

# Assessment of the processing profile of six “creole potato” genotypes (*Solanum tuberosum* Phureja Group)

## Evaluación de la aptitud de procesamiento en seis genotipos de papa criolla (*Solanum tuberosum* Grupo Phureja)

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### ABSTRACT

Six diploid potato (“creole potato”, *Solanum tuberosum* Phureja Group) genotypes were grown at the localities of Soacha, Duitama and Mosquera (Colombia) and were assessed for their suitability for industrial processing using Individual Quick Freezing (IQF) as pickled and dehydrated (flakes) potatoes. The following variables were assessed: Percentage of defective tubers, dry weight, specific gravity, “eye” depth, skin type, shape, appearance, color, aroma, flavor and texture. Cultivar Criolla Colombia and clone 98-71.26 showed the best behavior for precooking processing. The best characteristics for IQF and pickling corresponded to tubers with yellow colored peel, round shape, shallow “eyes”, 16 to 20.5% dry weight, 2.5 to 3.5 cm diameter and less than 0.1% reducing sugars. For dehydrated flakes the tubers with 21-25% dry weight, large size and reducing sugars below 0.1% exhibited the best processing behavior. In addition, it was observed that the cultivar’s environmental conditions affect tuber quality and processing type to be performed.

**Key words:** diploid potato, industrial processing, precooked potato, frozen potato.

### RESUMEN

Se sembraron seis genotipos diploides de papa criolla (*Solanum tuberosum* Grupo Phureja) en los municipios colombianos de Soacha, Duitama y Mosquera a fin de obtener información acerca de su aptitud para el procesamiento industrial mediante los métodos de Congelamiento Rápido Individual (CRI), papas en encurtido y hojuelas deshidratadas. Se evaluaron las variables siguientes: porcentaje de tubérculos defectuosos, peso seco, gravedad específica, profundidad de “ojos”, tipo de piel, forma, apariencia, color, aroma, sabor y textura. El cultivar Criolla Colombia y el clon 98-71.26 mostraron el mejor comportamiento para el procesamiento previo a la cocción. Las características principales para CRI y encurtido correspondieron a tubérculos con piel de color amarillo, forma redondeada, “ojos” poco profundos, entre 16 y 20,5% de peso seco, 2,5 a 3,5 cm de diámetro y menos de 0,1% de azúcares reductores. Con relación a las hojuelas de papa deshidratadas los mejores tubérculos para procesamiento presentaron entre 21 y 25% de peso seco, tamaño grande y pocos azúcares reductores (bajo 0,1%). Además, se observó que las condiciones ambientales de los cultivos afectan la calidad del tubérculo y el tipo de procesamiento que se debe implementar.

**Palabras clave:** papa diploide, procesamiento industrial, papa precocida, papa congelada.

## Introduction

In Colombia the name “creole potato” corresponds to morphotypes that develop tubers with yellow skin color and pulp (“yema de huevo” or egg yolk phenotype) (Rodríguez *et al.*, 2009). It has been classified as *Solanum phureja* (Hawkes, 1990); *Solanum tuberosum* Phureja group (Huamán and Spooner, 2002) and recently as *Solanum tuberosum* Andigenum group (Spooner *et al.*, 2007; Rodríguez *et al.*, 2010). This group is conformed by a number of native potato varieties extensively grown in The Andes from the west part of Venezuela to the center of Bolivia (Ghislain *et al.*, 2006). Creole potatoes are grown between 2.000 and 3.000 m.a.s.l. being the optimal

growing height between 2.300 and 2.800 m.a.s.l. (Becerra *et al.*, 2007), temperature values ranging between 10 and 20° C and loamy soils with pH between 5,2 and 5,9 (Pérez *et al.*, 2008). It’s been estimated that in 2010, 136,664 ha potato year<sup>-1</sup> were sown of which creole potato represented approximately 6% with about 8,000 ha year<sup>-1</sup> located in the Colombian departments of Cundinamarca, Boyacá and Nariño (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 2011). The total exportations ascended to about 1.000 t year<sup>-1</sup> (Fedepapa, 2010).

