

1 Article

# 2 Effects of Continuous Deep Fat Frying on the Physical 3 and Chemical Properties of Assorted Brands of Edible 4 Cooking Oils Sold in Metropolitan Kampala

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14

15 **Abstract:** Deep fat frying is not novel, but a classical antiquity culinary technique preferred chiefly  
16 for its swiftness, amenity, conferment of a crisp texture, attractive sensorial and organoleptic  
17 qualities and thus delectableness of the fries. Regrettably, repeated use of oils for deep frying  
18 impacts the storage life and nutritional suitability of fries. This concerted study investigated the  
19 effects of continuous deep fat frying on the physicochemical properties of ten brands of edible  
20 cooking oils: Fortune Butto, Roki, Tamu, Best Fry, Golden Fry, Mukwano, Sunny, Sunvita, Sunlite  
21 and Sunseed used in deep frying of potato chips in Kampala, Uganda. Three oil samples from local  
22 Irish chip fryers were also collected. The color value (CV) and the acidification of the oils as free fatty  
23 acid (FFA), peroxide value (POV), paraanisidine value (AnV) and iodine adsorption value (IV)  
24 before and between ten successive deep-fryings using potato chips were determined. The possible  
25 reuse of the oils was estimated from the frying round when a quality criterion surpassed national or  
26 CODEX specifications for the respective edible cooking oils. For fresh oils, the statistical parameter  
27 ranges were: CV (0.4R 3.4Y-7.7R 70Y), % FFA (0.0430-0.1508), POV (0.5951-6.6134 meqO<sub>2</sub>/Kg), AnV  
28 (0.90-4.30) and IV (57.62-128.35gI<sub>2</sub>/100g). By the tenth fry, the values were respectively 3.0R  
29 23Y-20.4R 70Y, 0.2286-0.4817, 11.1138-15.7525 meqO<sub>2</sub>/Kg, 10.31-22.16 and 53.66-126.03 gI<sub>2</sub>/100g.  
30 Reuse of the oils for continuous frying of potatoes on the same day can be done only up to 7 times on  
31 average for hard oils and 6 times for soft oils.

32 **Keywords:** Color; free fatty acids; iodine absorption value; paraanisidine value; peroxide value.

## 33 1. Introduction

34 Kampala, the central business district and capital city of Uganda is an area of population with  
35 an approximated 1.53 million people in mid-2009 growing by 3.9% annually [1]. People in the city  
36 are surviving on a vast array of ready-to-eat Ugandan unique deep-fried delicacies namely: fried  
37 dough (mandazi), sweet plantain (gonja), edible grasshoppers (nsenene), banana pancakes  
38 (kabalagala), Nile perch fish (emputa), chapatti, sausages, chicken, Irish potatoes and cassava chips  
39 prepared using repeatedly used edible cooking oils. Sometimes, fresh oil is added to the used oils  
40 and in either case, recycling of oil enhances the innocuous contamination and interaction of moisture  
41 and air (oxygen) with the oil [2-5].

42

43 **1.1 Deep frying**

44 Deep frying (or less commonly deep-fat frying), is a yearthousand food-in-oil culinary  
45 procedure performed at elevated temperatures, typically above the boiling point of water between  
46 160°C to 190°C [6]. Material and heat transfers occur concomitantly with the wholly or partly  
47 submersed food in the hot fat typically at or in excess of 180°C [7-9]. The heat, augmented by  
48 moisture, oxygen and air culminates in food dehydration, further potentiating a complex cascade of  
49 physical and chemical changes including breakdown of sugars and proteins via starch  
50 gelatinization, protein denaturation, induced flavor and color [9], hydrolysis [10], free radical  
51 production, formation of heterocyclic flavouring substances from amino acids, oxidation,  
52 somerizations, dietary fibre softening, Millard reaction and caramelization. Hydrolytic degradation  
53 ensues the attack of the ester linkage of triacylglycerols by water (a weak nucleophile) almost always  
54 entrained in the food to be fried and yields diglycerols, monoglycerols and free fatty acids (FFAs).  
55 This is further energized by the yielded fatty acids and other low molecular weight acids [11].  
56 Copious amounts of water has been reported to hydrolyze deep frying oils more rapidly [12] than  
57 steam [13]. On average, these reaction cascades increase oil darkening, flow viscosity, density,  
58 specific heat, foaming and reduce considerably the smoke point [14].

59 **1.1. Stability of deep fat frying oils**

60 The heat stability of frying oil is governed primarily by two inherent factors: the fatty acid  
61 composition and the presence of antioxidants and precursors such as butylatedhydroxyanisole  
62 (BHA), *tert*-butylhydroquinone (TBHQ), butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), propyl gallate (PG) and  
63 tocopherols [15]. Antioxidants have been proven to retard room temperature auto-oxidation of oils  
64 but are rendered inefficient at typical frying temperatures due to volatilization losses and thermal  
65 fissions [16, 17]. An ideal frying oil should thus possess little amount of polyunsaturated fatty acids  
66 (notably linolenic acids) and prominent levels of oleic acid with moderate amounts of saturated fatty  
67 acids as the former are highly susceptible to oxidative degradation during frying [18], potentiating  
68 breakdown reactions that often yield harmful polymers [19-21]. Thus, the accompanying changes in  
69 the physical and chemical parameters of oils used repeatedly for deep frying has raised global health  
70 concerns [22].

