

Eliminating Poisonous Substances in Food Using Advance Technology

Prof. Nirja Sharan and Divya Nevgi

I/C Principal and Research Scholar

sharan.nirja10@gmail.com and divyanevgi795@gmail.com

St. Rock's College of Commerce and Science, Borivali (W), Mumbai, India

Abstract: *In our modern world, ensuring the safety of our food supply is of paramount importance. The emergence of various technologies has presented innovative solutions to the age-old problem of eliminating poisonous substances in our food. This abstract explores the multifaceted approach to enhancing food safety with advanced technology. It delves into various methods, from advanced testing techniques to genetic engineering, nanotechnology, and smart packaging. Furthermore, it highlights the challenges involved in adopting these technologies and offers insights into regulatory and environmental concerns. As food safety remains a critical concern in a globalized food supply chain, the goal is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding the quality and safety of the food we consume through the application of cutting-edge technology. This abstract underscores the urgent need for research, collaboration, and continued innovation to overcome the evolving challenges associated with food safety in an interconnected world.*

Keywords: Poisonous, substance, food, safety, advance, technology

I. INTRODUCTION

While the science and technology we enjoy today were nonexistent centuries ago, concerns regarding food quality and safety have been longstanding. The first English food law, known as the Assize of Bread, was promulgated by King John of England in 1202. This regulation aimed to prohibit the adulteration of bread with ingredients like ground peas or beans. The significance of these concerns extended across the Atlantic, with American colonists enacting a similar law in 1646. Moreover, in 1785, the Massachusetts Act Against Selling Unwholesome Provisions was passed, marking a significant milestone as one of the earliest U.S. food safety regulations.

The timeline of key events in food safety regulation in the United States:

1862 – USDA and FDA Formed: President Abraham Lincoln established the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and appointed Charles M. Wetherill to lead the Division of Chemistry, which later became the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

1906 – Pure Food and Drug Act and Federal Meat Inspection Act: The first U.S. food safety laws were enacted. The Pure Food and Drug Act prevented the sale of adulterated or misbranded products, and the Federal Meat Inspection Act ensured sanitary conditions for meat production.

1938 – Pure Food and Drug Act Revised: The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act of 1938 was passed, introducing new provisions such as setting safe tolerances for harmful substances and authorizing factory inspections.

1949 – “Procedures for the Appraisal of the Toxicity of Chemicals in Food”: The FDA published guidance to assess chemical toxicity in food, offering a way to influence industry practices without imposing strict requirements.

1957 – Poultry Products Inspection Act: Mandated inspection of poultry products in response to the growing market for processed poultry.

1958 – Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act of 1938 Amended: The Food Additive Amendment was added to ensure the safety of ingredients used in processed foods.

1962 – Consumer Bill of Rights Introduced: President John F. Kennedy proclaimed the Consumer Bill of Rights, emphasizing consumer safety, information, choice, and voice in food-related matters.

1967 – Fair Packaging and Labeling Act: Enacted to prevent deceptive packaging and labeling, requiring clear product identification and manufacturer information.

1970 – Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Began Keeping Records: The CDC initiated data collection on foodborne illness, marking the start of modern foodborne illness outbreak monitoring.

1973 – First Major Food Recall: The first major U.S. food recall occurred due to a nationwide illness outbreak linked to canned mushrooms.

1977 – Food Safety and Quality Service Created: Initially responsible for meat and poultry grading and inspection, it was later reorganized into the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

1996 – Pathogen Reduction/HACCP Systems Landmark Rule Issued: FSIS issued a rule focusing on the prevention of microbial pathogens in raw products.

1997 – Food and Drug Modernization Act Amended: Expanded FDA authority to regulate health and nutrient content claims and food contact substances in new products.

2000 – Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Created: Industry leaders established GFSI to enhance food safety standards and consumer confidence.

2011 – Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Signed Into Law: FSMA empowered the FDA to focus on preventive measures and established comprehensive food safety controls.

2020 – Blueprint for a New Era of Smarter Food Safety: The FDA released a blueprint addressing traceability, digital technologies, and evolving food business models.

