# Abiding Effects of Phenolic Antioxidants on Oxidative Behaviour of Fatty Acid Methyl Esters Derived from Waste Cooking Oil

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Fatty acid alkyl esters (FAMEs) derived from waste vegetable oils and nonedible oil sources are the most attractive alternative liquid biofuel in the energy field. Substitute methyl esters derived from waste cooking oil (WCO) have a lower induction period (3.12 h) and do not satisfy the Biodiesel EN 14214:2012 Standard (8 h). In this study, concentrations of 100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm of four different types of phenolic antioxidants-butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA), butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), tert-butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ), and propyl gallate (PG)-were used to examine oxidative stability and improve fuel quality. PG (250 ppm) showed the most effective result of 18 h to 12.17 h of the induction period of 6 months of storage. Antioxidant effectiveness increased with regard the oxidative stability of waste cooking oil methyl ester in the following order: BHT <TBHQ < BHA< PG. Acid value and kinematic viscosity of WCO biodiesel increase 564.3% and 10.3% respectively, which indicate degradation of fuel quality. But biodiesel with antioxidant, all the parameters changes dynamically. The acid value, kinematic viscosity, and density of all investigated samples increased. All results were within limits of EN 14214:2012 standard specification for the 6 months of storage period.

# Keywords: Antioxidants; Storage behavior; Oxidative stability; Rancimat test; Waste cooking oil: Fatty acid methyl ester

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# INTRODUCTION

Fossil fuel reduction, environmental concern, and unbalanced crude oil prices have increased the need for alternatives to fossil fuels. Additionally, climate change and other ecological risks have prompted all nations to diminish their reliance on fossil fuel (Ramaraju and Kumar 2011; Alam *et al.* 2017). Biodiesel is a sustainable, biodegradable, and eco-friendly elective fuel that is used as a substitute for petroleum-based diesel (Hossain *et al.* 2014; Saluja *et al.* 2016). Biodiesel is a blend of mono-alkyl esters of long-chain saturated or unsaturated fats. Biodiesel is produced from renewable lipids reacted with different types of straight-chain low carbon alcohol (methanol, ethanol, or propanol) in the presence or absence of homogeneous or heterogeneous catalyst (Demirbas 2009;

Atabani et al. 2012; Kafuku and Mbarawa 2013).

Raw materials are a vital issue for biodiesel use in the commercial sector. Due to food security, researchers have preferred the use of non-edible oils such as jatropha seed, rubber seed, and Karanja seed oil together with waste cooking oil as a potential feedstock for biodiesel production (Ramaraju and Kumar 2011; Hossain *et al.* 2014; Khalid *et al.* 2014; Alam *et al.* 2017). In this study, waste cooking oil from different restaurants in Dhaka, Bangladesh, was collected for biodiesel production. A fast-growing and highly populated country like Bangladesh produces a considerable amount of waste cooking oil per day. Waste cooking oil has massive advantages over other sources such as low cost and availability, but it has also some demerits such as the fact that it contains higher percentage of free fatty acid and there is a chance to produce soap during transesterification.

Low volatility and high viscosity are the main two reasons to not use lipids (vegetable oil or animal fats) directly in the internal combustion engine system (Knothe *et al.* 2005; Atabani *et al.* 2012). To overcome these problems, vegetable oils or animal fats are reacted with straight-chain simple alcohols such as methanol to produce fatty acid methyl esters (FAME), which are also known as biodiesel. Conversion methods include pyrolysis, and trans-esterification. Trans-esterification is the best route with minimal engine complications (Knothe *et al.* 2005; Gupta *et al.* 2007; Shahid and Jamal 2011).

Biodiesel has tremendous advantages over petro-diesel, such as excellent lubricity, high flash point, low toxic emissions, biodegradability, and environmental compatibility (Knothe *et al.* 2005; Balat and Balat 2010). Biodiesel fuel qualities, according to the standard (EN 14214 (2012)), are the main criteria for the commercial introduction in the transport sector to ensure customer acceptance. Storage stability is one of the main factors that decide the quality of biodiesel. Biodiesel fuel properties that decline during storage cause more severe problems than in the case of commercial diesel fuel. Resistance to fuel degradation is the most critical issue during storage for the competitive utilization of biofuel in the retail liquid fuel sector.