71 Subtly, the frying stability of oils are assessed by physicochemical investigation of changes  
72 occurring during heating of the oils at elevated temperatures. The color value of oils, usually  
73 expressed as  $1 \times \text{Red} + 1 \times \text{Yellow}$  Lovibond units, registers a drastic increase in both the red and  
74 yellow units during the incipient phases of heating. According to the results of Baby Latha and  
75 Nasirullah [23] using rice bran oil, a threefold increase in red units and nearly fourfold increase in  
76 yellow units was found after 2 hours of frying while darkening occurred beyond 2 hours.  
77 Physicochemical properties and oxidative degradation of the frying oil during the initial 2 hours of  
78 heating registered a steep increment in POV from 0.2 to 6.3 meqO<sub>2</sub>/kg, AnV from 5.04 to 19.4 and  
79 total polar components from 1 to 4.1% [23]. FFA content of frying oils has been reported to rise with  
80 number of fryings [24] and frying time [25]. The formed FFA, glycerol, di- and mono-acylglycerols  
81 have been implicated by several authors to energize further thermohydrolysis [26-28]. Fatty acids  
82 composition, tocopherols and total phenols influences the oxidative stability of oils during frying

83 [29, 30] with some polar compounds such as triacylglycerol dimers and oxidation triacylglycerols  
84 [31, 32], dimers [33] and polymers [34] reported to accumulate during the frying process. Warner *et al*  
85 [35] reported that polar compounds accumulation during potato chips frying in cottonseed oil  
86 increased proportionately with increase in the oil linoleic acid content. Mono- and di-acylglycerols in  
87 cotton seed oil during frying of potato chips at 155 to 195°C increased initially and then reached a  
88 plateau according to the results of Houhoula *et al* [5].

89 Frequent replenishing of frying oil retards its hydrolysis [36] and increases its frying life; alkalis  
90 deployed in cleaning a fryer potentiates oil hydrolytic degradation while the frying time has no  
91 appreciable effect on hydrolysis rate [37]. Diop *et al* [38] investigated the effects of deep fat frying on  
92 chemical properties of three selected brands of oils ( two peanut oils A and B and sunflower oil, C)  
93 common in Senegalese preparation of fried meat, fish and potatoes. Their findings revealed that  
94 frying affects the chemical stability of cooking oils. The acid value as reported increased after 40  
95 minutes from 0.62 to 1.08 mg/kg after frying fish, from 0.39 to 0.73mg/kg for meat and 0.37 to 0.51  
96 mg/kg for potatoes. Peroxide value increased slightly for A and sharply for B and C oils.

97 Juárez *et al* [39] assessed some physicochemical changes occurring during discontinuous potato  
98 frying using milanesas and churros in partly hydrogenated, soybean and sunflower oils. For 80.5  
99 hours of churros deep fat frying, the oils measured total polar compounds surpassing 25% and the  
100 corresponding percentage dimeric and polymeric triacylglycerols surpassed 10% with tocopherol  
101 losses of 70%. Xu *et al* [40] compared the oxidative stability of camellia oil composed of saturated  
102 fatty acid (SFA), monounsaturated fatty acid (MSFA) and polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) in a  
103 ratio of 1:7:1 during potato deep frying with palm and peanut oils composed of SFA, MSFA and  
104 PUFA in ratios of 4:4:1 and 2:4:4 respectively. Their evaluations of acid value, IV, POV, AnV, total  
105 oxidation (TOTOX) value, tocopherols content and fatty acids composition of the oils registered little  
106 alteration of the fatty acid contents of camellia oil with alpha-tocopherol reported to be more  
107 thermally labile compared to gamma and delta tocopherols. They concluded that the stabilities of  
108 the oils as determined by oxidizability value followed the sequence camellia oil > palm oil >peanut  
109 oil. The initially highest recorded AnV was in palm oil, which rose from 0.11 to 0.40. The recorded  
110 AnV change was initially high in peanut oil prior to frying but increased more gradually from 0.74 to  
111 1.04 while that of camellia oil rose from 0.17 to 0.55. The IV recorded in peanut oil was the largest  
112 though it reduced from 104.74 to 80.52 gI<sub>2</sub>/100g. Insignificant changes of 53.83 to 45.36 gI<sub>2</sub>/100 g and  
113 65.40 to 55.29 gI<sub>2</sub>/100g was registered in palm oil and camellia oils respectively. POV in palm oil  
114 registered an increment from 4.98 to 18.86 meqO<sub>2</sub>/kg while that of peanut and camellia oils changed  
115 from 4.75 to 13.24 meqO<sub>2</sub>/kg and 4.68 to 11.58 meqO<sub>2</sub>/kg. The least AnV was in camellia oil that  
116 increased from 1.70 to 51.78 while peanut and palm oils registered 2.25 to 84.71 and 1.36 to 60.00  
117 respectively. Abdulkarim [41] assessed the frying suitability of high-oleic *Moringa oleifera* seed oil  
118 saturated fatty acid (SFA) consisting of SFA: MUFA: PUFA in a ratio of 2:7:0 vis-a-vis soybean, palm  
119 olein and canola oils with SFA: MUFA:PUFA ratios of 1.5:2.5:6, 4:4:1 an 1:6:3 respectively.  
120 Experimental results showed that the %FFA of the four conventional oils used comparatively in the  
121 assessment respectively increased by 66.6, 71.4, 60.0 and 65.0%. TOTOX and AnV values of the oils  
122 were registered in the order *Moringa oleifera* seed oil< palm olein < canola and soybean oils [41].