The creole potato stands out for its culinary properties having pleasant flavor and texture, easy cooking, good market acceptance and high exportation potential under various

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forms of processing (Rivera *et al.*, 2006). It is equally worth to highlight as well its nutritional value because there are several genotypes with high contents of protein and dry matter (DM) (Rodríguez *et al.*, 2006) which provide carbohydrates, proteins of high biological value, vitamins (C and B complex), minerals (Fe, Zn, Cu and Ca) and carotenoids (Bonierbale *et al.*, 2004). The creole potato is considered a functional foodstuff due to the presence of secondary metabolites like phenolic compounds, carotenoids and alkaloids (Cisneros-Cevallos, 2008).

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (2006) the creole potato has awakened interest due to its potential as an exportation product, it's considered promissory for its eventual positioning on international markets which confirms the necessity of promoting research on it. The industry of creole potato is a recent activity in expansion although this is not yet evident in the international statistics (Bonilla *et al.*, 2009). Colombia's economical opening has generated opportunities for its commercialization as processed product, in presentations ranging from frozen potatoes packed in plastic bags to canned potatoes, contained using high standards. However, one of the processing constraints is the fact of not having rest period which makes it a very perishable product (Rivera *et al.*, 2006). The consumption of processed potato has increased in the last decades due to changes in markets, the adoption of new dietary patterns, the trend of using precooked food products or of easy preparation and the incorporation of women to the labor market (Bonierbale *et al.*, 2004).

Culture is done on small land extensions generating a variable market in volumes and prices which affects the availability of raw material for the industry and to satisfy the potential international demand (Fedepapa, 2009).

### Parameters for processing

Quality is a concept associated with the form in which a product satisfies the requirements imposed by a specific use. Potato processing requires that quality has certain attributes related to external and internal quality of the tubers (Bonierbale *et al.*, 2001; Gould, 1999), two complementary aspects that constitute key factors for processing companies (Borruey *et al.*, 2001). The demands of consumers and industry are crucial for researching the population demands in relation to the characteristics of the type of potato that has to be produced and its quality requirements (Moreno, 2000).

Among the attributes characterize the culinary quality of potato texture, aroma, taste and color are considered

(Trincherro *et al.*, 2008). Texture is one of the most important parameters for determining sensory quality (Ross and Scanlon, 2004).

### External quality

It is defined by the color of skin and pulp, form and size of the tuber, eye depth and absence of greening and physical defects. Tubers that are deformed, with holes, hollow core, rots or cracks caused by drought are undesirable (Storey, 2007). Size is also important and varies according to the type of product (Andrade, 2002; Bonierbale *et al.*, 2001; Rivera *et al.*, 2006). In creole potatoes the brightness and intense yellow color of the skin and pulp together with absence of defects are the main attributes for both the market of fresh products and processing; sizes may vary from 2 to 6 cm in diameter.

In precooked and frozen potatoes the absence of defects, taste and color of skin and pulp are the attributes that determine the sensory quality of the product while in pickle preparation these are the absence of defects, appearance and color of tuber as well as a translucent brine and in the processing for mashed potatoes the most important one is the texture of the final product (Rivera *et al.*, 2006).

Gómez and Wong (2000) indicate that tubers with a diameter from 2,5 to 4,5 cm must be used for the elaboration of precooked and frozen creole potato. For pickling and preserved food a mean diameter of 2,5 cm and tubers of round and compressed shape are preferred (IICA, 1999). Potatoes for industrial use must possess good flavor, low levels of glycoalkaloids, without darkening and low levels of reducing sugars (RS) (Bonierbale *et al.*, 2001).