During long-term storage, contact with air and other pro-oxidizing conditions cause the oxidation of unsaturated fatty acid methyl esters in biodiesel. Bondioli et al. (1995) and Thompson et al. (1998) investigated the degradation behaviour of rapeseed oil methyl esters (RME) under different storage conditions; all oxidative actions such as acid value, peroxide value, and viscosity increased with time in storage. Viegas et al. (2018) and Simkovsky and Ecker (1999) investigated the interrelationship between oxidative biodiesel stability and natural antioxidant tocopherol. The rate oxidation of fatty acid methyl ester compounds depends on the number of double bonds and their position in the fatty acid linear chain structure (Frankel 2014). The relative oxidation rates for these unsaturated long-chain esters follow the order of linolenic > linoleic > oleic (March 1992). The positions that are allylic to double bonds are the leading positions where oxidation chain reactions are usually initiated. Fatty acid methyl esters contain methylene-interrupted double bonds [(9Z, 12Z)-octadecadienoic acid, which goes by the common name linoleic acid] and [(9Z,12Z,15Z)-octadecatrienoic acid, which is linolenic acid] are susceptible to oxidation because of their double bonds position in the long carbon chain body. The oxidation of biodiesel (fatty acid methyl ester) is also affected by other factors, such as prominent temperature, light energy, presence of different types of residual metals, and other parameters that may speed up oxidation reactions (Monyem et al. 2000; Mittelbach and Gangl 2001).

Oxidation reactions of biodiesel are usually polymerization reactions, in which primary and secondary products (peroxides, acids, aldehydes and keto compounds,

alcohols) and high molecular weight final products are formed. The high molecular weight (mainly solid) products may cause some problems in engine systems such as filterblocking, injector failure, and deposit formation (Waynick 2005; Paligová *et al.* 2008). The use of phenolic antioxidant species slows the degradation rate and enhances oxidative fuel stability to meet the biodiesel standard (Hossain *et al.* 2013). A minimum of 8 h oxidation stability is mandatory for biodiesel transport applications corresponding to the European Standard (EN14214 (2012)). Thus, biodiesel samples derived from different sources ought to satisfy the existing requirements and specifications for potential commercial use in the automobile sector. FAME with added antioxidants must be investigated for oxidative stability. Acid value, kinematic viscosity, and density should be checked during the storage period. Antioxidants that have been widely studied for commercialization of biodiesel include butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA), butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), tert-butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ), and propyl gallate (PG).

Loh *et al.* (2006) examined the oxidative stability on used palm oil biodiesel for 5 weeks. Maia *et al.* (2011) reported that TBHQ and BHT enhance the oxidation stability of soybean biodiesel on the storage condition. Tang *et al.* (2008) found that 1000 ppm concentration of all tested antioxidants (TBHQ, PG, PY, BHA, BHT) were adequate to increase oxidation stability to the required value. The effectiveness order found by these authors is TBHQ>BHA> PY>BHT>PG for soybean biodiesel and TBHQ>PY>PG for cotton seed biodiesel. Karavalakis *et al.* (2011) inspected the oxidation stability and storage stability of commercially available biodiesel samples with TBHQ, PG, PY, BHA, and BHT synthetic antioxidants at 3000 ppm concentration. They observed the order of efficiency as TBHQ>PG>PY>BHA>BHT. Ferrari *et al.* (2005) observed that TBHQ is the most effective antioxidant among TBHQ, BHA, and BHT on soybean biodiesel oxidation stability. Yang *et al.* (2017) found the effectiveness order as TBHQ>PG>BHT>BHA for the improvement of camelina biodiesel oxidation stability and storage stability.

Nevertheless, research on long-term storage behavior is necessary for commercialization. This research determined the potential of different commercial synthetic phenolic antioxidants for enhancing the oxidation stability of biodiesel. Other parameters such as acid value, kinematic viscosity, and density were investigated during the storage period to commercialize waste cooking oil biodiesel. Further, the study sought to identify appropriate additive and appropriate concentration that might notably improve biodiesel's stability to satisfy the specification at prolonged storage. These studies also determine the correlation with oxidation stability, acid value, kinematic viscosity, and density during 6 months of storage conditions with and without antioxidant biodiesel.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### Materials

Waste cooking oil (WCO) was collected from four different local restaurants in Dhaka City, as shown in Table 1. Potassium hydroxide for acid value determination and sodium hydroxide for transesterification was purchased from Merck (Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Germany). Sulfuric acid (99.8%) and methanol (99.5%) were purchased from Merck for esterification and transesterification, respectively. The BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG (Fig. 1) antioxidants were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA).

