# SUGAR – ROLE IN COOKERY





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#### **Contents-**

- Introduction
- Nutritive value of sugar
- Properties of sugar
- Stages of sugar cookery
- Crystallization
- Classification of Candies
- Function of sugar in cookery
- Sugar related products
- Artificial sweeteners
- Bibliography



### INTRODUCTION

- Sugar is a simple **carbohydrate**.
- Sugar provides fuel to the body.
- It can be broken down in to groups and subgroups.



#### Nutritive value of sugar

- Sugar provides only energy to the body.
- Foods with high sugar content generally have low nutrient density
- Sugars are source of energy, not source of nutrients
- Molasses and honey

-provide very small amounts of other nutrients in addition to energy.



### **PROPERTIES OF SUGAR**

- Properties of sugar are-
- 1.Solubility
- 2. Absorption of moisture- Hygroscopic
- 3.Fermentation
- 4. Acid hydrolysis
- 5.Enzyme hydrolysis
- 6.Melting point and decomposition by heat: Caramelisation
- 7.Decomposition by alkalies
- 8.Sweetness

# Solubility

- In natural state of foods, sugars are in solution
- Crystallisation of sugar occurs from saturated sugar solution. This is used in the commercial production of sugar from sugar cane and sugar beets.
- Sugars vary in solubility
- Most soluble sugar is fructose but difficult to crystallise
- Lactose is the least soluble sugar

# **Absorption of Moisture**

- Hygroscopic in nature (absorbs moisture)
- Fructose is more hygroscopic than other sugars
- Cakes made with honey and molasses remain moist for a long time.

### Fermentation

- Sugars may be fermented by yeasts to produce carbon dioxide and alcohol.
- Bread, wine ,beer are products of fermentation.
- The gas carbon dioxide produced leavens the product.
- Alcohol volatilizes during baking.

# Acid hydrolysis

- Sucrose is easily hydrolysed by acid.
- End products of sucrose hydrolysis are a mixture of glucose and fructose.
- This mixture is commonly called "Invert Sugar".
- Monosaccharides are not affected by acids.
- Heat enhances the action of acid.

# Enzyme hydrolysis

- Invertase or sucrase enzyme is used in candy industry to hydrolyse sucrose in cream fondant to fructose and fructose.
- This is done to produce soft, semifluid centers in chocolates.

#### **Melting point and decomposition by heat: Caramelisation**

- It is a complex reaction, involving the removal of water and eventual **polymerisation**.
- Caramel has pungent taste, bitter and is less sweet than original sugar and is non crystalline.
- It is soluble in water.
- Fructose caramelizses at 110°c, maltose-180°c and galactose at 170°c.



# **Decomposition by alkalies**

- Monosaccharides are decomposed by alkalies.
- Flavour may become bitter and strong.
- Sucrose is least affected by alkalies.

## Sweetness

Level of sweetness in food-

- Most sweet- Fructose
- Sucrose
- Glucose
- Galactose
- Maltose
- Least sweet-Lactose
- Sweeter the sugar the more simple the molecule

### **SUGAR COOKERY**

- Testing the doneness of sugar mixtures by measuring the temperature of the boiling solution is a method of estimating the concentration of sugar in mixture.
- The final concentration of sugar is related to the consistency of the product when it is completely prepared.
- More concentrated sugar solution gives more firm consistency of the finished product

#### The Seven Stages of Cooking Sugar

Thread	230° to 234° F	The syrup spins a soft, loose, short thread. Types of candy: syrup
Soft Ball	234° to 240° F	The syrup forms a soft, pliable, sticky ball. Types of candy: fudge, fondant, and butter creams
Firm Ball	244° to 248° F	The syrup forms a firm, but still pliable, sticky ball. Types of candy: marshmallows
Hard Ball	250° to 265° F	The syrup forms a hard, sticky ball. Types of candy: nougats and divinity
Soft Crack	270° to 290° F	The syrup forms longer strands that are firm, but yet remain pliable. Types of candy: toffee and butterscotch
Hard Crack	300° to 310° F	The syrup forms stiff strands that are firm and brittle. Types of candy: Iollipops, brittle, and glazed fruit
Caramel	320° to 338° F	The syrup changes color, ranging from a light golden to a dark amber brown. It forms hard strands that are firm. Types of candy: caramels and pralines

# Cyrstallisation

- Crystallisation occurs only when solution is super saturated.
- Factors affecting crystallization-
- Nature of crystallising substances
- Concentration of the solution
- Agitation or stirring
- Impurities
- Addition of acid

# **Classification of candies**

- Boiled sugar solutions may be treated to produce
- 1. Crystalline candies- they are soft, smooth and creamy
- 2. Non-crystalline candies- also known as amorphous candies which means without form. They are chewy such as caramels or hard as toffees and brittles

### Crystalline Candy

- Contains fine sugar crystals
- Texture is smooth and creamy

#### Examples: Fudge, fondant, divinity



## Noncrystalline Candy

- Does not contain sugar crystals
- Texture is chewy or brittle

Examples: Caramels, peanut brittle, toffee



# Functions of sugar in food

- Sweetener- used for sweetening ice cream, fruit juices, sherbet etc.
- **Preservative-** In high concentration it prevents the growth of microorganisms eg. jams and jellies
- Tenderizer- It helps in improving the texture of cake and confectionary.
- Crystallization- This property is used in preparation of ladoo, fondant and fudge
- Fermentation-Increases the fermentation of yeast eg. bread, wine, beer etc.
- Caramelization- Caramel sugar is used to improve colour and flavour

### SUGAR RELATED PRODUCTS

- Corn syrup-
- Maltdextrins
- Molasses
- Maple syrup
- Honey
- Jaggery
- Caramel sugar



#### **Artifical Sweetners**

- They are synthetic sugars substitutes but may be derived from naturally occuring substances, including herbs or sugar itself.
- They are also known as intense sweetners because they are sweeter than regular sugar.
- Usually they don't have calories.



ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS				
INGREDIENT	BRAND NAMES	SWEETNESS		
Aspartame	Equal, NutraSweet & Sugar Twin	180 times sweeter than sugar		
Acesulframe-K	Sweet One & Sunset	200 times sweeter than sugar		
Saccharin	Sweet N' Low, Necta Sweet & Sweet Twin	300 times sweeter than sugar		
Sucralose	Splenda & Canderal	600 times sweeter than sugar		
Neotame	Newtame	7,000 - 13,000 times sweeter than sugar		
Advantame	No brand names	20,000 times sweeter than sugar		

