

1 **NUTRITIVE PARAMETERS EVOLUTION OF MAIZE SEEDS CONSERVED BY TRIPLE BAGGING**  
2 **SYSTEM AND BIOPESTICIDES (*Lippia multiflora* AND *Hyptis suaveolens* LEAVES) IN CÔTE**  
3 **D'IVOIRE**

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5  
6 **ABSTRACT**

7 This study, initiated in Côte d'Ivoire, aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of the triple bagging  
8 system associated or not with biopesticides on the conservation of biochemical parameters, in  
9 particular its nutritional potential according to a central composite design (CCD). It was carried in Côte  
10 d'Ivoire at Laboratory of Biochemistry and Food Science from March 2016 to September 2017. Shelf  
11 life, biopesticides rate and interactions between shelf life and biopesticides had a significant influence  
12 on the biochemical characteristics of maize. The polypropylene bag (control) had the highest values  
13 after eighteen (18) months of moisture storage (9.02% to 16.99%) and showed very high fibre losses  
14 ( $P < 0.001$ ) (5.78% to 4.28%), total sugars (2.62% to 1.30%), reducing sugars (0.47% to 0.27%), starch  
15 (75.20% to 46.10%), fat (5.51% to 3.33%), protein (8.60% to 6.87%), total carbohydrate (75.20% to  
16 71.51%), ash (1.68% to 1.30%) and energy value (384.78% to 343.48%). Concerning the triple  
17 bagging system without biopesticides, the variation is similar to the treatments that received the  
18 biopesticides up to 9.5 months of storage before presenting values almost similar to the control bag  
19 after the 18 months of storage. While triple bagging systems with the presence of biopesticides after  
20 18 months of storage show slight variations in moisture (9.02% to 12.47%), fibre (5.78% to 5.56%),  
21 total sugars (2.62% to 1.88%), reducing sugars (0.47% to 0.37%), starch (75.20% to 60.03%), fat  
22 (5.51% to 5.00%), protein (8.60% to 7.84%), total carbohydrates (75.20% to 72.69%), ash (1.68% to  
23 1.50%) and energy value (384.78% to 368.93%). The results of these tests show that maize grains  
24 stored in the presence of biopesticides best retain their biochemical characteristics. Also, the results  
25 indicate that the rate of 1.01% biopesticides could be recommended for maintaining all biochemical  
26 parameters up to 18 months of storage.

27 **Keywords:** Maize, conserved, triple bagging, biopesticides, biochemical characteristics, Côte d'Ivoire

28 **1.INTRODUCTION**

29 Maize is the world's largest cereal crop, ahead of rice and wheat. It is cultivated for its  
30 nutritional assets (starch richness, presence of protein and minerals) and is the staple food of many  
31 populations. In Côte d'Ivoire, maize is the seventh most important agricultural crop and the second  
32 most important cereal crop after rice [1]. With a national production estimated at nearly 760,000 tons  
33 in 2016, maize grains provide about 15% of the Ivorian population's energy needs and therefore  
34 constitute the most energy-rich cereal among these populations [3]. Despite its various uses, this  
35 cereal remains a seasonal crop in many production areas. Also, its availability during the off-season is  
36 systematically linked to the conditions of its conservation. These constraints are mainly related to post-  
37 harvest mistreatment [5]. In response to this situation, the use of chemical pesticides as effective  
38 means of control has long been advocated by producers. However, international institutions such as  
39 the FAO (2011) [6], prevented the misuse and uncontrolled use of synthetic pesticides for the  
40 protection and cultivation of foodstuffs. Indeed, these synthetic insecticides have a harmful effect on  
41 human health and pollute the environment. In order to improve this situation, several researchers have  
42 turned to the control of these stock pests. They have developed new storage and/or conservation  
43 technologies such as: the development of improved granaries for improving the quality of grain and  
44 corn on the farm [7] and the conservation of maize grains in polypropylene bags with added  
45 biopesticides developed by the work of Ezoua and colleagues (2017a) [8]. **in fact, these biopesticides  
46 secrete bioactive compounds that affect the way insects feed and prevent their growth.** Also, Konan  
47 and his collaborators (2016) [9] have developed the triple bagging method similar to the "PICS" bag  
48 (Purdue Improved Cowpea Storage). The triple bagging system is a set of three combined bags,  
49 including two inner bags made of high-density polyethylene with low air permeability and one outer  
50 bag made of polypropylene. For the two inner bags, one is mounted in the other. These two bags are  
51 enclosed in the polypropylene woven bag. This triple bagging system combined with biopesticides has  
52 shown satisfactory results in extending the shelf life and/or storage of cowpea seeds. Thus, the  
53 objective of this study initiated in Côte d'Ivoire is to evaluate the effects of triple bagging systems  
54 associated or not with *Lippia multiflora* and *Hyptis suaveolens* leaves on the evolution of maize  
55 nutrient parameters during storage.

56 **2. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

57 **2.1 Experimental Site**

58 The experiments were carried out in the storage room of the Laboratory of Biochemistry and  
59 Food Sciences in Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, where the average temperature and relative  
60 humidity were respectively ( $27.27^{\circ}\text{C}\pm 1.41$  and  $81.58\pm 3.02\%$ ). Wooden pallets were placed on the floor  
61 as a support for storing the bags.

62 **2.2 Vegetable material**

63 **2.2.1 Maize used in the study**

64 The dry maize grains were obtained from producers in the Hambol region of north-central of  
65 Côte d'Ivoire in the department of Katiola, between  $8^{\circ}10'$  North and  $5^{\circ}40'$  West just after the harvest. It  
66 is an improved GMRP-18 variety of yellow morphotype and is characterized by a short production  
67 cycle of 90-95 days.

68 **2.2.2 Selected plants**

69 The leaves of *Lippia multiflora* and *Hyptis suaveolens*, harvested in the Gbêkê region ( $70^{\circ}50'$   
70 North and  $50^{\circ}18'$  West). They were dried in the shade for a week and then chopped into fine particles.

71 **2.2.3 Storage equipment**

72 Polypropylene and polyethylene bags with a capacity of 120 kg were purchased at the Adjamé  
73 market (municipality of Abidjan) to form the triple bagging system. It is a set of bags made of synthetic

74 fabric (polypropylene), lined on the inside with two bags made of (polyethylene). This makes it  
75 possible to make a triple bottom bag.

## 76 2.3 Methods

### 77 2.3.1 Bagging

78 The maize grain conservation methodology was implemented using a central composite design  
79 (CCD). It was based on mixing a proportion of crushed dried leaves with a defined amount of maize  
80 grains. It is an alternating layering of maize grains and *Lippia multiflora* and *Hyptis suaveolens* leaves  
81 so as to obtain leaves on the bottom and surface of the bags, thus covering the kernels. A total of nine  
82 [9] experimental batches and one control batch were established as follows: TB0SP control treated  
83 without biopesticides in the polypropylene bag, TB0P triple bagging with 0% biopesticides, TB1 triple  
84 bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (0.625 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.625 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB2 triple  
85 bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.60 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB3 triple bagging  
86 with 3.99% biopesticides (1.60 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB4 triple bagging with  
87 1.01% biopesticides (0.10 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB5 triple bagging with 1.01%  
88 biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.10 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB6 triple bagging with 5%  
89 biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB7 triple bagging with 2.5%  
90 biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora*), TB8 triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg of *H.*  
91 *suaveolens*). The experiment lasted 18 months.