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2,6- ditert-butyl-4-methyl phenol (BHT) tert-butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ)







n-propyl gallate (PG)

3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanisole (BHA)

Fig. 1. Structure of different antioxidants

Table 1.	Restaurant	Name and	Experimental	Code
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SI. No.	Restaurant name	Code
01.	Vozon Bilash	WCOR-1
02.	FFC	WCOR-2
03.	Amtola	WCOR-3
04.	The Kitchen	WCOR-4

# Waste Cooking Oil Characterization

The WCO from different restaurants were different dark colors with solid suspended materials, as shown in Fig. 2. Before filtering raw materials, the amount of solid suspended materials in the oil matrix was measured. The acid value was determined for next the experimental step, as presented in Table 2.



Fig. 2. Colour of different waste cooking oil raw materials

Table 2. Solid Materials and Acid Value of Raw Material	ls
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SI. No.	Code Name	Solid Materials (w/w%)	Acid Value (mgKOH/g)
01.	R-1	1.08	26.77
02.	R-2	0.42	22.43
03.	R-3	1.75	37.38
04.	R-4	1.12	25.15

Based on the data in Table 2, WCOR-3 was selected for biodiesel production because of its high acid value. All coded samples had similar fatty acid methyl ester composition, as shown in Table 3. FAME composition is essential for storage measurement, and WCOR-3 was selected for this present work based on Fig. 2, Table 2, and Table 3 data. WCOR-3 is labeled as WCO.

	Composition Weight (%)									
Sample ID	c12:0	c14:0	c16:0	c16:1	c18:0	c18:1	c18:2	c18:3	c20:0	Neat FAME
wcor-1	n.d.	1.09	42.34	n.d.	3.58	41.52	8.57	0.43	n.d.	97.53
wcor-2	0.21	0.88	40.52	0.33	0.30	46.16	8.65	0.11	0.20	97.36
wcor-3	0.24	0.90	40.67	0.37	0.32	46.16	8.85	0.15	0.30	97.96
wcor-4	0.24	0.93	41.01	0.51	n.d.	45.95	8.48	0.20	0.36	97.68

Table 3. FAME Composition of W	COR-1, WCOR-2,	WCOR-3, and	WCOR-4
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\*n.d.= not detected

#### **Biodiesel Production**

After the filtration of the WCO, FAME was prepared using a dual step reaction (acid-catalyzed esterification and alkaline-catalyzed transesterification) due to the presence of higher free fatty acids percentage in the raw materials. Esterification and transesterification reactions were carried out in a 1L bioreactor equipped with three necks, a condenser to recover methanol, a magnetic stirrer, a water bath, a thermometer, and a sampling outlet for biodiesel production.

#### Esterification

In the esterification process,  $H_2SO_4$  was dissolved in alcohol using a standard agitator and adding WCO in the mixture. The reaction mixture was transferred into a 1 L bioreactor and maintained reaction condition for 400 rpm stirring speed at 60 °C for 1 h. The mixture was settled for 1.5 h, and the methanol-water-catalyst fraction from the top layer of the separating funnel was removed (Alam *et al.* 2017). The lower part of the mix was then collected, and the free fatty acid (FFA) percentage was measured. If the FFA% was reduced to less than 2%, then the next transesterification reaction step was carried out for biodiesel preparation.

#### Transesterification

In this step, the base catalyst NaOH was dissolved in methanol. Then esterified WCO was added to it. The prepared mixture was set for transesterification reaction using the same bioreactor. The reaction conditions 60 °C for 1.5 h and 400 rpm stirring speed were maintained. The final product was transferred to a separating funnel for 24 h to separate the upper layer of WCOME from the lower layer of glycerol. WCOME was washed several times with warm distilled water 50% (v/v oil) at 60 °C to remove the impurities, methanol, NaOH, and glycerol. Water and methanol were removed from WCOME using a rotary evaporator. Finally, FAMEs were obtained.