123 This research, in addition to assessing the effects of continuous deep-fat frying on the  
124 physicochemical parameters of edible cooking oils sold in Metropolitan Kampala reveals the  
125 maximum number of times the edible oils can be reused for continuous deep frying of Irish potato  
126 chips without posing potential health risk to the final consumers.

127

## 128 **2. Materials and Methods**

### 129 *2.1. Apparatus and reagents*

130 The chemicals used in this investigation were of high analytical purity. The assortment of  
131 volumetric glassware employed were presterilized in an autoclave and oven dried prior to analysis.  
132 Mettler PM200 balance (Marshall scientific, USA) was used for all weighings. Amprobe IR608A  
133 non-contact infrared thermometer with laser pointer, -18°C to 400°C (Amprobe, Everett, USA) was  
134 used for monitoring temperatures during frying.

### 135 *2.2. Sampling procedure and sample size*

136 Six one litre samples of hard oil brands (Fortune butto, Roki, Tamu, Best fry, Golden fry and  
137 Mukwano) and soft oil brands (Sunny, Sunvita, Sunlite and Sunseed) of approximate manufacturing  
138 dates were procured from Mega Standard supermarket, Yusuf Lule road, Kampala-Uganda on 4<sup>th</sup>  
139 May 2017. The brands were chosen based on their common use in deep frying according to a  
140 prestudy tour taken and were majorly brands from two giant oil processing companies: Bidco  
141 Uganda Limited (BUL)-Jinja Uganda and Mukwano Industries Limited-Kampala Uganda. Hence  
142 exactly thirty (30) samples of cooking oils were procured and maintained in their original packaging  
143 materials under ambient conditions to avoid any possible degradation. Three oil samples used up to  
144 ten times continuous fry from Makindye division of Metropolitan Kampala were collected at  
145 intervals from three randomly selected local traders carrying out deep frying of Irish potato chips  
146 during their successive fries. Ten (10) kilograms of fresh white (Irish) potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*),  
147 were purchased from Nakasero market, Nakasero Hill, Market square road, Kampala, washed and  
148 peeled manually using a clean stainless-steel knife. They were then sliced into cylindrical sizeable  
149 pieces (1cm×1cm×3cm) corresponding to that used in the Kampala Irish potato culinary. The  
150 analyses were done at the Quality control laboratory of Mukwano Industries Limited, Plot 30,  
151 Mukwano Road, Kampala Industrial area.

### 152 *2.3. Analysis of fresh oil samples*

153 Both physical and chemical parameters of the oil samples were analyzed before being used for  
154 deep fat frying.

### 155 *2.4. Frying method*

156 Exactly 400g of the Irish potato slices were submersed in oil in Skyline VT5424 4L Electric Deep  
157 Fryer (Skyline, New Dehli, India) with detachable oil tank and slotted spoon with 1500mL of the  
158 heated oil maintained at 140°C for 6 minutes. A frying time of 10 minutes was used with 800g of the  
159 Irish fried in 20 minutes.

160

161

162 *2.5. Determination of colour*

163 Colour value (colour index) of the oil samples free from moisture and insoluble impurities were  
164 measured in triplicates in a Lovibond Tintometer (The Tintometer Ltd, UK) using a 2.54cm cell  
165 operating in the transmittance mode and recorded in Lovibond units.

166 *2.6. Determination of free fatty acids*

167 Exactly 10g of the oil sample was weighed in a 250ml beaker. 60mls of neutralized ethanol was  
168 added and then boiled. The solution was then titrated with standardized 0.025M sodium hydroxide  
169 using phenolphthalein indicator until the solution just turned pink. The FFA value was expressed as  
170 the percentage of oleic acid in the sample [42].

171 *2.7. Determination of Iodine adsorption value*

172 Iodine value was determined according to ISO 3961: 2009 iodometric procedure [43]. 0.2g of oil  
173 sample was weighed into a quick fit flask and dissolved in 20ml of chloroform. 25mL of Hanus  
174 iodine solution was added to the resultant solution. Few drops of potassium iodide were put on  
175 mouth of the flask and then kept in the dark for 30minutes. The sample was then removed and 10mls  
176 of 15% Potassium Iodide solution was added followed by 100mls of freshly distilled water. The  
177 solution was subsequently titrated with a standard 0.1N Sodium thiosulphate solution while stirring  
178 until the golden yellow color appeared. Exactly 5mls of starch indicator was added to the resultant  
179 solution and titration was continued until the blue-black solution turned colorless. A blank was  
180 conducted where the total halogen content of 25mL of Hanus iodine was determined by a sodium  
181 thiosulphate solution without the addition of an oil sample. Iodine value was expressed in grams of  
182 Iodine absorbed by 100g of the oil.

183 *2.8. Determination of peroxide value*

184 Peroxide value was estimated according to ISO 3960: 2007 [44] and recorded as milliequivalents of  
185 active oxygen/kg of oil.