### Internal quality

It depends on the chemical composition. Dry matter (DM) has influence on consistency, texture and mealiness and at the same time it determines the value of specific gravity (SG). High contents of DM and low levels of RS are important factors for fresh consumption and constitute an important quality criterion for the majority of processed products (Bonierbale *et al.*, 2001). RS are responsible for the darkening and bitterness of potato, not only when newly harvested but also during postharvest.

According to Moreno (2000) and Rodríguez *et al.* (2006) potatoes of Phureja Group that are found in Colombia's Central Collection have a DM content oscillating between 16% and 27.26 %. In the majority of cases the DM determines the efficiency of the finished product (Moreno, 2000).

Due to the diversity of options for processing and culinary preparation it is very difficult that a sole cultivar can be absolutely suitable for a specific type of use (Borruey *et al.*, 2001). For the industry of potato chips DM contents of maximum 25% are required (Moreno, 2000) while Estrada (2000), Guerra (1989) and Gould (1999) mutually agree to state that potato for canning has to contain less than 18,10% (1,070 SG) being 16.84% the ideal value (1.060 SG). On the other hand Guerra (1989) and Borruey *et al.* (2001) conclude that for elaboration of precooked frozen potato the amount of solids has to be lower than 20.50% (1.070 SG).

Glycoalkaloid levels have to be lower than 13 mg/100 g fresh weight; higher levels produce a bitter taste being chaconine and solanine the most frequent glycoalkaloids (Gómez and Wong, 2002). Phenolic compounds work on the browning of fresh potatoes and in the blackening after cooking or during dehydration. This blackening is caused by the presence of thyroxine and chlorogenic acid in the tuber reacting with iron ions (Estrada, 2000), the immersion of peeled creole potato in a water solution with citric acid avoids this blackening without altering product quality (Fano *et al.*, 1998).

In cooked potatoes the internal quality is determined by consistency, mealiness, humidity, color, aroma, taste and discoloration (Moreno, 2000). Disintegration, consistency and mealiness are related with starch content and separation of cells when cooking the product (Andrade, 2002). Potatoes suitable for cooking have been classified into four types: firm (for potato salad), mealy, very mealy (for soups, consommés and mashed potatoes) and for various purposes (Estrada, 2000).

Products elaborated from dehydrated potatoes comprise flakes, flour, granules, slices and cubes among others. These products can be used as thickeners, cohesive agents, bakery ingredients, as central ingredient of certain dishes or as a secondary ingredient in main dishes. Dehydrated flakes can be used in culinary recipes that require mashed potatoes; they are useful as a base for products such as instant mashed potatoes, croquettes, pasta dishes and processed appetizers.

Moreover, they are a convenient ingredient to include in bakery products as well as in the snack industry (Potatoes.com, 2000). Some companies use mashed potatoes in the fabrication of pies or “empanadas”, a product offered in the principal cities of the country (Corporación Colombia Internacional, 2000).

However, there is still need for getting deeper into aspects related with quality parameters both internal and external and in the different processing options taking into account the demands of both national and international markets.

The objective of this study was to assess the physicochemical and morphological characteristics of six creole potato clones originating from three localities to determine the potential of use in the production of precooked potato (frozen or vacuum packed), pickled potato, in stripes and in dehydrated flakes for mashed potatoes.

## Materials and methods

Six round yellow genotypes originating from the program for genetic improvement of Colombia’s National University were used (Tab. 1); they were cultivated in the localities of Mosquera and Soacha (Cundinamarca) and Duitama (Boyacá) and were previously selected by their skin color and pulp, shape and eye depth and by yield potential (Gutiérrez and Medina, 2000).

### Assessed variables

A physicochemical and morphological characterization was made for each material by taking 20 representative tubers by genotype and locality. The following parameters were determined on them: Dry Matter (DM), Specific Gravity (SG), tuber shape, skin type, eye depth, and color of skin and pulp.