### Analysis of Biodiesel (FAME) Composition

A GC-FID (Agilent 6890N, column: HP-1, length of a column: 60 m  $\times$  0.25 mm  $\times$  0.25 µm; Santa Clara, USA) was used to quantify and identify FAME composition according to biodiesel standard (EN 14103 (2011)).

# Storage Sample Preparation of WCO Biodiesel

TBHQ, PG, BHA, and BHT were used as antioxidants for long-term storage in the darkroom at 21 °C. Each antioxidant was added at 100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm concentration with biodiesel, and all samples were kept in bottles with sealed lids.

### **Oxidative Stability Determination**

Oxidation stability of WCO biodiesel was determined as an induction period measured by Rancimat instrument (Metrohm, Rancimat 783, Switzerland) under 110 °C heating block temperature and 10 L/h constant airflow rate according to standard (EN 14112 (2012)). Approximately 3 g of fresh antioxidant containing WCO biodiesel fuel sample was analyzed with 60 mL of deionized water and set to 1.5 temperature correction factor ( $\Delta T$ ). The experiment was conducted every month for a period of 6 months. The acid value was determined of all tested WCO biodiesel samples according to recommended procedure (ASTM D664 - 18e2 (2018)). Density (@ 25 °C) and Viscosity (@ 40 °C) were measured according to standard method (ASTM D4052-18a (2018) and ASTM D445-19a (2019)).

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Physical Properties**

The physical properties of WCO biodiesel and the test methods used are shown in Table 4. WCO biodiesel exhibited lower oxidative stability of 3.12 h and did not measure up to biodiesel according to the European Standard (EN 14214 (2012)) regarding oxidation stability.

Parameters	Units	Results	EN14214, 2012	Test method
Viscosity @ 40 °C	cSt	4.62	3.50-5.00	ASTM D445-19a, 2019
Oxidation stability	h	3.12	8.0 min	EN 14112, 2012
Acid value	mgKOH/g	0.28	0.50 max	ASTM D664-18e2, 2018
Pour point	°C	16.0	-	ASTM D97-17b, 2017
Density @ 25 °C	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	865	860-900	ASTM D4052-18a, 2018
Calorific value	KJ/kg	39,070	-	ASTM D240-19, 2000
Flashpoint	°C	112	120 min	ASTM D93-20, 1980

### **Table 4.** Physical Properties of WCO Biodiesel

#### FAME composition effect on oxidation stability

The FAME composition and oxidation stability of WCOME were compared with other FAME, such as fish oil methyl ester (FOME) (Hossain *et al.* 2010). Table 5 compares the FAME compositions and the oxidation stability of WCOME and FOME.

FAME is prone to become oxidized due to the remarkable number of double bonds present in the carbon chain. FOME shows 0.1 h oxidation stability, whereas WCOME shows 3.12 h due to more polyunsaturated FAMEs in FOME (28.2%) than in WCOME (Hossain *et al.* 2010).

FAME Component	WCOME	FOME
C12:0	0.24	0.1
C14:0	0.90	4.5
C16:0	40.67	17.9
C16:1	0.37	7.1
C17:0	-	1.4
C18:0	0.32	4.7
C18:1	46.16	23.8
C18:2	8.85	3.3
C18:3	0.15	1.0
C18:4		1.5
C20:0	0.30	0.3
C20:1	-	5.9
C20:3	-	1.5
C20:5	-	8.0
C22:0	-	0.2
C22:5	-	2.4
C22:6	-	16.3
C24:0	-	0.2
Oxidation stability (h)	3.1	0.1

**Table 5.** Comparison of FAME Compositions of WCOME and FOME

#### Antioxidant effect on FAME composition during storage time

Table 6 shows that unsaturated: 3 FAME in WCO biodiesel decreased to 0% after storage time. Unsaturated: 2 remarkably decreased in fresh biodiesel and biodiesel with BHT. This result rapidly changed after adding antioxidant species in the biodiesel. PG, BHA, and TBHQ showed similar results. Therefore these three antioxidants could suppress the oxidation reaction of WCO biodiesel. No significant effect was found after the addition of BHT when measuring the FAME composition at the end of the storage period. The C16:0 and C18:1 FAME components remained at levels of 40.41% and 46.09% after oxidation in WCO biodiesel with PG. These amounts were very similar in quantity with WCO biodiesel before oxidation. PG, BHA, and TBHQ, showed a strong effect against WCO biodiesel oxidation.