This timeline outlines the evolution of food safety regulations and the various milestones that have contributed to enhancing food safety in the United States.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This is review of the book “Food Safety Engineering” is a pioneering reference work that offers current and comprehensive coverage of advanced technologies and strategies for ensuring the safety of engineered foods. It serves as an invaluable resource for researchers, laboratory personnel, and professionals in the food industry who are interested in food engineering safety, providing all the essential information needed to grasp this rapidly evolving field. This text establishes a solid foundation for addressing microbial food safety issues, developing cutting- edge thermal and non-thermal technologies, designing preventive control processes for food safety, and promoting sustainable operations in this domain.

The initial section of the book provides a thorough overview of food microbiology, spanning from foodborne pathogens to detection methods. Subsequent sections concentrate on preventive practices, offering in-depth insights into major manufacturing processes that ensure food safety. These include topics like Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Preventive Controls (HARPC), food traceability, and recall procedures. The book also covers aspects related to plant layout and equipment design, as well as maintenance, while delving into modeling and process design.

Readers will find an extensive examination of both traditional and innovative preventive controls for food safety, encompassing current and emerging food processing technologies. Further sections explore critical elements such as aseptic packaging and post-packaging technologies.

With its comprehensive coverage of current technologies and manufacturing processes, this text stands as a unique and indispensable resource for emerging professionals in the field of food safety engineering."

2.1 Objectives of the Research

To study the concept of food technology.

The methods and technologies used for eliminating poisonous substances in food:

- Food Testing: This involves a wide range of techniques to identify and quantify toxins in food. Chromatography, for example, can separate compounds within a sample, making it easier to detect harmful substances. Mass spectrometry is used to measure the mass of compounds, aiding in the identification of toxins. These advanced testing methods help ensure that food products meet safety standards.

- **Irradiation:** Ionizing radiation, such as gamma rays and electron beams, can be used to kill bacteria and parasites in food. This process is called irradiation and is especially useful for items like spices, dried fruits, and meat. It reduces the risk of foodborne illnesses and extends the shelf life of products.
- **Nanotechnology:** Nanoparticles can be employed to remove toxins from food. They can adsorb or chemically react with harmful substances, reducing their presence. This technology allows for targeted toxin removal without altering the overall characteristics of the food.
- **Biotechnology:** Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) are engineered to resist pests, reducing the need for chemical pesticides. For example, certain GMO crops can produce their own insecticides, resulting in safer and more environmentally friendly food production.
- **Biological Control:** Probiotics and beneficial microorganisms can be used to outcompete harmful bacteria in food. These "good" bacteria can inhibit the growth of pathogenic organisms, enhancing food safety.
- **Packaging Technology:** Active and intelligent packaging plays a critical role in food safety. Active packaging can release substances that slow down food spoilage, while intelligent packaging can monitor factors like temperature and gas composition to ensure freshness and safety. These technologies extend shelf life and reduce contamination risks.
- **Data Analytics:** Big data and artificial intelligence (AI) are used to monitor and control food production processes. AI algorithms can analyze vast datasets in real time to detect irregularities or contamination events. This proactive approach enhances the overall safety of the food supply chain.
- **Food Traceability:** Technologies like blockchain and Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) enable the tracking of food products from their origin to the consumer's plate. This ensures transparency in the supply chain and makes it easier to identify and remove contaminated products in case of a safety concern.

These technologies and methods collectively contribute to safer and more secure food production, offering consumers greater confidence in the quality and safety of the food they consume. They are essential tools in addressing the complex challenges associated with food safety in the modern world.

