun traitement était de 7 jours. La durée de conservation a été augmentée jusqu'à 10 jours après un traitement avec l'O₃ seul et le JC seul. L'irradiation seule à 1.5 kGy et l'utilisation des traitements combinés a maintenu la qualité de la laitue idéale même après 13 jours de stockage à 4 °C. Akbas et Olmez (2007) ont montré que les trempages dans de l'acide citrique et de l'acide lactique entraînaient des comptes mésophiles et psychrotropes inférieurs à ceux des autres traitements de trempage pendant 12 jours de stockage de laitue iceberg fraîchement coupée. Les auteurs ont attribué ce mécanisme d'action antimicrobien à la réduction du pH, au rapport entre la fraction non dissociée de l'acide, à la longueur de la chaîne, à la physiologie cellulaire et au métabolisme. Il a aussi été démontré que l'O₃ inactive les bactéries grâce à des modifications oxydatives de nombreux composants cellulaires tels que les protéines, les lipides insaturés et les enzymes respiratoires dans les membranes cellulaires, les peptidoglycane dans les enveloppes cellulaires et les enzymes (Yuk *et al.*, 2006).

1.2.5. Effets sur la colorimétrie, la chlorophylle, la texture et l'analyse sensorielle durant l'entreposage

Les traitements effectués ont apporté de faibles changements sur la colorimétrie des feuilles après 10 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C. Malgré l'absence de différences visibles à l'œil nu, l'appareil a dénoté quelques changements significatifs. La feuille s'est éclaircie 10 jours après le traitement avec le JC-0.25% seul comparativement aux autres. Le niveau de vert a diminué significativement dans le cas des feuilles

traitées avec l'irradiation seule à 1.5 kGy et avec l'O₃ à 5-ppm. Finalement, un jaunissement significatif a été observé après le traitement avec le CJ-0.25% et la combinaison des trois traitements. Bolin *et al.* (1977) ont montré que la température d'entreposage influençait les paramètres de colorimétrie de la laitue. Ils ont montré que le stockage à haute température (10 °C) assombrissait l'échantillon de laitue par rapport à la laitue stockée à une température plus froide (2 °C). En plus de l'obscurcissement, une perte de pigment vert (augmentation a*) a été observée. Au cours de cette étude, nous avons stocké la laitue à la température du réfrigérateur (4 °C), ce qui explique pourquoi le paramètre a* a augmenté de manière significative et pourquoi la chlorophylle a chuté. La chlorophylle représente le pigment vert qui capte l'énergie de la lumière et la transforme en énergie chimique par la photosynthèse. La chlorophylle a été évalué aux jours 0, 6 et 10 d'entreposage à 4 °C après les traitements effectués sur les laitues iceberg. Une baisse dans le temps a été observée pour le contrôle, l'O₃ et l'irradiation seule. Une faible remontée du pigment a été observée au jour 6 et au jour 10 après le traitement avec le JC seul. En spéculant avec les résultats montrés dans l'article de Agüero *et al.* (2008), il serait possible que les mouvements et pertes d'eaux aient pu concentrer la chlorophylle dans le haut de la feuille après le traitement avec le JC agissant comme un facteur environnemental stressant et ainsi démontré une hausse du pigment durant l'entreposage à 4 °C. Les combinaisons de traitements ont maintenu le niveau de chlorophylle stable tout au long de l'entreposage. Certaines études ont démontré que la température de stockage (4 °C ou 10 °C) de la salade *Valeriana* entraînait une réduction significative de la chlorophylle. Après 8 jours de stockage, une diminution de 22 % de la chlorophylle initiale a été observée sur des laitues conservées à 4 °C, tandis qu'une réduction de 35 % était observée pendant un stockage à 10 °C. Dans notre étude, après 6 jours de stockage à 4 °C, la chlorophylle totale a été réduite de plus de 12 %, il est donc en corrélation avec cette recherche d'observer une diminution naturelle lors du stockage à 4 °C (Ferrante and Maggiore, 2007). La production d'éthylène pendant le stockage de la laitue peut augmenter l'activité de la chlorophyllase, ce qui peut entraîner une diminution naturelle de la chlorophylle pendant le stockage à 4 °C (Agüero *et al.*, 2008). La texture n'a pas été affecté par aucun traitement tout au long du stockage. Une faible différence statistique a cependant été observée entre le contrôle et l'O₃ au jour 6. Baur *et al.* (2004) ont montré qu'après 9 jours de stockage de laitue iceberg, aucun changement significatif de texture n'avait été observé après le lavage des aliments avec de l'eau, du chlore et de l'eau et de l'eau ozonée. De plus, Sagong *et al.* (2011) ont montré que la combinaison d'acides organiques et d'ultrasons ne modifiait pas de manière significative la texture de la laitue pendant plus de 7 jours de stockage à 4 °C ($p > 0.05$) dans tous les échantillons, seuls ou combinés. Les acides organiques utilisés étaient l'acide malique, l'acide lactique et l'acide citrique et des ultrasons de 5 L à 40 kHz (Sagong *et al.*, 2011). Finalement, les analyses sensorielles sur un vingtaine de panelistes a démontré qu'après 5 jours d'entreposage des laitues traités à : 1) contrôle, 2) CJ-0.25% seul et 3) la combinaison des traitements, le traitement avec le JC seul était le

