**Pure Sciences** 

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## Extraction of omega 3 fatty acids from sardine byproducts using supercritical carbon dioxide (SC-CO<sub>2</sub>)

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Introduction: Sardine generally processed as canned fish, and in consequence of a lot of solid waste are generated as byproducts which could be good sources of fish oil. Omega-3 fatty acid compositions of total lipids extracted by supercritical carbon dioxide (SC-CO<sub>2</sub>) from sardine fish by-product (head, skin and viscera) were determined and the results were compared with Soxhlet extraction. Methods: SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction was performed at the optimized condition at a temperature of 60 °C, the pressure of 35 Mpa and flow rate of 3 ml min<sup>-1</sup>. **Results:** Highest yield was obtained from the skin (42.5%) followed by the head (22.4%) and the viscera (9.6%) which is closer to that of the yield of Soxhlet extraction method where 44%, 23% and 11% (on dry basis) oil were yielded from skin, head and viscera, respectively. Saturated fatty acid was dominant incorporate with monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acid in all organs and the difference of extracted fatty acids between SC-CO<sub>2</sub> and Soxhlet methods were insignificant. Docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) was characteristically major PUFA accounting 19.8% in head, 15.4% in skin and 13.6% in viscera of the total fatty acids. Conclusions: Total oil extracted by SC-CO<sub>2</sub> had lower free fatty acid content than the oil extracted by Soxhlet method. Thus, SC-CO<sub>2</sub> could be the effective method for extracting omega-3 PUFA rich fish oil from sardine by-products.

KEYWORDS: Sardine byproducts, Omega 3 fish oil, Supercritical carbon dioxide, Soxhlet extraction

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