### 92 2.3.2 Samples collection

93 Samples for the various analyses were taken at different storage periods: At month T0, just  
94 after purchase and before storage; then in month T1; T4.5; T9.5; T14.5 and T18. These samples were  
95 taken in triplicate. These different times were determined from the central composite design (CCD).  
96 Thus, 5 Kg samples of maize were collected in each bag at different strata. The maize samples  
97 collected were ground (using a MOULINEX mixer, France) in the laboratory to obtain a fine grind  
98 (flour) for the determination of nutrient parameters.

### 99 2.3.3 Biochemical analysis

100 Analyses were performed using the standard AOAC methods (no. 960.52. 2000) [10]. Thus,  
101 the moisture content of the maize was deducted after drying 10 g of the samples in an oven  
102 (MEMMERT, Germany) at 105°C until constant weight. The ash content results from the incineration  
103 of 5 g of the dry sample of maize at 550°C in a muffle furnace (PYROLABO, France) for 12 h. The  
104 determination of the fibre content was carried out according to Wolf's (1968) method [11]. taking of 2 g  
105 sample of maize meal (P0) was taken and placed in a flask to which 50 mL of sulphuric acid (0.25N)  
106 was added. The resulting mixture was homogenized and boiled for 30 minutes in reflux condenser.  
107 After 30 min, 50 mL NaOH (0.31N) was added to the contents and brought back to a boil in reflux  
108 condenser for 30 min. The extract obtained was filtered on Whatman N°4 filter paper and the residue  
109 was washed several times in hot water until the alkalis were completely removed. The residue was  
110 dried in the oven at 105°C for 8 hours. After cooling in the desiccator, the residue was weighed (P1)  
111 and then incinerated in the furnace at 550°C for 3 hours. After cooling the ashes obtained were  
112 weighed (P2). The crude fibre content was obtained in g per 100 g of MS according to the formula:

$$113 \quad \text{Raw fibre} = \frac{(P_1 - P_2)}{P_0} \times 100$$

114 The lipids contents resulted from a solvent (hexane) extraction using a Soxhlet device. The protein  
115 content was determined using the Kjeldhal method. As for the values of total sugars, the determination  
116 was carried out using phenol and sulphuric acid using the method of Dubois and colleagues [12]. The  
117 reducing sugars were determined according to the Bernfeld and collaborators method [13] with the  
118 DNS reagent (3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid). Total carbohydrates and energy value were estimated using  
119 formulas indicated by FAO 2002 [14] as follows:

120 **Total carbohydrates (%) = 100 - (% moisture + % protein + % fat + % ash).**

121 In addition, the starch content was determined by calculation taking into account the carbohydrate and  
122 total sugar contents by the following calculation method:

123 **Starch (%) = 0.9 [Carbohydrates (%) - 0.001 x Total Sugars (mg/100 g)].**

124 And finally, the energy value was determined as follows.

125 **Energy Value (%) = [(% protein X 4) + (% carbohydrates X 4) + (% fat X 9)].** The results of  
126 moisture, carbohydrate compounds, macronutrients and energy values were expressed on a dry  
127 weight basis.

## 128 **2.4 Statistical analysis.**

129 All analyses were performed in triplicate and all data were statistically processed using the SPSS  
130 software (version 22.0). It consisted of an analysis of variance according to two factors: the storage  
131 **duration and storage method**, the different treatments carried out during storage. Significant  
132 parameters were compared using the Tukey test with a level of significance less than or equal to 5%.  
133 Multivariate analysis, including Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Hierarchical Ascendant  
134 Classification (HAC), were then performed using STATISTICA software (version 7.1).

## 135 **3.RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 136 **3.1 Results**

#### 137 **3.1.1 Evolution of nutrient parameters**

138 Table I presents the data from the statistical tests used to assess macronutrients, carbohydrate  
139 compounds, moisture content and energy value. The tests carried out reveal very significant variations  
140 ( $P < 0.001$ ) in biochemical element contents as a function of duration and storage method. In addition,  
141 the interaction between the 2 variables has a significant effect.

#### 142 **3.1.2 Moisture and carbohydrate compound content.**

143 The moisture content increases very significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) during storage (Table II). With an  
144 initial value of  $9.02 \pm 0.00\%$ , the highest values were recorded in the polypropylene bag ( $16.99 \pm 0.20\%$ )  
145 and the triple bagging system without biopesticides ( $12.76 \pm 0.10\%$ ) after 18 months. The moisture  
146 content of the maize grains recorded in the bags that have received the various treatments is  
147 increasing to a maximum of  $12.47 \pm 0.06\%$  in the TB4 batch containing 1.01% biopesticides (0.10 kg of  
148 *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg of *H. suaveolens*). For fibres, the value recorded at the beginning of storage  
149 was  $5.78 \pm 0.02\%$  and this value gradually decreased after 4.5 months of storage to reach the values of  
150  $4.28 \pm 0.04\%$  and  $5.23 \pm 0.06\%$  after 18 months of storage respectively for the control system and the  
151 **triple bagging without biopesticides**. On the other hand, in triple bagging systems with biopesticides  
152 added in general, no significant difference is observed ( $P = .05$ ) for fibre contents (Table II). The  
153 storage of maize grains in polypropylene bags and the triple bagging system also revealed a  
154 significant decrease ( $P = .05$ ) in total sugar levels. For an initial value of  $2.62 \pm 0.07\%$ , the total sugar  
155 content drops to values of  $1.30 \pm 0.01\%$  and  $1.77 \pm 0.01\%$  for batches not treated with the leaves  
156 respectively (TB0SP and TB0P). In experimental batches with different proportions of biopesticides,  
157 the average value is about  $1.97 \pm 0.06\%$ . In addition, the reducing sugar contents of the stored maize  
158 grains showed significant differences ( $P = .05$ ) during storage. These levels decrease from the eighth  
159 month of storage, to reach values of  $0.26 \pm 0.00\%$  (TB0SP) and  $0.30 \pm 0.00\%$  (TB0P) for untreated  
160 batches after 18 months of storage (Table II). For batches treated with biopesticides (*L. multiflora* and  
161 *H. suaveolens*), the average values recorded are in the order of ( $0.39 \pm 0.02\%$ ) (Table II). The starch  
162 contained in maize at the beginning of storage  $75.20 \pm 0.63$  g/100 g MS drops to  $46.10 \pm 0.78$  and  
163  $58.27 \pm 0.61$  g/100 g MS respectively in the control batch and the treatment that did not receive  
164 biopesticides after 18 months. While the values obtained for biopesticides systems range from  
165  $60.14 \pm 0.02$  to  $62.03 \pm 0.16$  g/100 g of MS (Table II). While the values obtained for biopesticides  
166 systems range from  $60.14 \pm 0.02$  to  $62.03 \pm 0.16$  g/100 g of MS (Table II).