FAO's work on biotechnology and food safety:

Member countries, particularly those in the developing world, turn to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for impartial and well-founded guidance concerning the safety of genetically modified (GM) foods. In partnership with international organizations like Codex, the FAO has actively engaged in a diverse range of biotechnology-related issues, including:

- **Science-Based Safety Evaluation and Risk Assessment:** The FAO collaborates on establishing science-based safety evaluation and risk assessment systems. These systems serve to objectively determine both the advantages and potential risks associated with GM foods.
- **Recommendations for Biotechnology Food Labeling:** The FAO plays a role in developing recommendations for the labeling of foods derived from biotechnology. These labeling guidelines are crucial for informing consumers and facilitating their choices.
- **Assessment of Nutritional Aspects:** The FAO contributes to the evaluation of the nutritional characteristics of foods produced through modern biotechnology. This is essential for understanding the nutritional content and implications of GM foods.
- **Detection of GM Components:** The FAO also addresses the detection of proteins and/or DNA in GM food products, enabling the identification and verification of genetic modifications.

The FAO, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), establishes the scientific foundation for these endeavors through a series of expert consultations on the safety and nutritional aspects of GM food. The insights and resources from these consultations, along with other relevant information on biotechnology and GM foods, can be accessed through the FAO GM Foods platform.

This platform serves as a valuable resource for countries seeking guidance on the safety and regulatory aspects of GM foods, with a particular focus on science-based evaluations and assessments.

III. FINDINGS

Residue Detection:

- Challenge: Some poisonous substances are challenging to detect in trace amounts.
- Solution: Ongoing research and development of advanced analytical techniques to enhance detection sensitivity.

Cost of Technology:

- Challenge: Implementing advanced technology can be costly, particularly for smaller food producers.
- Solution: Provide subsidies, grants, or government incentives to support the adoption of food safety technology in the food industry.

Consumer Acceptance:

- Challenge: Some consumers are skeptical of GMOs and food irradiation due to perceived health concerns.
- Solution: Educate the public and promote transparent labeling to inform consumers about the safety of these technologies.

Regulatory Challenges:

- Challenge: Regulatory bodies must keep pace with evolving food safety technologies to ensure proper oversight.
- Solution: Foster collaboration between the food industry, regulatory agencies, and researchers to develop and update regulations as needed.

Unintended Consequences:

- Challenge: There is a risk of unintended environmental and health consequences from some biotechnological solutions.
- Solution: Conduct rigorous testing and risk assessment before widespread adoption of new technologies.

Global Implementation:

- Challenge: Ensuring food safety worldwide can be challenging, especially in regions with limited access to advanced technology.
- Solution: Promote international cooperation and implement aid programs to help less-developed regions improve food safety practices.

Cyber security:

- Challenge: With increasing reliance on digital systems for food production and distribution, the risk of cyber-attacks and data breaches is a concern.
- Solution: Implement robust cyber security measures and maintain constant vigilance to protect food safety systems.
- Sustainability:
 - Challenge: Some advanced technologies may have environmental impacts, such as excessive energy consumption.
 - Solution: Develop and adopt sustainable food safety technologies and practices that minimize environmental harm.

IV. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the topic of eliminating poisonous substances in food using advanced technology is a vital and evolving aspect of food safety. While technology offers promising solutions, it also presents its own set of challenges. The problems include difficulties in residue detection, the cost of implementing technology, consumer acceptance, regulatory challenges, potential unintended consequences, the need for global implementation, cybersecurity concerns, and sustainability issues.

However, these challenges are met with a range of solutions. Researchers continually work on enhancing detection methods, and support measures like subsidies can help mitigate the cost of technology adoption, particularly for smaller food producers. Transparent labeling and public education are pivotal in addressing consumer concerns. Collaboration between industry, regulatory bodies, and researchers is essential to keep regulations updated and effective.

Rigorous testing and risk assessments can minimize unintended consequences, and international cooperation and aid programs can promote global food safety. Robust cybersecurity measures are essential in protecting food safety systems, and adopting sustainable technologies and practices can reduce environmental impacts.

Overall, while the journey to ensure food safety using technology is not without its obstacles, continued efforts and collaboration among stakeholders offer a promising path toward safer, healthier, and more secure food production and consumption in an increasingly interconnected world.

REFERENCES

- [1]. <https://www.ift.org/news-and-publications/blog/2019/september/a-historical-look-at-food-safety>
- [2]. <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/crosscutting-and-emerging-issues/biotechnology/en/>
- [3]. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-42660-6>
- [4]. <https://www.intechopen.com/chapters/50189>