		Composition Weight (%)								
Storage condition	C12:0	C14:0	C16:0	C16:1	C18:0	C18:1	C18:2	C18:3	C20:0	Neat FAME
Fresh biodiesel	0.24	0.90	40.67	0.37	0.32	46.16	8.85	0.15	0.30	97.96
Stored without antioxidant	0.21	0.88	38.12	0.33	0.34	43.67	4.02	-	0.28	87.85
Biodiesel with BHT	0.22	0.85	39.02	0.34	0.32	44.05	5.56	-	0.26	90.62
Biodiesel with BHA	0.24	0.90	39.92	0.33	0.35	45.97	7.67	-	0.28	95.66
Biodiesel with PG	0.24	0.89	40.41	0.36	0.31	46.09	8.19	-	0.27	96.76
Biodiesel with TBHQ	0.24	0.86	39.55	0.35	0.31	45.91	6.83	-	0.28	94.33

**Table 6.** FAME Composition of Neat WCO Biodiesel at End of Storage Period

Storage condition: Temperature 21 °C; Time 6 months; antioxidant concentration 1000 ppm.

# Antioxidant effect on oxidation stability

Treatment with antioxidants for enhancing oxidative stability is necessary to enable WCO biodiesel to become competitive and satisfy the Standard Specification (EN14214 (2012)). The results of antioxidant treatments on the storage stability of WCO biodiesel for 6 months are shown in Fig. 3.





**Fig. 3.** Induction period of WCO biodiesel treated with BHT (a), BHA (b),TBHQ (c), and PG (d) at different concentrations (100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm). Storage conditions: room temperature (21 °C), sample bottle, sealed tight, and storage time of 6 months

In general, the induction periods of WCO biodiesel increased with increasing antioxidant concentration. The induction period notably increased from zero stage after adding more than 100 ppm antioxidants. However, all the antioxidants containing biodiesel fuel samples degraded remarkably based on the induction period parameter over storage for 6 months in the dark at room temperature. Table 7 shows the induction period decrease as indicated by a decrease of 18.12% to 39.13% (BHT), 34.44% to 41.73% (TBHQ), 13.70% to 29.41% (BHA) and 13.82% to 44.69% (PG) (Table 7). However, above 6 h induction periods were observed in the cases of 500 and 1000 ppm concentrations for BHT and TBHQ. BHA and PG showed the same result at 250 ppm concentration after a significant decrease over six months (Fig. 3).

Antioxidant	Concentration (ppm)	IP Decrease (%)		
	100	39.13		
рцт	250	36.25		
БПІ	500	23.94		
	1000	18.12		
	100	29.41		
рцл	250	31.25		
DNA	500	28.07		
	1000	13.70		
	100	34.44		
трио	250	41.66		
IDE	500	41.73		
	1000	36.23		
	100	44.69		
DC	250	33.13		
гG	500	13.82		
	1000	18.96		

**Table 7.** Decrease in the Induction Period (IP) Values of WCO Biodiesel with BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG at Various Concentrations during Storage at Room Temperature for 6 Months

PG achieved the maximum induction periods at 1000 ppm antioxidant concentration in every month of experiments periodically for 6 months of storage time, followed by TBHQ, BHA, and BHT at the same conditions. At lower concentrations (100 to 500 ppm) of phenolic commercial antioxidant additive, the order of improvement in the induction periods did not change. Over the 6 months storage periods, PG, BHA, and TBHQ were the most efficient antioxidants. TBHO and BHA increased the oxidative stability of WCO biodiesel at all concentrations. The effectiveness of used antioxidants at lower concentrations (100 to 500 ppm) were in the following order BHT < TBHQ < BHA < PG for increasing oxidative stability of WCO biodiesel. A similar trend of antioxidant effectiveness order (BHT < TBHQ < BHA < PG) has been observed by Soh-KheangLoh et al. (2006). In this research, only PG and BHA could easily meet 8 h oxidation stability at lower concentration 250 ppm during the storage period. Yang et al. (2013) studied the influences of TBHQ, PG, PY, BHA, BHT at 3000 ppm concentration on the oxidation stability of soybean biodiesel and found that the synthetic antioxidants are more effective in the rank order as PY>TBHQ>PG>BHA>BHT. Suraj et al. (2019) observed that 250 ppm TBHO meet biodiesel fuel blend stock for middle distillate fuels standard (ASTM D4625-16e1 (2016)) after 100 days of storage.

