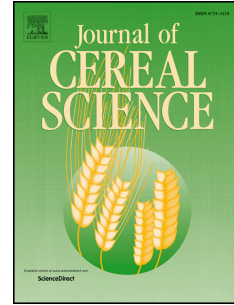


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1 **Application of image analysis to optimization of the bread-making process based**
2 **on the acceptability of the crust color**

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12

13 **Abstract**

14 Consumption of bread and the demands concerning its quality features, being one of
15 them its appearance, have been experiencing rapid growth. Thus, the standardization
16 of its production aiming to keep its quality, applying new methods. The objective of this
17 research was to develop a method to optimize the bread-making processes based on
18 the acceptability of its crust color. For this effect, bread was experimentally produced
19 using a Box-Behnken experimental design with three factors (sugar-flour relation,
20 Baking temperature and Baking time) and three answer variables (L^* , a^* , b^* =
21 parameters of CIELab color space); determination of color, by means of the acquisition,
22 pre-processing, and analysis of images of bread samples until getting the color
23 expressed in CIELab coordinates; an analysis of sensorial acceptance was made
24 determining the L^* , a^* , and b^* with the highest acceptance by consumers; finally, the
25 optimization of the production process was made based on the L^* , a^* , and b^*
26 parameters, getting the optimal production parameters. The results show that by using
27 the proposed method, it is possible to correlate the parameters of CIELab color space
28 and the acceptance of the final consumer aiming to optimize bread making processes,
29 it means getting bread with crust color of maximum acceptability.

30 **Key words:** Image analysis, CIELab, darkening, surface of response

31 **1. Introduction**

32 Cereals and its derivatives, especially bread, constitute an important element of the
33 human diet from the earliest civilizations, and its consumption is experiencing a sharp
34 increase accompanied by more strict demands in terms of its appearance, texture, and

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