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The effect of active packaging enriched with Citral, Eugenol and Alginate on the storage of 'Strawberry Festival' strawberry fruits

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FCT UAlg- Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade do Algarve



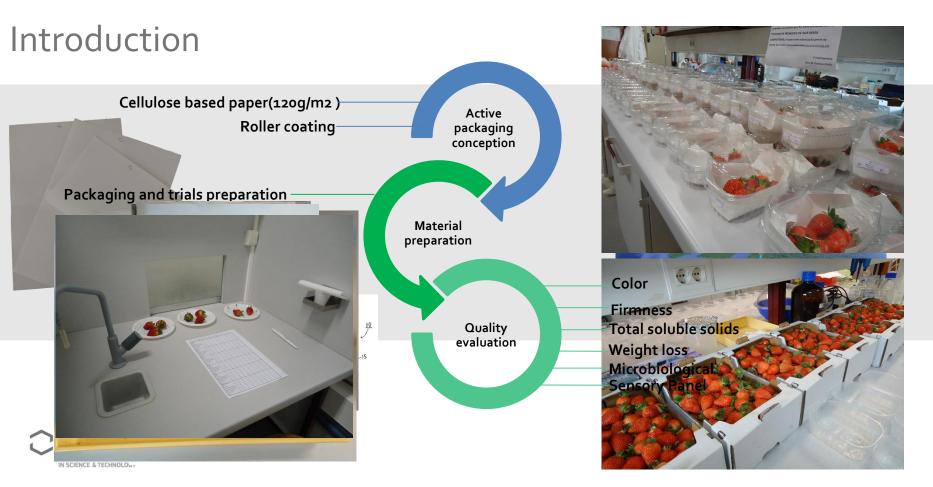
Universidade do Algarve – Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia Post-harvest Research Laboratory













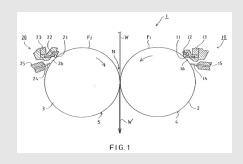
Introduction





Material&Methods

• AP preparation





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Solutions Preparation

Alginate 1 and 2% + EOC + Distilled water



Rolling the paper sheets through a size press at a pressure of 15kg/cm² containing the previous solutions

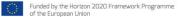
Drying

Drying the active paper sheets at 100°C using a hot press or at room temperature in presence of EOC

Packaging

Cover the bottom and sides of Standard strawberry packages with the active paper





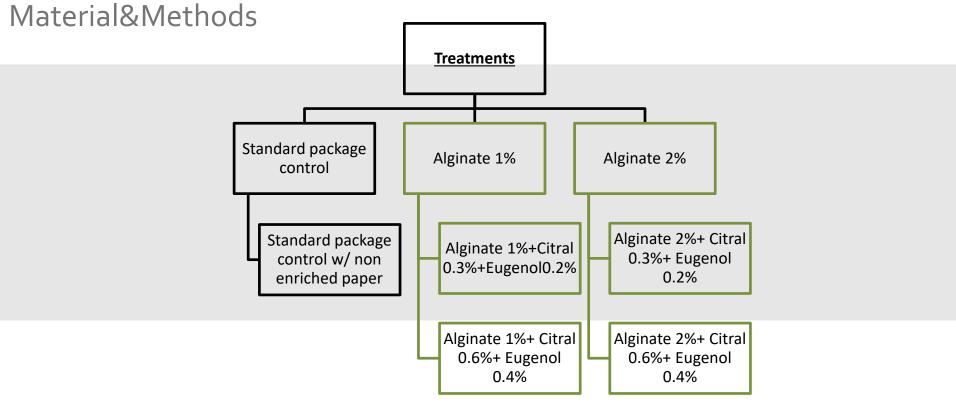


Material&Methods

- Strawberry (fragaria x ananassa) cv Strawberry Festival
- Packaging preparation
- 8 Packages(6 AP and 2 controls)
- 0,7,10,14 days
- Quality evaluation: color; firmness; weight loss (%); microbial content; total soluble solids; anthocyanins; sensory panel