Phenolic antioxidant suppresses the oxidation reaction because its active hydroxyl group can provide a proton and interrupt the propagation of peroxide radical. Antioxidant capabilities of phenolic compounds are closely related to the number of OH groups in an aromatic ring and structure (e.g., steric hindrance), electronic behavior of the ring substituent present, and polarity of the solvent. Figure 1 shows that BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG have a minimum of two different functional groups in their aromatic ring. PG molecules have three OH groups and TBHQ molecules possess two OH groups connected to the aromatic ring structure at different positions; BHT and BHA hold one OH group linked to the aromatic ring body. When phenolic antioxidants were investigated, their antioxidative capabilities were found to be related to the number of phenolic groups occupying 1.2 or 1.4 positions in the aromatic ring, and also associated with the size and electronic behaviour of the ring substituent present (Liang et al. 2006; de Guzman et al. 2009). PG, TBHQ, and BHA have electron-withdrawing groups at 1,4 position of the aromatic ring, and BHT has an electron-donating group at the same place. The release of a proton to instigate for the making of a quinone configuration is unlikely due to the electrondonating group in the *para* position in BHT. An electron-withdrawing group (COOR) in PG provides more favor to release proton and delay propagation in the oxidation of FAME. OR and OH are weaker electron-withdrawing groups than COOR. That's why BHA and TBHQ are less reactive antioxidants than PG. At higher concentrations, TBHQ is more effective than BHA because BHA has OMe, which is a weaker electron-withdrawing group at 1,4 position than the relatively stronger OH functional group of TBHQ present at the same place. The relatively low volatile character of BHT and TBHQ is another issue for reduced antioxidant performance (Liang et al. 2006; Karavalakis and Stournas 2010). A significant amount of BHT and TBHQ preservatives may be evaporated during the initial parts of the Rancimat experiment under the operating condition of 110 °C heating block temperature and 10 L/h constant airflow rate for 24 h. (Liang et al. 2006). The comparison of the present study with the previous works is indicated in Table 8.

Table 8. Comparison of	f Antioxidant Effect on	Oxidation Stability of Biodiesel
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Biodiesel Feedstock	Antioxidant	Storage Time (month)	Investigated Parameter	Antioxidant Effectiveness Order	Reference
Used palm oil	Vitamin E, BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	1	Induction period	PG>BHA>TBHQ> BHT>Vitamin E	(Loh <i>et al.</i> 2006)
Waste cooking oil	-	2.43	Density, kinematics viscosity, acid value, flash point, and water content	-	(Khalid <i>et al.</i> 2014)
Soybean oil	Curcumin	-	Induction period	-	(Santos <i>et al.</i> 2019)
Waste cooking oil	Turmeric, cinnamon, black pepper, Red bell pepper, watermelon seed	-	Induction period	Turmeric>red bell pepper>black pepper> cinnamon>water melon seed	(Nagarajan & Narayanasamy 2020)
Pongamia- pinata	Ginger extract	-	Induction period	-	(Devi <i>et al.</i> 2017)
Calophyllum inophyllum	PY, BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	3.5	kinematics viscosity, acid value, and Induction period	TBHQ>PG>PY> BHT>BHA (for B20)	(Shameer & Ramesh 2017)
Pongamia, Jatropha oil	Pyrogallol (PY)	-	Induction period	-	(Kumar <i>et al.</i> 2018)
Camelina	BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	12	Induction period, PV	TBHQ>PG>BHT> BHA	(J. Yang <i>et al</i> . 2017)
Karanja, Neem, and Jatropha	PY, BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	-	Induction period	PY>PG>BHA> BHT>TBHQ	(Agarwal <i>et al.</i> 2015)
Soybean oil	BHT, TBHQ, and BHA	-	Induction period	BHA>TBHQ>BHT	(Maia <i>et al.</i> 2011)
Tallow oil, Soybean oil, and Canola oil	Tocopherol, PY, BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	12	Induction period and acid value (random analysis)	PY>TBHQ>PG>B HA> BHT>Tocopherol	(Yang <i>et al.</i> 2013)
Commercial biodiesel	PY, BHT, BHA, and PG	2	Induction period, viscosity, and acid value	PY>PG> BHT>BHA (For Blended B7-B20)	(Karavalakis <i>et al</i> . 2011)
Soybean oil	BHT, TBHQ, and BHA (synthetic) Rosemary, oregano, and basil (natural)	-	Induction period	TBHQ>natural antioxidant (Rosemary, oregano, & basil) >BHA> BHT	(Ferrari <i>et al.</i> 2005)
Karanja seed oil	TBHQ	4	Induction period, viscosity, density, acid value, peroxide value	1000 ppm TBHQ	(Suraj <i>et al.</i> 2019)
Commercial	PA, BHT,	-	Induction period	PG>TBHQ>BHA>	(Karavalakis &