### 167 3.1.3 Macronutrient and energy content

168 Statistical analysis indicates that the lipid content of maize grains recorded at the beginning of  
169 storage ( $5.51\pm 0.04\%$ ) decreases significantly ( $P=.05$ ) both at the control level (TB0SP) and in the  
170 triple bagging system without biopesticides (TB0P) with values of  $3.33\pm 0.10\%$  and  $4.04\pm 0.06\%$   
171 respectively. For triple bagging systems with different proportions of biopesticides, the values  
172 decrease with the proportions of biopesticides provided. However, for treatments that received 3.99  
173 and 5% biopesticides respectively, the values remain constant ( $P=.05$ ) (Table III). However, for  
174 treatments that received 3.99 and 5% biopesticides respectively, the values remain constant ( $P=.05$ )  
175 (Table III). Concerning the protein content, the values drop significantly to values fluctuating between  
176  $8.60\pm 0.10\%$  and  $6.87\pm 0.00\%$  and then between  $8.60\pm 0.10\%$  and  $7.52\pm 0.00\%$  of MS respectively for  
177 maize grains stored in the polypropylene bag and the triple bag without biopesticides after 18 months  
178 of storage. In batches treated with *L. multiflora* and *H. suaveolens* leaves, the values vary between  
179  $8.60\pm 0.10$  and  $7.84\pm 0.02\%$  in the treatment treated with 1.01% biopesticides (0.10 kg *L. multiflora* and  
180 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens* noted TB4) With regard to the proportions of 3.99 and 5% of biopesticides, the  
181 variation is small and remains in the order of  $8.60\pm 0.10$  to  $8.08\pm 0.01\%$  (Table III). In terms of total  
182 carbohydrate content, the initial values recorded for maize grains ( $75.20\pm 0.20$ ) decrease significantly  
183 during storage to reach average values of  $71.51\pm 0.10$ , respectively for the control (TB0SP) and  
184 untreated (TB0P) batches. For the batches processed the average value is  $72.69\pm 0.04\%$ . The ash  
185 value is  $1.68\pm 0.00\%$  at the beginning of storage and drops significantly ( $P=.05$ ) to  $1.30\pm 0.01\%$  after 18  
186 months of storage in the simple bagging system (polypropylene bag). However, these values gradually  
187 increase after 4.5 months of storage in the triple bagging system without biopesticides to reach  
188  $1.50\pm 0.00\%$  after 18 months of storage. On the other hand, these values remain constant over time in  
189 triple bagging systems with different proportions of biopesticides, where the variation in ash value is  
190 not very pronounced. All stored batches also show a decrease in the energy value, these values are  
191 estimated at  $384.95\pm 0.78$  kcal at the beginning of storage, gradually decrease to  $343.48\pm 0.43$  and  
192  $366.49\pm 0.53$  kcal for untreated batches and to average values ranging from  $368.93\pm 0.22$  to  
193  $369.54\pm 0.78$  kcal for treated batches.

## 194 3.2 Correlations between nutrient parameters

### 195 3.2.1 Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

196 The main component analysis of the different maize samples is correlated to the 10  
197 biochemical parameters. Under the Kaiser rule, factors with an eigenvalue greater than or equal to 1  
198 are taken into account when interpreting PCA data (Figure 1). Only the first factor F1 which has an  
199 eigenvalue greater than 1 was considered for the interpretation of the PCA data. It expresses 90.56%  
200 of the total variability. The second factor F2 having an eigenvalue of 0.60 with a total variability of  
201 6.02% is coupled to the first factor and both will be used to represent the PCA. The factor F1 with an  
202 eigenvalue of 9.06 establishes negative correlations with the 9 biochemical parameters that are: the  
203 contents of ash, fibre, protein, fat, total and reducing sugars, total carbohydrates, starch, and energy  
204 value and a positive correlation with moisture content. As for character projection, 4 groups were  
205 formed. Group 1 consists only of the TB0SP control at 9.5; 14.5 and 18 months of storage noted  
206 respectively A3; A4 and A5. These individuals have the highest moisture values and the lowest values  
207 for all other parameters. The second group shows individuals rated A2 and B5, which are respectively  
208 the control samples (TB0SP) at 4.5 and triple single bagging (TB0P) at 18 months storage. Its  
209 samples are similar to those of individuals A3, A4 and A5 in terms of changes in biochemical  
210 parameters. Group 3 consists of samples from the control lot (TB0SP) after one month of storage,  
211 triple bagging without biopesticides (TB0P) up to 14.5 months of storage and triple bagging with  
212 different proportions of biopesticides at different storage times (T0, T1, T2, T2, T3, T4, T5). These are  
213 characterized by high values for biochemical parameters and low moisture values. The last group  
214 contains all experimental batches with or without biopesticides (except the control batch) after one  
215 month of storage. They have essentially the same variations in the parameters studied in group 3.

### 216 3.2.2 Increasing Hierarchical Classification (HAC)

217 The Hierarchical Ascendant Classification (HAC) established by the Euclidean distance method  
218 confirms the variability observed at the PCA level (Figure 2). Indeed, truncation of the dendrogram at  
219 an Euclidean aggregation distance of 44 and reveals four classes observed according to the different  
220 treatments (untreated, triple bagging without biopesticides and triple bagging with different proportions  
221 of biopesticides) in storage time. The first class consists of samples from the control lot TB0SP at 9.5;  
222 14.5 and 18 months of storage noted respectively A3; A4 and A5. These individuals are characterized  
223 by high humidity values and low values for all other parameters. The second group shows individuals  
224 rated A2 and B5 which are respectively TB0SP samples at 4.5 and TB0P (triple single bagging) at 18  
225 months storage. Individuals in this class are distinguished from other treatments and mark the  
226 boundary by which the difference between the two modes of preservation is distinguished. The third  
227 group consists of the control at 1 month storage, the triple bagging without biopesticides up to 14.5  
228 months storage and the triple bagging with different proportions of biopesticides at different storage  
229 times. The samples in this group have similar values to those in the fourth and last group, allowing  
230 samples of bags with or without biopesticides to be seen after one month of storage except for the  
231 B0SP control lot. The values of these samples thus make it possible to distinguish the efficiency of the  
232 storage system used.

UNDER PEER REVIEW

233 Table I: Statistical data of the parameters according to the treatments during the storage time.

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SDV	Pa St	PARAMETERS									
		Mc	ash	Fib	fat	Pro	ST	SR	GT	starch	VE
Time	ddl	3.54	3.47	1.39	1.75	1.83	1.87	1.42	2.03	1.4	2.28
	SC	382.63	0.34	2.65	6.81	14.14	11.82	0.26	174.33	1731.81	44438.88
	F	16985.88	309.73	67.05	131.86	411.05	595.69	292.37	1686.29	468.2	23024.95
	P	p<0.001									
Erreur Time	ddl	70.88	69.32	27.77	35.03	0.69	37.5	28.45	40.66	27.8	45.71
	SC	0.45	0.02	0.79	1.03	7.4	0.4	0.02	2.07	73.98	38.6
Methods	ddl	9									
	SC	171.43	0.59	12.6	15.54	7.4	5.21	0.14	35.83	1363.78	45476.84
	F	3590.54	379.33	162.38	117.15	87.64	163.44	57.18	203.71	178.88	9354.2
	P	p<0.001									
Erreur Methods	ddl	20									
	SC	0.11	0	0.17	0.29	0.19	0.07	0.05	0.39	16.94	10.8
Time x Methods	ddl	31.9	31.19	12.5	15.77	16.5	16.87	12.8	18.3	12.51	20.57
	SC	70.78	0.17	3.32	8.46	2.65	1.32	0.05	32.82	427.25	206290.65
	F	349.12	16.72	9.35	18.2	8.56	7.4	6.82	35.27	12.83	11876.07
	P	p<0.001									

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SC: sum of squares; F: value of the statistical test; P: probable value of the statistical test; ddl: degree of freedom; Mc: moisture content; ash: ash content; Fib: fibre content; fat: fat content; Pro: protein content; ST: total sugar content; SR: reducing sugar content; GT: total sugar content; starch: starch content; VE: energy value.

