

Cashew gum (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) in the Centro-Oeste: A Biochemistry Analysis.

Silva, T. M.², Ferreira, R. O¹, Pereira, D, G.¹, Souza, T. C. P¹, Fernandes, K. F.³

¹, Course Biomedicine, College of Anhanguera Anapolis, GO, Brazil;

², Professor, College of Anhanguera Anapolis, GO, Brazil;

³Laboratory of Chemistry and Protein, Federal University of Goiás, GO, Brazil.

The cashew gum is a complex heteropolysaccharides and its calcium, magnesium, potassium and sodium salts. Recently this material emerged as an important class of bioactive natural product and several applications have been postulated for this material. Nevertheless, the composition and properties of cashew polysaccharide change deeply depending of its source. In this work, the cashew polysaccharide gum (PEJUG) collected in Goiás was analyzed and their properties compared to those of PEJU from other states of Brasil. Different of the results obtained with other PEJU, the extraction of PEJUG was more effective when precipitated with acetone and kept in desiccator for 30 min. Regarding solubility, the solvents used did not show major differences in content of material extracted, although the saline solution brought a higher absorbance and acid solution, slightly smaller. The solubility and protein content (Biuret method) were evaluated at different temperatures. The fraction of soluble protein increased as function of temperature, with a value of 2.77 g / mL at 65°C. The presence of protein in the polysaccharide network extends the possibility of reactions of this material according to the variety of potential reactive groups present in side chains exposed to the reaction. The results have been promising, indicating the PEJU as a source of applications in biotechnology, biochemistry is in the area, serving as support for immobilization of enzymes, is the technology of food, because the properties of this polysaccharide thickeners and emulsifiers.

Keywords: Polysaccharides, cashew gum , *Anacardium occidentale*.