186 *2.9. Determination of paraanisidine value*

187 Paraanisidine value was determined using the AOCS Official Method Cd 18-90 [45] and expressed  
188 in anisidine numbers.

189 **3. Results and statistical analyses**

190 Analyses were performed in triplicate and the statistical average values were calculated using  
191 Microsoft Excel 2016.

192 *3.1. Hard oils*

193 The investigated physicochemical properties of the hard oils are given in *Table 1*.

194

**Table 1.** Changes in the physicochemical properties of the hard oils.

Oil	Sample	CV	%FFA	POV (meq O <sub>2</sub> /Kg)	AnV	IV (g of I <sub>2</sub> /100g)
Fortune	Fresh oil	4.8R 70Y	0.0977	1.6924	2.50	57.67
Butto	First fry	6.0R 70Y	0.1305	3.0157	3.50	57.56
	Second fry	6.3R 70Y	0.1420	3.0481	3.90	56.46
	Third fry	7.1R 70Y	0.1428	3.2682	4.20	56.42
	Fourth fry	7.3R 70Y	0.1522	3.6635	4.80	56.14
	Fifth fry	7.5R 70Y	0.1779	6.0672	5.24	55.57
	Sixth fry	8.0R 70Y	0.2544	8.3062	7.73	55.21
	Seventh fry	8.2R 70Y	0.2613	9.3708	8.94	54.80
	Eighth fry	8.5R 70Y	0.3269	9.9978	10.14	54.65
	Ninth fry	9.0R 70Y	0.3513	10.4800	10.35	54.12
	Tenth fry	9.9R 70Y	0.3776	12.2809	11.84	53.66
Roki	Fresh oil	4.6R 70Y	0.1099	0.7848	1.80	60.06
	First fry	6.1R 70Y	0.1305	1.9309	2.50	59.31
	Second fry	6.1R 70Y	0.1356	2.8011	2.80	59.15
	Third fry	6.5R 70Y	0.1449	3.0712	3.40	58.92
	Fourth fry	7.2R 70Y	0.1527	3.2109	4.00	58.92
	Fifth fry	7.5R 70Y	0.1541	5.3638	4.85	58.51
	Sixth fry	8.2R 70Y	0.1702	5.7558	5.38	57.77
	Seventh fry	8.4R 70Y	0.1865	6.9578	5.83	57.77
	Eighth fry	9.5R 70Y	0.2098	9.7719	6.44	57.60
	Ninth fry	10.0R70Y	0.2472	9.9846	7.47	57.27
Tenth fry	10.8R70Y	0.2844	11.1138	10.31	57.05	
Tamu	Fresh oil	5.0R 70Y	0.0987	0.71370	2.30	58.88
	First fry	6.3R 70Y	0.1365	2.0110	3.80	58.34
	Second fry	6.6R 70Y	0.1443	4.5741	4.20	58.29
	Third fry	6.9R 70Y	0.1527	5.5595	5.30	58.05
	Fourth fry	7.3R 70Y	0.1812	7.6355	6.90	57.50
	Fifth fry	8.5R 70Y	0.1993	10.0566	8.94	57.34
	Sixth fry	8.7R 70Y	0.2939	10.5666	9.70	57.01
	Seventh fry	9.8R 70Y	0.3079	11.0939	11.24	56.96
	Eighth fry	10.0R 70Y	0.3053	11.2413	11.39	56.47
	Ninth fry	10.8R 70Y	0.3305	12.5219	11.59	56.26
Tenth fry	12.0R 70Y	0.3833	13.0047	14.73	55.51	
Golden fry	Fresh oil	5.4R 70Y	0.1247	1.7272	2.60	57.62
	First fry	6.5R 70Y	0.1462	4.0312	3.40	57.62
	Second fry	6.9R 70Y	0.1825	4.5876	4.80	57.57
	Third fry	7.2R 70Y	0.2017	6.0430	6.20	57.66
	Fourth fry	7.8R 70Y	0.2668	7.2802	7.50	57.40
	Fifth fry	8.4R 70Y	0.3029	8.0133	8.40	57.06
	Sixth fry	9.1R 70Y	0.3428	9.3237	10.80	56.90
	Seventh fry	10.0R70Y	0.3374	10.0599	11.40	56.45
	Eighth fry	11.0R70Y	0.3874	10.6783	11.80	56.42
Ninth fry	11.8R70Y	0.4441	10.9245	12.40	56.47	