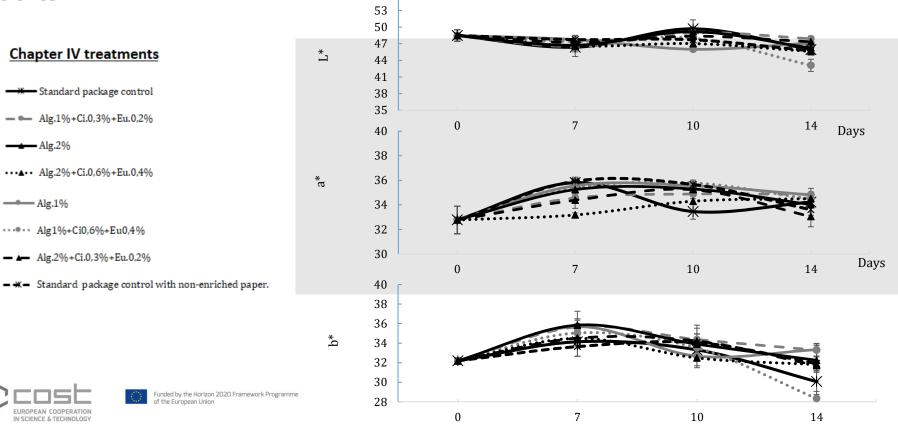






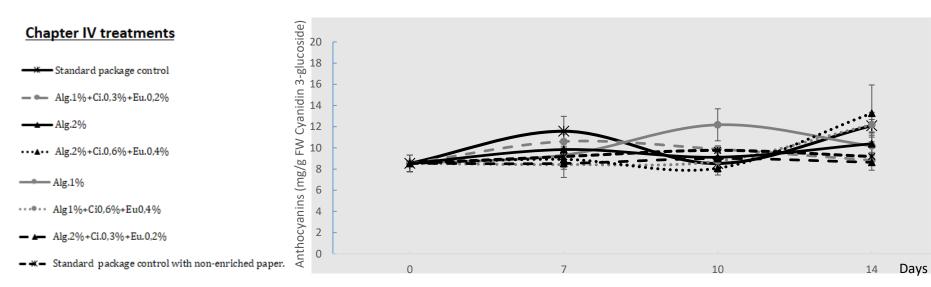






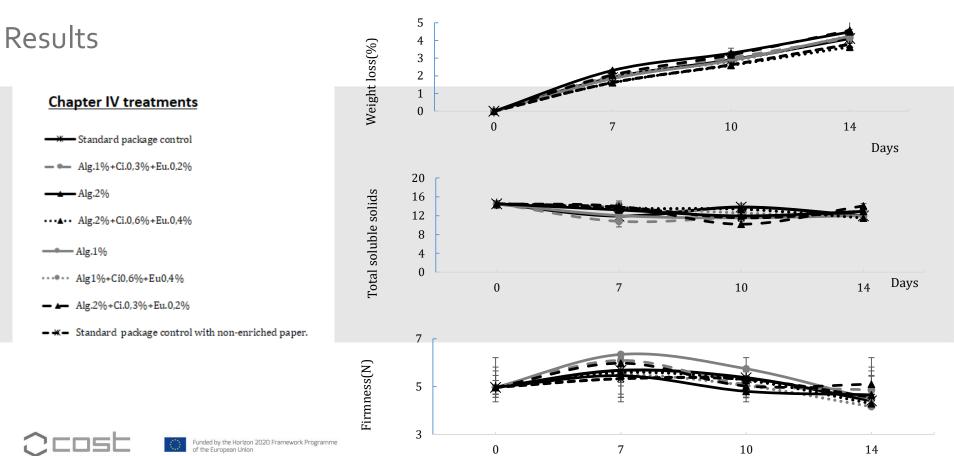


Results





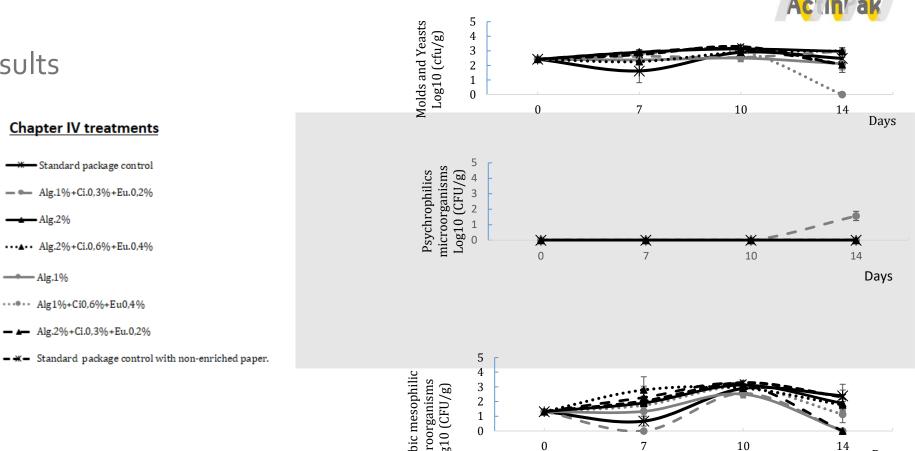




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Days



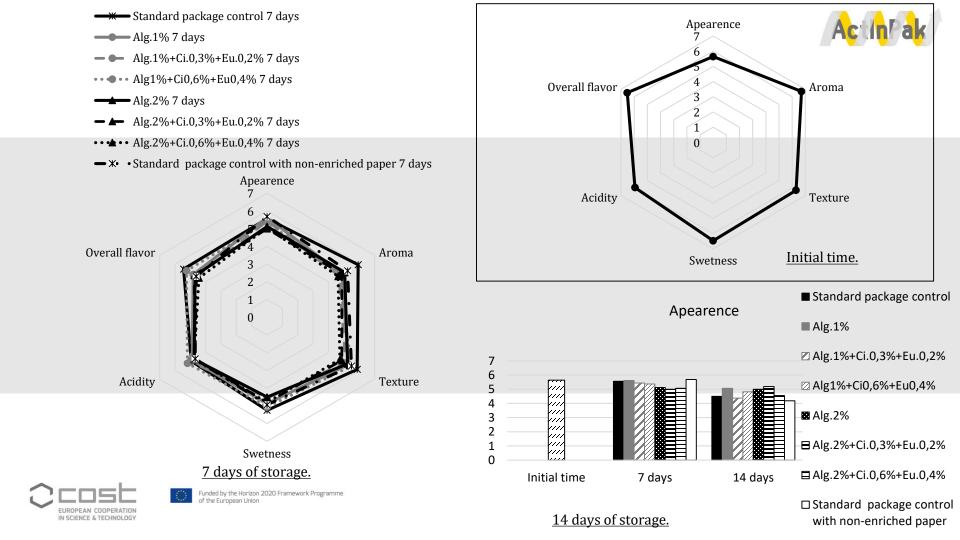
0

7

Days

Results

Aerobic mesophilic microorganisms Log10 (CFU/g)





Conclusions

- Fresh strawberries could be stored for at least 14 days maintaining good quality
- AP with alginate and essential oils combined showed less aerobic mesophilic bacteria growth
- Good acceptance of the fruit by the panellists for up to 14 days of storage
- Although there were no significant differences among active packaging, for most quality parameters, as generally, their perform was in most cases better than control
- The effect of AP was not so evident because stored fruit were healthy selected fruit



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Future perspectives

What can we do to improve?

- New active compounds and formulations based on the tested ones can also be improved, developed and tested
- Testing the volatilization rate of the compounds on the paper through time
- A better preservation method allowing companies to have a stock of active packaging with the same quality that they had in the moment of bought.

What can we do to adapt?

- Adapt our technology to the companies
- Prove them why they should use our technology
- Economically feasible products





Acknowledgement: ActInPak is supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

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