Table II: Evolution of humidity and carbohydrate compounds during storage time according to treatment

Parameters	Storage Time	TB0SP	TB0P	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4	TB5	TB6	TB7	TB8
moisture content (%)	0	9.02±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Fa</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>	9.02±0.00 <sup>Ea</sup>
	1	10.20±0.10 <sup>Ca</sup>	9.23±0.06 <sup>Eb</sup>	9.10±0.02 <sup>Ebc</sup>	9.09±0.07 <sup>Dbc</sup>	9.07±0.04 <sup>Dc</sup>	9.17±0.06 <sup>Ebc</sup>	9.12±0.03 <sup>Ebc</sup>	9.08±0.03 <sup>Ec</sup>	9.12±0.03 <sup>Ebc</sup>	9.09±0.04 <sup>Ebc</sup>
	4.5	14.05±0.07 <sup>Ba</sup>	11.37±0.08 <sup>Db</sup>	11.02±0.13 <sup>Dc</sup>	10.96±0.06 <sup>Cc</sup>	10.96±0.13 <sup>Cc</sup>	11.08±0.07 <sup>Dc</sup>	10.96±0.06 <sup>Dc</sup>	10.92±0.06 <sup>Dc</sup>	10.98±0.09 <sup>Dc</sup>	10.92±0.07 <sup>Dc</sup>
	9.5	16.67±0.27 <sup>Aa</sup>	11.99±0.04 <sup>Cb</sup>	11.29±0.03 <sup>Ccd</sup>	11.11±0.02 <sup>Ccd</sup>	11.08±0.01 <sup>Ccd</sup>	11.33±0.08 <sup>Cc</sup>	11.29±0.05 <sup>Ccd</sup>	11.05±0.01 <sup>Cd</sup>	11.19±0.05 <sup>Ccd</sup>	11.15±0.02 <sup>Ccd</sup>
	14.5	16.97±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	12.28±0.06 <sup>Bb</sup>	11.85±0.06 <sup>Bcd</sup>	11.66±0.10 <sup>Be</sup>	11.64±0.04 <sup>Be</sup>	12.14±0.06 <sup>Bb</sup>	11.95±0.06 <sup>Bc</sup>	11.44±0.05 <sup>Bf</sup>	11.78±0.02 <sup>Bcde</sup>	11.71±0.05 <sup>Bde</sup>
	18	16.99±0.20 <sup>Aa</sup>	12.76±0.10 <sup>Ab</sup>	12.32±0.02 <sup>Acde</sup>	12.11±0.01 <sup>Aef</sup>	12.07±0.02 <sup>Af</sup>	12.47±0.06 <sup>Ac</sup>	12.45±0.18 <sup>Ac</sup>	12.07±0.06 <sup>Af</sup>	12.37±0.06 <sup>Acde</sup>	12.18±0.03 <sup>Adef</sup>
Fibre (%)	0	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.78±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	5.03±0.15 <sup>Bb</sup>	5.60±0.08 <sup>Bb</sup>	5.79±0.20 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.77±0.32 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.77±0.15 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.72±0.07 <sup>ABa</sup>	5.72±0.11 <sup>ABa</sup>	5.77±0.30 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.77±0.20 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.73±0.30 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	4.82±0.03 <sup>Cb</sup>	5.52±0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	5.67±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.70±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.70±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.65±0.02 <sup>BCa</sup>	5.67±0.01 <sup>ABCa</sup>	5.70±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.65±0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	5.67±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>
	9.5	4.55±0.04 <sup>Df</sup>	5.36±0.03 <sup>Ce</sup>	5.63±0.00 <sup>Ad</sup>	5.66±0.01 <sup>Acde</sup>	5.67±0.01 <sup>Aab</sup>	5.60±0.01 <sup>Cd</sup>	5.62±0.01 <sup>BCcd</sup>	5.68±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.64±0.04 <sup>Babcd</sup>	5.65±0.00 <sup>Aabc</sup>
	14.5	4.36±0.06 <sup>DEc</sup>	5.29±0.07 <sup>Cb</sup>	5.61±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.65±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.59±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	5.60±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	5.68±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.64±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	5.65±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>
	18	4.28±0.04 <sup>Ec</sup>	5.23±0.06 <sup>Cb</sup>	5.57±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.61±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.63±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.56±0.02 <sup>Ca</sup>	5.57±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	5.62±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.60±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	5.60±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>
total sugar content (%)	0	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>ABa</sup>	2.62±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	2.07±0.12 <sup>Bb</sup>	2.44±0.22 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.53±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.55±0.15 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.56±0.13 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.43±0.10 <sup>Bab</sup>	2.57±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.57±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.53±0.18 <sup>ABa</sup>	2.57±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	1.64±0.10 <sup>Cc</sup>	2.11±0.03 <sup>Bb</sup>	2.32±0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.31±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.30±0.04 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.32±0.04 <sup>BCa</sup>	2.31±0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.31±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.31±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	2.31±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	1.46±0.01 <sup>CDd</sup>	1.97±0.04 <sup>BCc</sup>	2.26±0.00 <sup>Bab</sup>	2.28±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	2.28±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	2.24±0.07 <sup>Cb</sup>	2.26±0.00 <sup>Bab</sup>	2.28±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.27±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	2.26±0.00 <sup>Bab</sup>
	14.5	1.37±0.01 <sup>Ef</sup>	1.90±0.00 <sup>BCe</sup>	2.05±0.00 <sup>Cc</sup>	2.12±0.00 <sup>CDab</sup>	2.12±0.00 <sup>CDab</sup>	2.01±0.00 <sup>Dd</sup>	2.04±0.00 <sup>Cc</sup>	2.12±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	2.10±0.00 <sup>CDb</sup>	2.11±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>
	18	1.30±0.01 <sup>Ef</sup>	1.77±0.01 <sup>Ce</sup>	1.90±0.00 <sup>Dc</sup>	2.02±0.01 <sup>Da</sup>	2.03±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	1.88±0.00 <sup>Dd</sup>	1.90±0.00 <sup>Dd</sup>	2.03±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	2.00±0.00 <sup>Db</sup>	2.01±0.00 <sup>Dab</sup>

243 The means ( $\pm$  standard deviation) with different lowercase / upper case letters on the same row/in the same column are different in the 5% probability  
 244 test.