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biodiesel	TBHQ, BHA, and PG			BHT	Stournas 2010)
Waste cooking oil	BHT, TBHQ, BHA, and PG	6	Induction period, viscosity, density, acid value, and fatty acid methyl ester composition	PG>TBHQ>BHA> BHT (at higher conc.); PG>BHA> TBHQ> BHT (at a lower concentration)	This study

#### Acid value

Fatty acid methyl esters containing more poly unsaturation double bonds in the structure are more prone to oxidation to produce primary products hydroperoxides. These primary products mostly decompose and form secondary oxidation products at suitable conditions (Suraj *et al.* 2019). The secondary oxidation products are usually alcohols and aldehydes such as propanal, hexanal, *etc.* Secondary products are very reactive and easily oxidized into low molecular organic acids such as formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, caproic acid, *etc.* (Kamal-Eldin and Pokorny 2005; Dridi *et al.* 2016). As a result, the acid value increases. The acid value is a crucial parameter of the secondary oxidation process of long-term biodiesel storage (Ezeanyanaso *et al.* 2012). Figure 4 shows the effects of antioxidant concentration in WCO biodiesel fuel samples on acid values under long term storage.



**Fig. 4.** Acid value of WCO biodiesel treated with BHT (a), BHA (b), TBHQ (c), and PG (d) at different concentrations (100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm). Storage conditions: room temperature (21°C), sample bottle, sealed tight, and storage time of 6 months

The acid value increased for all the experimental WCO biodiesel fuel samples by reason of the secondary oxidation proceeding on the fatty acid methyl ester chain. A higher concentration (500 and 1000 ppm) of antioxidants containing samples could meet the EN or ASTM standard values within the 6 months of storage time at 21 °C. PG showed only a

22% increase in acid value at 1000 ppm concentration after the storage period. The higher rate of increasing acid value of test samples in lower concentrations (100 and 250 ppm) and fresh biodiesel samples at stored conditions was due to a higher rate of secondary oxidation. After two months of storage periods at 43 °C, Karanja biodiesel without antioxidant failed to meet the biodiesel standard (ASTM D4625-16e1 (2016)) (Suraj *et al.* 2019). The acid value increased over 10 weeks of storage time for B7, B10, and B20 with synthetic antioxidants (BHT, BHA, PG, PY, and TBHQ), but all values were within the limit of the standard according to Karavalakis *et al.* (2011).

#### Kinematic viscosity

Higher viscosity and acid value cause serious trouble relative to engine performance and fuel supply systems. For commercial utilization of biodiesel, it would be necessary to keep viscosity and acid value within the limit of standard specifications. It is essential to observe kinematic viscosity during the storage period. In the storage time, kinematic viscosity increases periodically during storage time because hydroperoxides decompose, and finally, it will create polymeric products by oxidation (Suraj *et al.* 2019). Sometimes fatty acid methyl esters lead to the isomerization reaction of double bonds in a long-chain structure such as cis to trans, enlarging kinematic viscosity. Figure 5 shows the effects of antioxidant concentration in WCO biodiesel fuel samples on viscosity under long term storage.