Mukwano	Tenth fry	12.4R70Y	0.4817	11.7157	12.80	56.15
	Fresh oil	4.5R 70Y	0.0576	0.7119	0.90	61.59
	First fry	5.8R 70Y	0.1429	3.9388	2.90	61.18
	Second fry	6.2R 70Y	0.1581	4.1649	3.40	60.57
	Third fry	6.5R 70Y	0.1665	4.6978	4.50	60.20
	Fourth fry	6.4R 70Y	0.1755	6.1839	6.20	60.31
	Fifth fry	7.0R 70Y	0.2275	7.4132	6.80	59.92
	Sixth fry	7.4R 70Y	0.2372	7.4361	7.90	59.22
	Seventh fry	8.3R 70Y	0.2534	9.7599	8.70	59.06
	Eighth fry	8.9R 70Y	0.2785	9.9139	10.20	58.71
Best fry	Ninth fry	9.5R 70Y	0.3216	11.009	12.69	58.34
	Tenth fry	10.9R70Y	0.3310	11.820	14.73	58.13
	Fresh oil	5.2R 70Y	0.1376	2.3542	3.40	58.34
	First fry	7.4R 70Y	0.1927	3.1264	4.90	58.16
	Second fry	7.9R 70Y	0.2528	4.2248	5.80	57.94
	Third fry	8.3R 70Y	0.2655	4.5703	7.70	57.25
	Fourth fry	8.8R 70Y	0.2829	5.8642	8.40	57.29
	Fifth fry	9.7R 70Y	0.2854	6.1624	9.11	57.13
	Sixth fry	10.5R 70Y	0.2978	6.9323	12.63	57.03
	Seventh fry	12.0R 70Y	0.2989	8.8926	14.21	57.04
	Eighth fry	15.0R 70Y	0.3595	10.422	16.12	56.87
	Ninth fry	16.0R 70Y	0.3591	11.017	17.03	56.71
	Tenth fry	17.5R 70Y	0.3591	11.952	17.77	56.66

196

197 3.2. Soft Oils

198 The physicochemical properties of the soft oils are given in *Table 2*.199 **Table 2.** Changes in the physicochemical properties of the soft oils.

Oil	Sample	CV	%FFA	POV (meq O <sub>2</sub> /Kg)	AnV	IV (g of I <sub>2</sub> /100g)
Sunseed	Fresh oil	0.4R 3.4Y	0.1508	6.6134	4.30	58.30
	First fry	1.0R 4.7Y	0.1567	7.8224	5.70	58.02
	Second fry	1.1R 5.4Y	0.1693	8.8646	6.60	58.08
	Third fry	1.2R 6.3Y	0.1829	9.2997	7.40	57.88
	Fourth fry	1.3R 7.2Y	0.1932	10.2907	9.50	57.87
	Fifth fry	2.0R 8.5Y	0.2099	10.8085	10.90	57.83
	Sixth fry	2.1R 9.9Y	0.2152	10.9622	13.80	57.71
	Seventh fry	2.1R 11Y	0.2201	10.9920	16.70	57.72
	Eighth fry	2.4R 13Y	0.2715	12.2302	17.90	57.57
	Nineth fry	2.9R 14Y	0.2769	13.4418	19.50	57.45
Sunny	Tenth fry	2.6R 22Y	0.2908	13.6042	20.20	57.40
	Fresh oil	0.8R 4.9Y	0.0884	1.4980	2.50	128.35
	First fry	1.6R 14Y	0.1163	2.1135	3.70	127.13
	Second fry	1.9R 15Y	0.1407	3.0874	4.00	126.94
	Third fry	2.1R 19Y	0.1571	4.3946	4.90	126.88
	Fourth fry	2.7R 16Y	0.1766	5.0359	6.20	126.70

	Fifth fry	2.9R 19Y	0.1875	6.7514	7.60	126.69
	Sixth fry	3.0R 23Y	0.1917	7.9430	9.40	126.33
	Seventh fry	3.0R 24Y	0.2173	9.0678	10.40	126.27
	Eighth fry	3.3R 24Y	0.2435	10.3814	12.80	126.24
	Nineth fry	3.5R 27Y	0.2477	10.8668	15.50	126.08
	Tenth fry	3.6R 27Y	0.2540	11.7032	17.50	126.03
Sunvita	Fresh oil	0.9R 5.1Y	0.0430	1.4714	2.80	126.96
	First fry	0.9R 6.7Y	0.0892	3.3087	3.50	126.10
	Second fry	0.9R 7.5Y	0.1503	3.8037	4.70	123.03
	Third fry	1R 9.1Y	0.1666	4.9809	5.70	124.88
	Fourth fry	1.1R 11Y	0.1937	5.2830	6.80	123.96
	Fifth fry	1.3R 11Y	0.1991	5.9740	7.75	123.27
	Sixth fry	1.7R 14Y	0.2136	8.2301	10.46	122.59
	Seventh fry	2.1R 15Y	0.2576	10.11	14.89	121.81
	Eighth fry	2.4R 20Y	0.3081	11.53	15.78	121.48
	Nineth fry	2.8R 22Y	0.3078	14.68	16.49	121.48
	Tenth fry	3.0R 23Y	0.3396	15.37	18.66	120.28
Sunlite	Fresh oil	0.7R 5Y	0.0963	1.2723	2.60	126.80
	First fry	0.7R 5.5Y	0.1098	2.0882	2.92	126.46
	Second fry	0.8R 5.8Y	0.1319	3.9624	3.50	125.98
	Third fry	1.0R 6.0Y	0.1458	4.4835	4.30	125.79
	Fourth fry	1.3R 6.8Y	0.1603	5.9978	5.80	125.73
	Fifth fry	1.5R 6.8Y	0.1720	7.5574	6.90	125.47
	Sixth fry	1.8R 7.2Y	0.2001	9.0822	8.30	125.29
	Seventh fry	2.0R 7.5Y	0.2159	10.5798	10.0	124.89
	Eighth fry	2.4R13.0Y	0.2599	11.2972	12.72	124.57
	Nineth fry	2.56R 13Y	0.2828	11.9001	14.68	124.55
	Tenth fry	2.9R14.5Y	0.3202	12.7721	16.02	124.21