préféré en termes de goût, de texture, d'odeur et de couleur. Une différence statistique a été noté entre le jour 0 et le jour 5 pour le contrôle pour les paramètres de couleur et de goût. Les panelistes lui ont attribué des notes inférieures. Zhang *et al.* (2006) ont montré que l'irradiation-γ à 1.5 kGy affectait un peu la couleur de la laitue après 8 jours de stockage à 4 °C. La laitue préférée au jour 8 a été observée après le traitement à 1 kGy. Les doses d'irradiation de 0 et 0.5 kGy sur la laitue ont été les moins appréciées. Les auteurs ont montré que 1.0 kGy avait les effets optimaux sur la qualité sensorielle de la laitue.

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Chapitre 6: Conclusion générale

Dans ce mémoire, nous nous sommes intéressés au développement de traitement en combinaison avec l'irradiation, l'ozonation et l'utilisation de jus de canneberge à la surface de la laitue iceberg contre le virus alimentaire FCV, responsable de la gastroentérite chez les humains. Le processus du développement était d'évaluer les effets seuls des traitements *in-vitro* et *in-situ* et aussi leurs effets sans entreposage à 4 °C. L'hypothèse était que la combinaison de traitements allait réduire la dose d'irradiation requise pour éliminer le virus tout en gardant les propriétés physico-chimiques et sensorielles de la laitue à travers l'entreposage à 4 °C.

Après l'entreposage de la laitue iceberg à 4 °C traitée avec l'ozone 5-ppm durant 7.5 minutes, l'irradiation- γ à 1.5 kGy et le CJ-0.25% utilisés seuls ou en combinaison, les résultats ont démontré que les virus étaient plus facilement éliminés avec la combinaison des trois traitements. La flore totale bactérienne est significativement diminuée après un traitement avec l'irradiation seule et complètement éliminée après la combinaison des trois traitements après 13 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C. Peu d'effets visuels sont observés sur les feuilles de laitues malgré un éclaircissement des feuilles après l'utilisation du JC. Aucun effet sur la texture n'a été observé après 10 jours d'entreposage des laitues avec tous les traitements. La chlorophylle est restée stable dans les feuilles traitées avec la combinaison de traitement après 10 jours de stockage. Le traitement favori en termes de goût, de texture, d'odeur et de couleur était le JC après 5 jours d'entreposage à 4 °C.

Finalement, des combinaisons de traitements avec l'irradiation- γ ont permis d'augmenter la radiosensibilisation virale sans toutefois affecter les propriétés sensorielles et nutritionnelles de l'aliment. À ce jour, dans le secteur de l'agroalimentaire, très peu d'études concernent l'utilisation combinée d'acides organiques, d'ozonation et d'irradiation- γ contre les virus alimentaires justifiant ainsi ce projet de recherche. Par ces travaux, nous avons donc pu déterminer s'il existait une synergie entre ces traitements, permettant d'abaisser la dose d'irradiation employée sur l'aliment frais tout en maintenant les propriétés physico-chimiques et nutritives.

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