**Fig. 5.** Viscosity of WCO biodiesel treated with BHT (a), BHA (b), TBHQ (c), and PG (d) at different concentrations (100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm). Storage conditions: room temperature (21°C), sample bottle, sealed tight, and storage time of 6 months

Kinematic viscosity increased rapidly in the fresh WCO biodiesel sample compared to other antioxidant containing test samples during the storage period. It is expected that a slower rate of increasing the kinematic viscosity of test samples would be observed during the storage period with the increasing antioxidant concentration, which decelerates secondary oxidation and polymerization reactions. All the WCO biodiesel samples with antioxidants easily met the biodiesel standard limits for viscosity even after 6 months of storage, while fresh WCO biodiesel fuel sample exceeded the highest limit set by the EN or ASTM standard in 6 months of storage period. In the case of fuel samples stored at 43 °C, neat Karanja biodiesel crossed the maximum limit set by the ASTM standard specifications (ASTM D4625-16e1 (2016)) within 4 months of storage (Suraj *et al.* 2019). Karavalakis *et al.* (2011) reported that viscosity increases over 10 weeks of storage time for B10 with synthetic antioxidants (BHT, BHA, PG, PY, and TBHQ); all values are within the limit of standard.

#### Density

Figure 6 shows the effects of antioxidant concentration in WCO biodiesel fuel samples on density under long term storage.



**Fig. 6.** Density of WCO biodiesel treated with BHT (a), BHA (b), TBHQ (c), and PG (d) at different concentrations (100, 250, 500, and 1000 ppm). Storage conditions: room temperature (21°C), sample bottle, sealed tight, and storage time of 6 months

As discussed previously, unsaturated fatty acids can quickly form high molecular weight compounds during the oxidation reactions at suitable conditions. These nonrequired compounds are formed by polymerization reactions in which low molecular compounds are combined for the period of the storage condition of biodiesel fuel samples. As a result of polymerization reactions in biodiesel, the density remarkably increased for all the investigated fuel samples during the storage period (Khalid *et al.* 2014). From Fig. 6, the density of the fresh WCO biodiesel fuel samples was significant for storage condition. All the WCO biodiesel fuel samples were within European Standard (EN 14214 (2012)) value even after 6 months of storage period. Suraj *et al.* (2019) has provided the data of all the test fuel samples' densities well within EN standard specifications for lower unsaturated FAME containing Karanja biodiesel even after 1 year of storage period at 43 °C test conditions.

# CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Waste cooking oil biodiesel exhibited 3.12 h of oxidative stability, according to EN14112. Propyl gallate (PG) was the most effective antioxidant in waste cooking oil (WCO) biodiesel, followed by butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and tert-butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ), whereas butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) was the least effective for enhancing oxidation stability in the 6 months storage.
- 2. A concentration of 500 ppm of all antioxidant species dynamically reached the target value of the induction period (8 h). BHA and PG showed an above 11 h induction period for 6 months of storage at 250 ppm concentration. Thus, WCO biodiesel could be a competitive alternative to diesel fuel from the point of view long term storage with PG antioxidants.
- 3. 1000 ppm concentration PG, BHA, and tert-butyl hydroquinone (TBHQ) showed the most effective result in fatty acid methyl ester (FAME) composition. The percentages 96.76%, 95.66%, and 94.33% of FAME remained unoxidized at the end of the storage period by the antioxidant PG, BHA, and TBHQ. TBHQ and BHA showed similar results at 1000 ppm.
- 4. The acid value of all the antioxidant containing biodiesel fuel samples were capable of meeting the biodiesel standard within the 6 months of storage time at a higher level concentration (500 and 1000 ppm) of all investigated antioxidants.
- 5. In the case of kinematic viscosity and density of all the biodiesel samples with antioxidants showed the acceptable results even after 6 months of storage period according to biodiesel standard specification (EN or ASTM). Acid value, kinematic viscosity, and density increase with the decrease of oxidation stability of WCO biodiesel during the storage period.

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# **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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