200

201 3.3. Oils From Outside Chips Fryers

202 The physicochemical properties of oils from outside chips fryers are presented in Table 3.

203 Table 3. Changes in the physicochemical properties of oils from outside chips fryers.

Oil	Sample	CV	%FFA	POV (meq O <sub>2</sub> /Kg)	AnV	IV (g of I <sub>2</sub> /100g)
First fryer	Fresh oil	6.8R 70Y	0.1399	3.1037	4.30	58.42
	First fry	7.4R 70Y	0.1499	3.5849	5.10	58.42
	Second fry	7.9R 70Y	0.1556	4.4937	6.80	58.38
	Third fry	8.1R 70Y	0.1698	5.8645	7.50	58.30
	Fourth fry	8.9R 70Y	0.2013	8.6028	7.90	58.34
	Fifth fry	9.7R 70Y	0.2432	9.0689	9.00	58.15
	Sixth fry	10.7R 70Y	0.2449	10.738	10.40	57.67
	Seventh fry	12.0R 70Y	0.2466	11.0264	14.20	57.66
	Eighth fry	12.9R 70Y	0.2635	12.2278	16.50	57.55
	Nineth fry	14.8R 70Y	0.3094	14.6568	17.50	57.55
	Tenth fry	15.2R 70Y	0.3334	15.7525	19.90	57.35



Second fryer	Fresh oil	4.5R 70Y	0.1007	0.5951	2.80	59.43
	First fry	6.0R 70Y	0.1282	0.9021	3.40	59.23
	Second fry	6.0R 70Y	0.1300	1.5840	3.80	58.90
	Third fry	6.2R 70Y	0.1354	2.2182	4.50	58.97
	Fourth fry	7.1R 70Y	0.1398	2.9961	5.10	58.55
	Fifth fry	7.3R 70Y	0.1403	3.3954	6.30	58.37
	Sixth fry	7.8R 70Y	0.1625	4.4962	6.50	58.27
	Seventh fry	8.2R 70Y	0.1687	5.1984	7.40	58.15
	Eighth fry	8.7R 70Y	0.1812	6.5811	8.50	58.10
	Nineth fry	9.0R 70Y	0.2014	6.9981	9.10	58.10
Third Fryer	Tenth fry	9.5R 70Y	0.2286	7.995	10.70	58.12
	Fresh oil	7.7R 70Y	0.0496	1.1957	2.70	128.16
	First fry	9.0R 70Y	0.1362	1.6099	3.60	127.18
	Second fry	10.1R 70Y	0.1535	1.7636	3.90	126.33
	Third fry	10.9R 70Y	0.1634	2.0909	4.80	124.79
	Fourth fry	12.5R 70Y	0.1697	2.5227	5.90	124.22
	Fifth fry	14.3R 70Y	0.2030	2.4450	7.46	123.30
	Sixth fry	16.0R 70Y	0.2980	2.9739	8.65	121.40
	Seventh fry	17.0R 70Y	0.3235	6.0875	14.20	120.13
	Eighth fry	18.8R 70Y	0.3874	6.3546	17.98	118.77
Nineth fry	19.2R 70Y	0.4165	7.1760	20.70	119.00	
Tenth fry	20.4R 70Y	0.4748	8.5800	22.16	119.14	

204

205 **4. Discussion**206 **4.1. Color**

207 There is no standard specification for colour as per Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS)  
 208 for edible oils. However, most edible oil refining companies (including Mukwano group of  
 209 companies) have internal colour specifications of 7.5R 70Y maximum. Sunseed, Sunvita, Sunlite and  
 210 Sunny cooking oils passed colour parameter specifications even after the tenth fry. Mukwano after  
 211 the 6<sup>th</sup> fry, Fortune Butto, Roki and Best fry after the 5<sup>th</sup> fry, while Tamu after the 4<sup>th</sup> fry and Golden  
 212 fry after the 3<sup>rd</sup> fry fell out of specifications (Tables 1 and 2). Oil from the first and second outside  
 213 chips fryers fell out of colour specifications after a fry while oil from the third outside chips fryer did  
 214 not meet the specifications (Table 3). The physical change in the color value of oils is a rather  
 215 intuitive and swift visual index implicative of a trend of oil deterioration. Of the fresh oil samples,  
 216 oil from the third outside chips fryer had the highest color reading of 7.7R 70Y (Table 3) while the  
 217 lowest color reading was obtained from the oil from the Sunseed with a color reading of 0.4R 3.4Y  
 218 (Table 2). The color readings increased steadily. By the ninth fry, the color recitation for oil from the  
 219 third outside chips fryer could hardly be determined experimentally (Table 3) and by the tenth fry,  
 220 the oil from the second outside chips fryer had become reasonably dark. Generally, by the tenth fry,  
 221 all the oils had changed the color of the fried food product. Available empirical data shows that  
 222 unsaturated carbonyl compounds (including ketones, conjugated dienoic acids) and degraded  
 223 oxidation compounds such as hydroxides and hydroperoxides induce oil darkening [46-48].

