

UTILIZATION OF PECTIN EXTRACT FROM “KEPOK “ BANANA (*Musa paradisiaca L*) PEEL WASTE AS EDIBLE COATING FOR FRESH FRUIT

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Abstract

Bananas are one of the largest fruit commodities in Indonesia, this is indicated by the increasing number of Indonesian banana production which can reach 7.26 million tonnes (BPS, 2017), one of the reasons for the increase in banana production is the increasing public interest in fruit products and processed banana fruit. . One type of banana that is often used for the production of processed banana products is the Kepok banana (*Musa paradisiaca L*). In general, banana peels do not have a significant selling value and are often considered as production waste. Currently, the use of banana peels is limited to livestock feed and as compost. Pectin is a natural substance found in most food plants. Pectin is a polysaccharide compound with a high molecular weight, pectin is used as a gelling agent and thickener in the manufacture of jellies, marmalades, low-calorie foods, and as an antimicrobial in the pharmaceutical field (Sulihono et al., 2012). According to research conducted by Castillo, banana peels can contain 17% pectin when extracted using acids, of course, the presence of pectin content in banana peels can be used further, one of which is an edible coating, edible coating is a thin layer that can be eaten (edible) and applied to the exterior of the food to protect against physical, chemical or biological damage. Based on the experiments carried out on the texture parameters of hardness, it was found that when compared to the control, the apples soaked with pectin became slightly harder / chewy due to the pectin itself which gave a chewy effect, the parameters showed that the apples coated with pectin after sitting for 15 minutes had a color that brighter than control apples that were not coated with pectin. This data shows that the edible coating can protect the fruit from chemical and biological damage.