245  
 246 TB0SP: control treated without biopesticides in the polypropylene bag, TB0P: triple bagging with 0% biopesticides, TB1: triple bagging with 2.5%  
 247 biopesticides (0.625 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.625 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB2: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.60 kg *H.*  
 248 *suaveolens*), TB3: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (1.60 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB4: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides  
 249 (0.10 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB5: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.10 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB6:  
 250 triple bagging with 5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*) TB7: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora*)  
 251 and TB8: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*)  
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257 Table II continuation: Evolution of humidity and carbohydrate compounds during storage time according to the treatment.  
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Parameters	Storage Time	TB0SP	TBOP	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4	TB5	TB6	TB7	TB8
reducing sugar content (%)	0	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	0.42±0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.45±0.08 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.45±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.45±0.03 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.45±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.45±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.46±0.01 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.46±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.45±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	0.47±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	0.34±0.01 <sup>Cc</sup>	0.39±0.00 <sup>ABCb</sup>	0.44±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.44±0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.44±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>	0.44±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.44±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.45±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	0.44±0.00 <sup>BCa</sup>	0.44±0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	0.30±0.00 <sup>Df</sup>	0.36±0.00 <sup>BCe</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Bc</sup>	0.43±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.43±0.00 <sup>Ca</sup>	0.39±0.00 <sup>Cd</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Ccd</sup>	0.43±0.00 <sup>Ca</sup>	0.42±0.00 <sup>Cdb</sup>	0.43±0.00 <sup>Bab</sup>
	14.5	0.28±0.00 <sup>DEf</sup>	0.33±0.00 <sup>Ce</sup>	0.39±0.00 <sup>Cbc</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	0.38±0.00 <sup>CDd</sup>	0.39±0.00 <sup>CDcd</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Dabc</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>
	18	0.26±0.00 <sup>Ee</sup>	0.30±0.00 <sup>Cd</sup>	0.37±0.00 <sup>Cc</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	0.37±0.00 <sup>Dc</sup>	0.37±0.00 <sup>Dc</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Dab</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Db</sup>	0.40±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>
starch content; (%)	0	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	60.50±1.44 <sup>Bb</sup>	67.90±1.34 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.41±0.52 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.00±3.46 <sup>ABa</sup>	67.20±1.91 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.00±1.73 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.10±1.55 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.53±2.20 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.00±2.64 <sup>Aa</sup>	67.67±0.58 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	55.74±0.11 <sup>Cb</sup>	63.29±0.55 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.59±0.59 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.93±0.51 <sup>BCa</sup>	63.82±0.81 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.08±1.34 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.41±0.36 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.98±0.33 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.60±0.38 <sup>Ba</sup>	63.97±0.78 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	50.42±0.58 <sup>Dd</sup>	61.42±0.58 <sup>BCc</sup>	62.94±0.06 <sup>BCab</sup>	63.48±0.17 <sup>BCab</sup>	63.59±0.20 <sup>Bab</sup>	62.25±0.37 <sup>BCbc</sup>	62.58±0.51 <sup>Bab</sup>	63.60±0.51 <sup>Bab</sup>	62.97±0.06 <sup>Bab</sup>	63.20±0.17 <sup>Bab</sup>
	14.5	50.00±0.01 <sup>Dd</sup>	60.12±0.05 <sup>CDc</sup>	62.38±0.50 <sup>Cab</sup>	62.90±0.06 <sup>Ca</sup>	62.92±0.06 <sup>Ba</sup>	62.09±0.06 <sup>BCb</sup>	62.08±0.13 <sup>BCb</sup>	62.96±0.08 <sup>Ba</sup>	62.57±0.52 <sup>Bab</sup>	62.91±0.11 <sup>Ba</sup>
	18	46.10±0.78 <sup>Ef</sup>	58.27±0.61 <sup>De</sup>	60.60±0.04 <sup>Dbcd</sup>	61.97±0.06 <sup>Ca</sup>	62.03±0.6 <sup>Ba</sup>	60.14±0.02 <sup>Cd</sup>	60.30±0.05 <sup>Ccd</sup>	62.03±0.16 <sup>Ba</sup>	61.40±0.53 <sup>Babc</sup>	61.62±0.54 <sup>Cab</sup>

259 The means ( $\pm$  standard deviation) with different lowercase / upper case letters on the same row/in the same column are different in the 5% probability  
260 test.

261  
262 TB0SP: control treated without biopesticides in the polypropylene bag, TBOP: triple bagging with 0% biopesticides, TB1: triple bagging with 2.5%  
263 biopesticides (0.625 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.625 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB2: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.60 kg *H.*  
264 *suaveolens*), TB3: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (1.60 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB4: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides  
265 (0.10 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB5: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.10 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB6:  
266 triple bagging with 5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*) TB7: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora*)  
267 and TB8: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*)  
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280 **Table III: Macronutrient and energy content during storage time according to treatment.**  
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Parameters	Storage Time	TB0SP	TBOP	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4	TB5	TB6	TB7	TB8
<b>fat content (%)</b>	0	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	4.85±0.13 <sup>Ab</sup>	5.49±0.16 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.48±0.25 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.53±0.30 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.55±0.29 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.42±0.22 <sup>Aab</sup>	5.47±0.15 <sup>Aab</sup>	5.52±0.27 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.53±0.21 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.52±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	4.59±0.05 <sup>Bb</sup>	5.43±0.39 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.49±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.5±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.50±0.01 <sup>ABa</sup>	5.50±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.01±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.49±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.51±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>
	9.5	4.53±0.00 <sup>Cd</sup>	5.51±0.00 <sup>ABa</sup>	5.36±0.01 <sup>ABc</sup>	5.50±0.00 <sup>Aab</sup>	5.50±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.34±0.00 <sup>ABc</sup>	5.36±0.02 <sup>ABc</sup>	5.50±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.48±0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	5.50±0.00 <sup>ABab</sup>
	14.5	3.99±0.02 <sup>Dd</sup>	4.97±0.07 <sup>Bc</sup>	5.18±0.01 <sup>Bb</sup>	5.42±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.42±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.17±0.02 <sup>BCb</sup>	5.18±0.01 <sup>BCb</sup>	5.42±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.40±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.41±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>
	18	3.33±0.10 <sup>Ee</sup>	4.04±0.06 <sup>Cd</sup>	5.10±0.01 <sup>Bbc</sup>	5.36±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.37±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.00±0.00 <sup>Cc</sup>	5.11±0.02 <sup>Cb</sup>	5.38±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.35±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.36±0.00 <sup>Ca</sup>
<b>protein content (%)</b>	0	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.60±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	8.10±0.10 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.47±0.30 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.50±0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.52±0.09 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.49±0.19 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.52±0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.55±0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.57±0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.52±0.16 <sup>Aa</sup>	8.51±0.12 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	7.55±0.09 <sup>Cb</sup>	8.07±0.24 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.18±0.4 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.20±0.06 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.20±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.15±0.05 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.20±0.06 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.20±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.19±0.06 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.21±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	7.37±0.05 <sup>Cd</sup>	7.91±0.05 <sup>Bc</sup>	8.05±0.01 <sup>BCb</sup>	8.18±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.18±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.03±0.05 <sup>Bb</sup>	8.04±0.01 <sup>BCb</sup>	8.20±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.17±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.20±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	14.5	7.05±0.04 <sup>Dd</sup>	7.82±0.05 <sup>BCc</sup>	7.10±0.00 <sup>BCb</sup>	8.10±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.10±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	7.99±0.00 <sup>BCb</sup>	8.00±0.00 <sup>BCb</sup>	8.10±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.10±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.10±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>
	18	6.87±0.00 <sup>Ee</sup>	7.52±0.00 <sup>Cd</sup>	7.86±0.01 <sup>Cc</sup>	8.06±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.07±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	7.84±0.02 <sup>Cc</sup>	7.87±0.03 <sup>Cc</sup>	8.08±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	8.01±0.01 <sup>Bb</sup>	8.05±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>
<b>total sugar content (%)</b>	0	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	75.32±0.18 <sup>Ba</sup>	75.16±0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.24±0.41 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.20±0.22 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.23±0.42 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.26±0.28 <sup>Ba</sup>	75.20±0.29 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.16±0.34 <sup>Aa</sup>	75.18±0.19 <sup>Ba</sup>	75.21±0.19 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	72.38±0.11 <sup>Cb</sup>	73.55±0.31 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.66±0.15 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.68±0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.68±0.14 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.64±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>	73.70±0.14 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.72±0.08 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.68±0.08 <sup>BCa</sup>	73.70±0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	70.05±0.23 <sup>Cdc</sup>	73.13±0.2 <sup>BCb</sup>	73.69±0.05 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.56±0.03 <sup>BCa</sup>	73.59±0.02 <sup>BCa</sup>	73.70±0.13 <sup>Ca</sup>	73.69±0.04 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.60±0.07 <sup>Ba</sup>	73.53±0.04 <sup>Ca</sup>	73.53±0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>
	14.5	70.62±0.09 <sup>Dd</sup>	73.41±0.08 <sup>BCa</sup>	73.37±0.07 <sup>Cab</sup>	73.20±0.09 <sup>CDbc</sup>	73.21±0.04 <sup>CDabc</sup>	73.13±0.07 <sup>Dc</sup>	73.26±0.05 <sup>Cabc</sup>	73.40±0.07 <sup>Ca</sup>	73.12±0.01 <sup>CDc</sup>	73.16±0.02 <sup>Cc</sup>
	18	71.51±0.10 <sup>De</sup>	74.17±0.09 <sup>Ca</sup>	73.16±0.05 <sup>Db</sup>	72.87±0.01 <sup>Dcd</sup>	72.89±0.02 <sup>Dcd</sup>	73.13±0.06 <sup>Db</sup>	73.01±0.17 <sup>Dc</sup>	72.86±0.05 <sup>Ccd</sup>	72.69±0.04 <sup>Dd</sup>	72.82±0.04 <sup>Dcd</sup>

