



# Studies on microbial changes of *Shrikhand* prepared from safflower milk

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**ABSTRACT :** *Shrikhand* was prepared from buffalo milk blended with 50 per cent safflower milk and studied for shelf-life. The SPC count was declined from  $98 \times 10^3$  to  $45 \times 10^3$  and  $38 \times 10^3$  cfu/g for *Shrikhand* stored at  $-10$  and  $5^\circ\text{C}$  temperature, respectively on 7<sup>th</sup> day while the SPC count of *Shrikhand* stored at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  increased to  $180 \times 10^3$  cfu/g in 24 hrs. As the storage temperature increased, the SPC count increased. The yeast and mould count of *Shrikhand* stored at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  was  $65 \times 10^2$  cfu/g on first day and increased to  $275 \times 10^2$  on 2<sup>nd</sup> day making the product unacceptable. The yeast and mould count was increased during storage. Coliform micro-organism was absent in fresh and stored *Shrikhand*. The *Shrikhand* stored at  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  was acceptable upto 56 days. The overall acceptability score of *Shrikhand* stored at  $5^\circ\text{C}$  for 0, 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, 42, 49 and 56 days storage was 8.30, 8.22, 8.17, 7.95, 7.75, 7.52, 7.35, 6.37 and 5.20, respectively. *Shrikhand* at  $5^\circ\text{C}$  could be stored upto 49 days afterward it showed little off flavour and little mouldy growth on the surface. *Shrikhand* stored at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  was acceptable on first day only.

**KEY WORDS :** Safflower milk, Sensory evaluation, SPC, Yeast, Mould

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