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PACKAGING AND SHELF-LIFE STUDIES FOR AGUINALDO COFFEE BLEND

RESEARCH STUDY

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PACKAGING AND SHELF-LIFE STUDIES FOR AGUINALDO COFFEE BLEND

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ABSTRACT

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This study was conducted to select a packaging material that would best prolong the shelf-life of Aguinaldo Coffee Blend. Specifically, the study aimed to: identify changes in product properties of Aguinaldo Blend packed in foil, polypropylene, tin can and glass jar on storage; and select the best packaging material for Aguinaldo Blend based on the physical and sensory properties of the Aguinaldo Coffee Blend.

The study used Cavite State University (CvSU)-developed Aguinaldo Blend. There were four packaging materials namely, polypropylene, laminated foil, glass jar and tin can filled with 200 g of coffee and stored in the same roomtemperature. Initial sampling was conducted right after packaging and destructive sampling was done every seven days (one week) for two months.

Screening and training of panelists were done to minimize bias and deviation in analysis. Ten (10) trained panelists were selected form among 50 respondents based on their health conditions, ability to perceive sensory stimuli, willingness and availability in evaluating the coffee samples.

Results of the sensory evaluation showed no significant differences among the treatments. This shows that each packaging material did not affect Aguinaldo Blend's cupping quality on storage for two months.

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INTRODUCTION

Coffee blends, no matter how acceptable when freshly blended, tend to undergo changes in quality during storage, specifically when the properties of packaging materials are not capable of preserving product quality. Three classes of packaging materials are used for coffee: flexibles (plastic, paper or foil), metal and glass. If not properly packed, the coffee aroma will tend to become flat to sharply rancid with time (Sivets, 1989).

Aguinaldo Coffee Blend is a premium coffee that is expertly blended by Cavite State University from Barako (Excelsa and Liberica), Robusta and Arabica beans. At present, packaging materials for Aguinaldo Blend are yet to be evaluated and tested to determine if its content could withstand deteriorative changes for a long period of time. In this study, the shelf life of Aguinaldo Coffee Blend in four different packaging materials, laminated foil, tin can, glass jar and polypropylene bag, were evaluated.