282 *The means (± standard deviation) with different lowercase / upper case letters on the same row/in the same column are different in the 5% probability test.*

283  
 284 *TB0SP: control treated without biopesticides in the polypropylene bag, TBOP: triple bagging with 0% biopesticides, TB1: triple bagging with 2.5%*  
 285 *biopesticides (0.625 kg L. multiflora and 0.625 kg H. suaveolens), TB2: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (0.40 kg L. multiflora and 1.60 kg H. suaveolens), TB3:*  
 286 *triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (1.60 kg L. multiflora and 0.40 kg H. suaveolens), TB4: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.10 kg L. multiflora and 0.40*  
 287 *kg H. suaveolens), TB5: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.40 kg L. multiflora and 0.10 kg H. suaveolens), TB6: triple bagging with 5% biopesticides (1.25 kg*  
 288 *L. multiflora and 1.25 kg H. suaveolens) TB7: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg L. multiflora) and TB8: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg H.*  
 289 *suaveolens)*

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Table III continuation: Macronutrient and energy content during storage time according to treatment.

Parameters	Storage Time	TB0SP	TB0P	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4	TB5	TB6	TB7	TB8
ash content (%)	0	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	1.52±0.02 <sup>Bb</sup>	1.65±0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.67±0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.65±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.66±0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.64±0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.66±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.66±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.66±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.67±0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	1.43±0.02 <sup>Cc</sup>	1.57±0.01 <sup>Bb</sup>	1.64±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.65±0.02 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.65±0.01 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.63±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.63±0.02 <sup>BCa</sup>	1.65±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>	1.65±0.00 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.65±0.03 <sup>ABa</sup>
	9.5	1.38±0.04 <sup>Cdc</sup>	1.53±0.03 <sup>Bcb</sup>	1.60±0.00 <sup>Ca</sup>	1.64±0.01 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.65±0.01 <sup>ABa</sup>	1.60±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	1.62±0.01 <sup>CDa</sup>	1.65±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>	1.63±0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.63±0.01 <sup>ABCa</sup>
	14.5	1.37±0.02 <sup>Dd</sup>	1.53±0.03 <sup>Bcc</sup>	1.60±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	1.61±0.01 <sup>BCa</sup>	1.62±0.02 <sup>BCa</sup>	1.56±0.01 <sup>Dbc</sup>	1.59±0.01 <sup>Dab</sup>	1.63±0.00 <sup>CUa</sup>	1.60±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	1.61±0.02 <sup>BCa</sup>
	18	1.30±0.01 <sup>DEf</sup>	1.50±0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>	1.57±0.00 <sup>Dcd</sup>	1.60±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	1.60±0.00 <sup>Cab</sup>	1.55±0.01 <sup>Dd</sup>	1.56±0.00 <sup>Ed</sup>	1.61±0.00 <sup>Da</sup>	1.58±0.01 <sup>Cbc</sup>	1.59±0.01 <sup>Cbc</sup>
energy value (kcal/100g)	0	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.78±0.23 <sup>Aa</sup>
	1	377.37±1.03 <sup>Bb</sup>	383.88±0.83 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.33±1.31 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.65±1.66 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.80±1.58 <sup>Aa</sup>	383.85±1.32 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.20±0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.62±1.39 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.57±1.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	384.58±0.31 <sup>Aa</sup>
	4.5	361.01±0.40 <sup>Cb</sup>	375.37±2.27 <sup>Ba</sup>	376.80±0.52 <sup>Ba</sup>	377.10±0.28 <sup>Ba</sup>	377.05±0.58 <sup>Ba</sup>	376.63±0.23 <sup>Ba</sup>	377.14±0.22 <sup>Ba</sup>	377.24±0.16 <sup>Ba</sup>	376.90±0.52 <sup>Ba</sup>	377.23±0.26 <sup>Ba</sup>
	9.5	350.47±1.02 <sup>De</sup>	373.73±0.19 <sup>Bd</sup>	375.24±0.12 <sup>Bbc</sup>	376.48±0.09 <sup>Ba</sup>	376.61±0.07 <sup>Ba</sup>	375.01±0.34 <sup>Cc</sup>	375.16±0.19 <sup>Cbc</sup>	376.74±0.05 <sup>Ba</sup>	376.11±0.19 <sup>Bab</sup>	376.35±0.12 <sup>Ca</sup>
	14.5	346.60±0.46 <sup>Ef</sup>	369.66±0.47 <sup>Ce</sup>	372.16±0.21 <sup>Cc</sup>	373.98±0.44 <sup>Cb</sup>	374.06±0.10 <sup>Cab</sup>	371.04±0.24 <sup>Dd</sup>	371.74±0.14 <sup>Dcd</sup>	374.84±0.18 <sup>Ca</sup>	373.45±0.14 <sup>Cb</sup>	373.78±0.16 <sup>Db</sup>
	18	343.48±0.43 <sup>Fe</sup>	366.49±0.53 <sup>Df</sup>	369.94±0.10 <sup>Dcd</sup>	371.93±0.09 <sup>Dab</sup>	372.14±0.11 <sup>Da</sup>	368.93±0.22 <sup>Ed</sup>	369.54±0.78 <sup>Ed</sup>	372.16±0.24 <sup>Da</sup>	370.92±0.16 <sup>Dbc</sup>	371.71±0.15 <sup>Eab</sup>

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The means ( $\pm$  standard deviation) with different lowercase / upper case letters on the same row/in the same column are different in the 5% probability test.

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TB0SP: control treated without biopesticides in the polypropylene bag, TB0P: triple bagging with 0% biopesticides, TB1: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (0.625 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.625 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB2: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.60 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB3: triple bagging with 3.99% biopesticides (1.60 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB4: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.10 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.40 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB5: triple bagging with 1.01% biopesticides (0.40 kg *L. multiflora* and 0.10 kg *H. suaveolens*), TB6: triple bagging with 5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora* and 1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*) TB7: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *L. multiflora*) and TB8: triple bagging with 2.5% biopesticides (1.25 kg *H. suaveolens*)

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Table IV: Correlation table between nutrient parameters according to treatment during storage time.