224 Another close cause of the observed colour regression could be attributable to the dispersion of  
225 Maillard pigments from the fries [49]. Choe and Min [8] also hinted that polymerized fats  
226 accumulated in a fryer during frying causes foam and gum formation as well as oil darkening. Oil  
227 darkening, albeit, an experimentally valuable index while monitoring deterioration of oils heated at  
228 elevated temperatures has been underscored to not be solely attributable to oxidative degradation  
229 by Che Man and Tan [50]. Non-enzymatic browning of potato chips has been reported to be  
230 proportionate to the amount of reducing sugars in the potato, as both browning and Maillard  
231 reactions are stimulated by the level of oxidation of the food and the entrained characteristic heme  
232 pigments [51]. More so, the Maillard reaction enhances nutrient losses and the ensuing browning  
233 intensity it impacts on the fries is proportionate to the proteinaceous loss of the amino acids: lysine,  
234 histidine and methionine. This result is in agreement with the diagnostic statements of Orthoefer  
235 and Cooper [52] that assorted frying oils and the food fried darken oils to varying degrees during  
236 deep frying.

#### 237 4.2. Free fatty acids

238 The chief composition of oils is fatty acids and degree of unsaturation is the very first factor  
239 influencing the oxidative stability of frying oils despite other oil intrinsic and external factors [30].  
240 For fresh oils, the lowest FFA of 0.0430 was observed in Sunvita while the highest recorded FFA of  
241 0.1508 was in Sunseed (Table 2). Roki, Best fry, third chips fryer oil and Sunvita were still within the  
242 maximum % FFA specification of 0.30 after the tenth fry. Sunlite after the 9<sup>th</sup> fry, Mukwano and oil  
243 from second outside chips fryer after the 8<sup>th</sup> fry while Fortune Butto, Sunny and oil from first outside  
244 chips fryer after the 7<sup>th</sup> fry had % FFA greater than the maximum FFA specification of UNBS. Tamu  
245 and Sunseed after the 6<sup>th</sup> fry and Golden fry after the 4<sup>th</sup> fry had the % FFA greater than the  
246 maximum FFA specification of 0.30. The differences observed in the fresh oil FFA values could be  
247 attributed to blending of several edible oils by the manufacturing companies. Blending of assorted  
248 edible oils is known to alter the fatty acid profile of oils [53, 54] and can steeply retard oxidation of  
249 oils during deep-fat frying. The increase in free fatty acid values of oils can be attributed to the  
250 breakdown of long carbon chains into shorter carbon chains due to thermal and oxidative  
251 decomposition of oils at elevated temperatures. During elevated temperature heating of oils, FFA  
252 formation is attributed to the cleavage and oxidation of double bonds to form carbonyl compounds,  
253 which are subsequently oxidized to fatty acids of low molecular masses [55-57]. It is preferred  
254 frequently by food processors for indication of oil acidity and oil authenticity verification [14, 58].  
255 Filtration of frying oils have been reported to reduce FFA content of oils and improve their frying  
256 stability. The results of this study is concordant with that of Stevenson *et al* [59] who reported that  
257 edible oils with %FFA less than 0.05% and POV of 1.0 meqO<sub>2</sub>/kg or less are best suited for deep  
258 frying.

#### 259 4.3. Peroxide value

260 For peroxide values of fresh oil samples, oil from the second outside chips fryer had the lowest  
261 peroxide value (0.5951meqO<sub>2</sub>/Kg) while the highest peroxide value of 6.6134 meqO<sub>2</sub>/Kg was  
262 observed in Sunseed. Aside from the nature of the oil, fresh oils to be utilized in deep fat frying  
263 should have a Codex regulatory maximum POV of 15meqO<sub>2</sub>/Kg [60]. The peroxide values increased  
264 significantly during the successive fries. The increase in the peroxide values of oils following frying

265 is because of oxidation of carbon atoms adjacent to the double bonds in the triacylglyceride structure  
266 leading to the formation of hydroperoxides. These hydroperoxides, are the direct cause of anisidine  
267 value shoot up as they decompose further to secondary oxidative components which constitute the  
268 paraanisidine components. Peroxide value is implicative of incipient oxidation which directly  
269 translates to the buildup and breakdown of oxidation products. Peroxides are reasonably unstable,  
270 and fissions at typical frying temperatures. In addition, it is a useful biomarker of the preliminary  
271 stages of rancidity occurring under mild conditions and the freshness of the lipid matrix. Thus, the  
272 greater the POV, the faster will the oxidation of the oil occur [61]. After the fifth fry, the peroxide  
273 value of all oils was still concordant with the maximum Codex standard POV for vegetable oils.  
274 However, only Best fry and Sunseed after the tenth fry were still in the maximum Codex standard  
275 POV of 10meq O<sub>2</sub>/Kg. Roki after the 9<sup>th</sup> fry, while Fortune Butto and Mukwano after the 8<sup>th</sup> fry fell  
276 out of specifications (Table 1). Sunvita and oil from first outside chips fryer were out of specifications  
277 after the 7<sup>th</sup> fry; Golden fry, Sunny and Sunlite were all out of specifications of POV after the 6<sup>th</sup> fry.  
278 Oil from second outside chips fryer after the fifth fry was out of specification while Tamu and oil  
279 from third outside chips fryer fell out of the maximum Codex standard POV after the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> fry  
280 respectively. The observed increase in peroxide value during heating of oils have been reported by  
281 other authors [14, 62, 63]. Furthermore, polyunsaturated oils exhibit readily depressed stability at  
282 elevated temperatures because the unsaturated fatty acids are readily oxidized to peroxides [63, 64].  
283 Empirical data shows that the peroxide values of fresh oils may be higher than the Codex standard  
284 primarily owing to improper storage and packaging that triggers degradation via photo-oxidation.  
285 Self-oxidation may supposedly occur in storage due to chemical interaction with air, peculiarly  
286 oxygen [65].