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	Humidity	Ashes	Fibres	Lipids	Proteins	Total sugars	Reducing Sugars	Total Carbohydrates	Starch Starch	Energy Value
Humidity	1									
Ashes	-0.901196	1								
Fibres	-0.840716	0.958225	1							
Lipids	-0.793037	0.914978	0.902979	1						
Proteins	-0.967449	0.938397	0.876525	0.880654	1					
Total sugars	-0.961322	0.933741	0.843145	0.831675	0.967342	1				
Reducing Sugars	-0.910889	0.937026	0.839882	0.870964	0.956036	0.956843	1			
Total Carbohydrates	-0.941902	0.733211	0.658945	0.546885	0.841778	0.860907	0.766327	1		
Starch Starch	-0.968968	0.955250	0.920639	0.881633	0.979330	0.953586	0.918679	0.850348	1	
Energy Value	-0.980546	0.932208	0.876878	0.887018	0.985404	0.964156	0.943973	0.865553	0.979327	1

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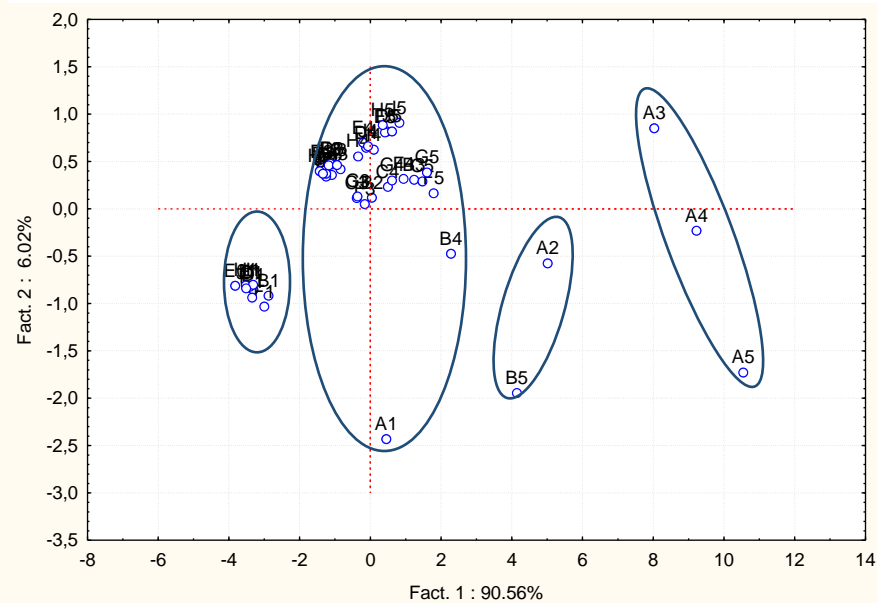
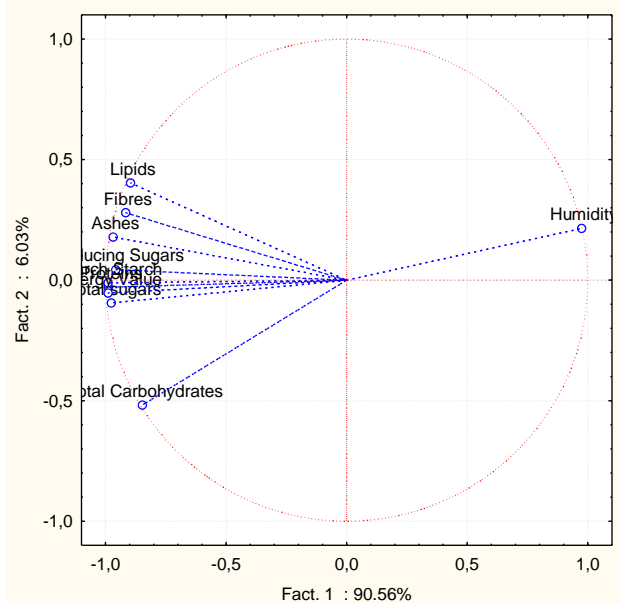
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**a-Projection of variables**

**b- Projection of individuals**

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**Figure 1: Projection of biochemical parameters (a) and individuals (b) in the factorial plan 1-2 of the main component analysis.**

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*E0 : initial sample, A1 : polypropylene bag at 1 month, B1 : triple bagging without biopesticides at 1 month, C1, D1, E1, F1, G1, H1, I1, J1 : triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% of biopesticides at 1 month conservation A2 : polypropylene bag at 4.5 months, B2: triple bagging without biopesticides at 4.5 months, C2, D2, E2, E2, F2, G2, H2, I2, J2: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 4.5 months storage. A3: polypropylene bag at 9.5 months, B3: triple bagging without biopesticides at 9.5 months C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, H3, H3, I3, J3: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 9.5 months storage. B4: triple bagging without biopesticides at 7 months, C4, D4, E4, E4, F4, G4, H4, I4, J4: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 14.5 months storage. B5: triple bagging without biopesticides at 18 months, C5, D5, E5, E5, F5, G5, H5, I5, J5: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 18 months storage.*

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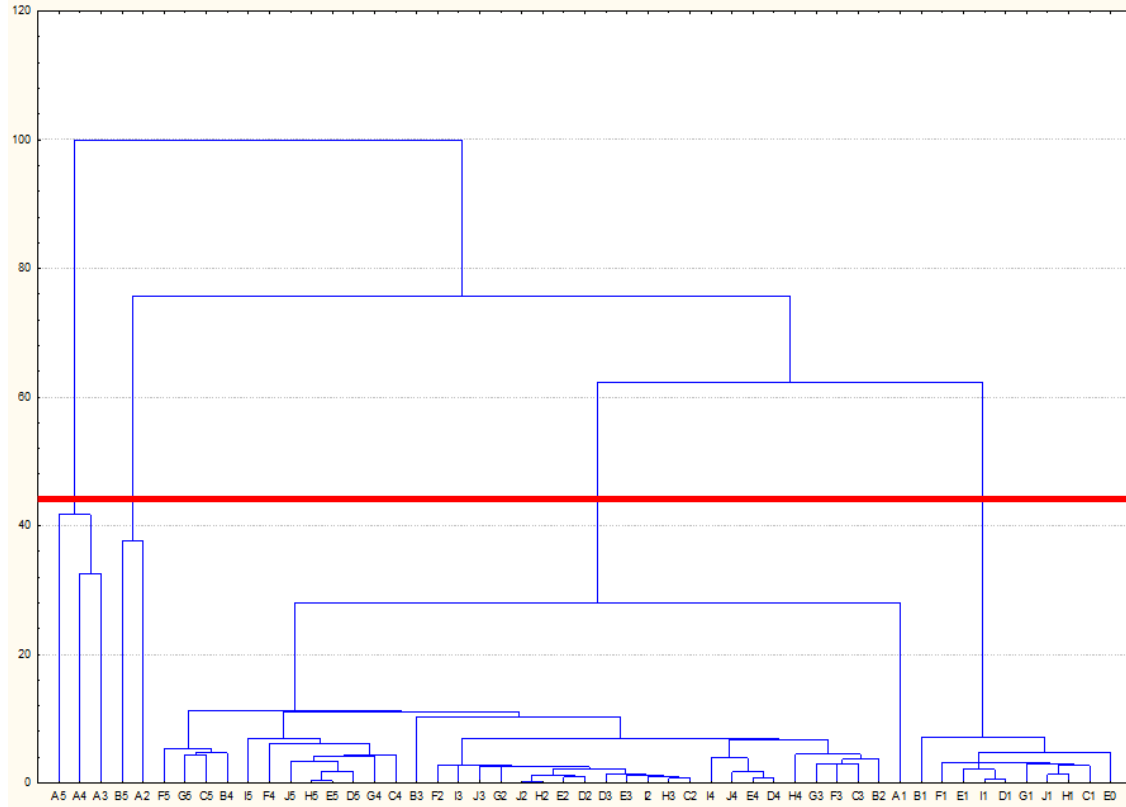
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**Figure 2: Dendrogram of nutrient parameters according to treatments during storage time**

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*E0* : initial sample, *A1* : polypropylene bag at 1 month, *B1* : triple bagging without biopesticides at 1 month, ***C1, D1, E1, F1, G1, H1, I1, J1*** : triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% of biopesticides at 1 month conservation *A2* : polypropylene bag at 4.5 months, *B2*: triple bagging without biopesticides at 4.5 months, *C2, D2, E2, E2, F2, G2, H2, I2, J2*: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 4.5 months storage. *A3*: polypropylene bag at 9.5 months, *B3*: triple bagging without biopesticides at 9.5 months *C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, H3, H3, I3, J3*: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 9.5 months storage. *B4*: triple bagging without biopesticides at 7 months, *C4, D4, E4, E4, F4, G4, H4, I4, J4*: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 14.5 months storage. *B5*: triple bagging without biopesticides at 18 months, *C5, D5, E5, E5, F5, G5, H5, I5, J5*: triple bagging with 2.5%, 3.99%, 3.99%, 1.99%, 1.01%, 1.01%, 5%, 2.5% and 2.5% biopesticides at 18 months storage.

### 346 3.4 Discussion

347 This study was carried out according to two parameters: the storage time and the storage  
348 method. It showed a decrease in ash, fibre, fat, protein, total sugar, reducing sugars, starch, total  
349 carbohydrate and energy content with an increase in moisture content. It showed a decrease in ash,  
350 fibre, fat, protein, total sugar, reducing sugars, starch, total carbohydrate and energy content with an  
351 increase in moisture content. According to O'quinn and colleagues [15] the duration and method of  
352 storage are important factors influencing the composition of stored cereals. Similar studies have been  
353 carried out by Niamkechi and colleagues [16], which reported changes in the same order by assessing  
354 the quality of maize stored in different types of traditional and improved granary storage. Also, the  
355 proper storage of cereal grains depends on their water content because a high moisture content  
356 causes very significant degradation of the grains. In addition, the recommended humidity value for  
357 good storage is set at 13% according to studies by Mohale and colleagues [17]. Analyses carried out  
358 indicate an increase in moisture content in the batch of maize stored in the polypropylene bag after 4.5  
359 months of storage ( $14.05 \pm 0.07\%$ ). On the other hand, maize grains stored in the triple bagging system  
360 with or without biopesticides have a moisture content between  $12.07 \pm 0.02$  and  $12.76 \pm 0.10$  during  
361 storage. This increase in recorded humidity could be explained, on the one hand, by the recovery of  
362 humidity due to the high hygroscopicity of maize grains and, on the other hand, by the activity of  
363 insects and microorganisms. The ash content decreases significantly during storage depending on the  
364 storage method. This variation may be due to the mineral proportion that is concentrated much more  
365 in the shells than in the sprouts (Doukani, 2015) [18]. Indeed, stockpile enemies most often develop  
366 inside the grain and consume almost all of its mineral content. The fat content of grain maize varies  
367 depending on the storage method. This variation is between  $5.51 \pm 0.04$  and  $3.33 \pm 0.10\%$  MS in the  
368 single bagging system and between  $5.51 \pm 0.04$  and  $4.04 \pm 0.06\%$  SM in the triple bagging system and  
369 between  $5.51 \pm 0.04$  and  $5.00 \pm 0.00\%$  SM in the systems that received the plants. The results of this  
370 study are similar to those of the work of St-Pierre *et al.*, 2014 (3 and 5% SM) [19]. During the 18  
371 months of storage, there was generally a decrease in fat content. This would be due to insect attacks  
372 on the maize germ, or to a possible oxidation of the fat due to the increase in the temperature of the  
373 medium. Indeed, maize composed mainly of unsaturated fatty acids (86 0/0) is weakened by its  
374 double bonds which oxidize in contact with the air during storage (This, 2007) [20]. Oxidation has a  
375 detrimental effect on the nutritional value of the product (reduction in the content of antioxidant  
376 vitamins or polyunsaturated fatty acids), as well as on its organoleptic value (by releasing volatile  
377 compounds with a rancid odour). Oxidation rates are a function of the conditions of the storage  
378 medium, including pH, temperature and water content of the product (Jean *et al.*, 2006) [21].

379 The protein level observed during storage varies according to the three storage methods. This  
380 could be explained by the variation in temperature during storage. Indeed, grain moisture and storage  
381 conditions could cause protein losses (Schuh, 1999) [22]. Also, depending on the part of the grain  
382 consumed by insects and microorganisms, protein fractions in the grains may increase or decrease  
383 during storage (Niamkechi *et al.*, (2017) [23]. As far as the total sugars and reducing the progressive  
384 decreases in levels are concerned, they are said to be due to the activities of insects and micro-  
385 organisms. With regard to total carbohydrates, the results show a significant decrease in regardless at  
386 all times and in all types of packaging, reaching  $73.13 \pm 0.06\%$ . These results are almost in line with the  
387 content of varieties popularized by IITA in Nigeria, which is 74.43% (Edema *et al.*, 2005) [24]. The  
388 starch content of maize grains has decreased considerably during storage for both untreated and  
389 treated lots. This considerable deterioration in starch content could be due to the growth of insects and  
390 moulds. Indeed, the work of Chattha *et al.*, (2015) [25] showed a significant reduction in the percentage  
391 of starch in wheat grains due to the presence of insects. Also, one could associate the attack of  
392 moulds of the genus *Aspergillus sp* and *Fusarium sp* which quantitatively affects the quality of stored  
393 maize and reduces starch levels [26]. In addition, the decrease in starch levels in stored maize would  
394 be related to the increase in temperature (Maillard oxidation reactions) and humidity during storage.  
395 Energy values are logically affected and gradually decrease during storage, as indicated by the close  
396 correlations between maize energy values and protein and fat contents.

397 **4. CONCLUSION**

398 The objective of this study was to propose to the actors of the maize sector in Côte d'Ivoire an  
399 alternative solution to the use of chemical pesticides for the conservation of the biochemical  
400 parameters of maize. The results obtained confirm the use of triple bagging technology as an  
401 appropriate solution. Indeed, triple bagging systems have made it possible to maintain maize nutrients  
402 over a period of 9.5 months. However, the addition of *Lippia multiflora* and *Hyptis suaveolens* leaves  
403 at a proportion of 1.01% as biopesticides allows the biochemical parameters of corn to be maintained  
404 for 18 months.

405 Thus, these biopesticides effectively control stock pests and thus provide a solution to  
406 synthetic pesticides. This triple bagging method is promising for producers in Côte d'Ivoire and is in  
407 line with the sustainable development objectives of preserving the environment. However, further  
408 studies are needed to assess the sensory characteristics and acceptability of maize during storage.

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