#### 287 4.4. *Paraanisidine value*

288 Oxidative degradation of oils is innocuously deleterious as it impacts sensorial and organoleptic  
289 attributes of fries [66]. Primary oxidation quantifies the amount of hydroperoxides as peroxide value  
290 (POV). Further degradation of hydroperoxides yields aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acids, short  
291 chain alkanes and alkenes better quantitatively described by paraanisidine value (AnV). For fresh  
292 oils, the lowest value of 0.90 was observed in Mukwano vegetable cooking oil (Table 1) while the  
293 highest recorded AnV was 4.30 in Sunseed and oil from first outside chips fryer (Tables 2 and 3  
294 respectively). Golden fry, Tamu, Best fry, Sunny, Sunlite, Fortune Butto, Mukwano, Sunvita, Roki  
295 and oil from first and second outside chips fryer after the tenth fry were still within the range (0.00 to  
296 20.00) after the tenth fry. Only the oil from third outside chips fryer and Sunseed exceeded the  
297 maximum value after the 9<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> fry respectively. Secondary oxidation products are principally  
298 non-volatile aldehydes, principally 2,4-dienals and 2-alkenals [67, 68] which anisidine value is a  
299 quantitative measure. The AnV was observed to increase gradually between the successive fries.  
300 Initial stages of heating resulted in faster increase of AnV followed by a gradual increment. This  
301 could be due to further decomposition of the carbonyls and polymerization reactions. Similar results  
302 have been reported by Xu *et al* [40] in their comparison of oxidative stability of edible oils under  
303 continuous deep frying conditions.

#### 304 4.5. Iodine adsorption value

305 At fresh conditions, the maximum IV observed was in sunny cooking oil (128.35gI<sub>2</sub>/100g) (Table  
306 2) and the least was observed in Golden fry vegetable oil (57.62gI<sub>2</sub>/100g) (Table 1). The iodine  
307 adsorption value, iodine number or sometimes iodine index, is chemically the mass of iodine in  
308 grams that is consumed by 100 grams of a chemical substance by mass as oleic acid. Iodine numbers  
309 are often used to determine the amount of unsaturation in fatty acids. The higher the Iodine index  
310 (the greater the unsaturation), the faster is the tendency of oil oxidation during heating at elevated  
311 temperatures as in deep frying [69]. Iodine index, is a frequently measured vital analytical measure  
312 of the unsaturation of an edible cooking oil [70]. It was observed that IV decreased slightly during  
313 deep frying. Golden fry, Tamu, Best fry, Sunny, Sunlite, Fortune button, Mukwano, Sunvita, Roki,  
314 Sunseed and oil from first, second and third outside chips fryer even after the tenth fry were still  
315 within specifications. The observed decrement in the Iodine index is concordant with the decrement  
316 in double bonds attributed to oxidation and thermal decomposition.

#### 317 4.6. Frying stability of the edible cooking oils

318 The average number of times the hard oils and soft oils could be re-used for continuous deep-fat  
319 frying were statistically calculated using Microsoft Excel 2016. The analysis gave an average of 7.0  
320 times for hard oils and 6.25 times (approximately 6 times) for soft oils.

### 321 5. Conclusions

322 Prior to deep-fat frying, all the selected brands of edible cooking oils met the National and thus  
323 Codex specifications in terms of the assessed physicochemical properties. Oil from the third outside  
324 chips fryer however, failed to meet the color specification. After successive deep fat fryings, the  
325 physicochemical properties of the edible oils increased significantly between fryings and some oils  
326 went out of specifications of the Codex standards before the tenth fry. Iodine adsorption values  
327 decreased only slightly for the ten fryings. The results of the study showed that changes in the  
328 physical and chemical parameters increases with increase in the number of fries of the potato chips.  
329 Repeated re-use of oils for consecutive deep frying of potato chips on the same day can be done only  
330 up to a maximum of 7 times on average for hard oils and 6 times for soft oils with the oils still  
331 regarded as safe for frying potato chips for human consumption. Thus, hard oils should be preferred  
332 to soft oils for deep frying of Irish potato chips.

333 There is a continuous need to subtly carry out research on every new edible cooking oil brand on  
334 the Ugandan market as most companies tend to package a blend of oils. Further comprehensive  
335 research should be done to elucidate the variation of physicochemical properties of other edible  
336 cooking oil brands on the Ugandan market such as Nile, Fortune, Kimbo, Cow boy and Ufuta.  
337 Further research should be done with other food samples such as fish, cassava, chicken, plantain,  
338 dough, meat and edible grasshoppers as the nature of the food sample influences the quality of the  
339 oil after deep frying. The organoleptic test of smell should not be used physiognomically in making  
340 conclusions about the suitability of cooking oils after deep fat frying as it is hard to clearly deduce  
341 since individual sensoriums vary widely and thus judgement is made so indifferently. Other  
342 physicochemical properties of the investigated edible cooking oils such as smoke point, viscosity,  
343 moisture content, volatile matter content, total polar components and saponification value should be  
344 determined.

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