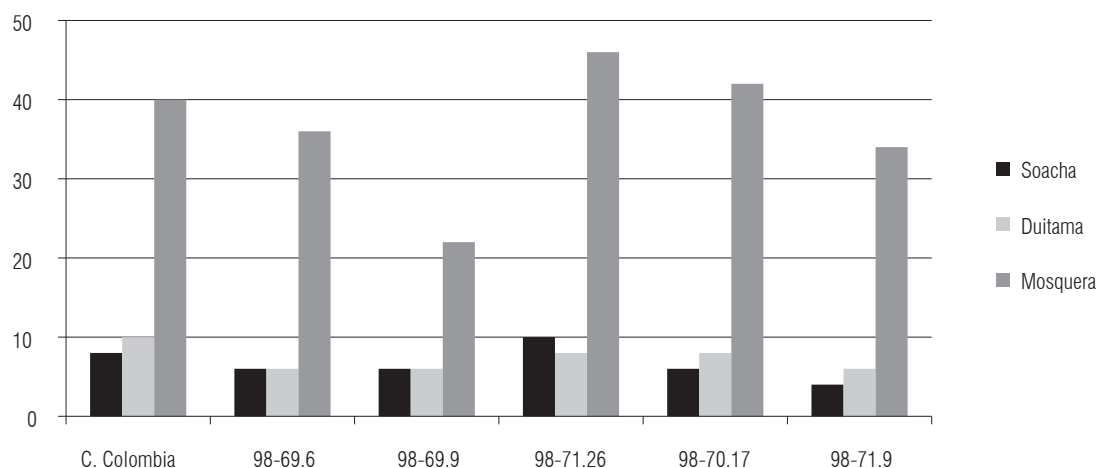
Dry weight was measured by means of drying at 105 °C during two days. On the other hand, SG was determined by the use of the following relationship:

$$SG = \frac{\text{Weight in air}}{\text{Weight in water} - \text{Weight in air}}$$

**TABLE 1.** Genealogy of the evaluated genotypes and yield potential.

Genotype	Genealogy	Yield potential t ha <sup>-1</sup>
98-71.26; 98-71.9	{ <i>S. phu</i> (“Clon 1”) x <i>S. gon</i> (“Amarilla Tumbay”)}	19.4 ; 15.3
98-70.17	{ <i>S. gon</i> (“Amarilla Tumbay”) x <i>S. phu</i> (“Clon 1”)}	14.5
98-69.6; 98-69.9	<i>S. gon</i> (Var. “Amarilla Tumbay”) x <i>S. phu</i> (Var. “Clon 1”)	12.2 ; 13.9
Criolla Colombia	Clonal selection of round and yellow “egg yolk” (yema de huevo) cultivars	13.8

Source: Gutiérrez and Medina, 2000.



**FIGURE 1.** Percentage of defective tubers in fresh condition from each of the evaluated genotypes and localities.

The morphological description scales proposed by Huamán (1994) were used to define parameters as tuber shape, skin type and eye depth. The methodology for evaluating color is described by Rivera (2002).

Data on eye shape and depth was converted to the numerical ranking system and analyzed by Friedman's test. Variables such as specific gravity, fresh weight and dry weight were studied with a completely randomized design with factorial arrangement 3×6 (three localities and six genotypes). In addition, Tukey's test was carried out and a correlation analysis was made.

## Results and discussion

### External quality of the materials

Tuber shape and size, eye depth and absence of damage and physical defects were assessed. Results on the assessment of color of skin and pulp are reported by Rivera (2002). Despite the pre-selection made on the field, percentage differences in external quality of the materials were found. Fig. 1 shows that the tubers originating from Duitama and Soacha are more suitable for processing. The tubers originating from Mosquera showed lower quality possibly due to poor management of insect pests and higher soil compactation. This induced a higher deformation of tubers with malformations and damage caused by insects.

The tubers originating from Duitama showed a larger diameter while those from Soacha were smaller and uniform which agrees with the reports of Rodríguez *et al.* (2006) on this last locality. The tubers originating from Mosquera showed elliptical, oblong, oval and elongated shapes which could have been caused by an extended drought period and/or clay soil.

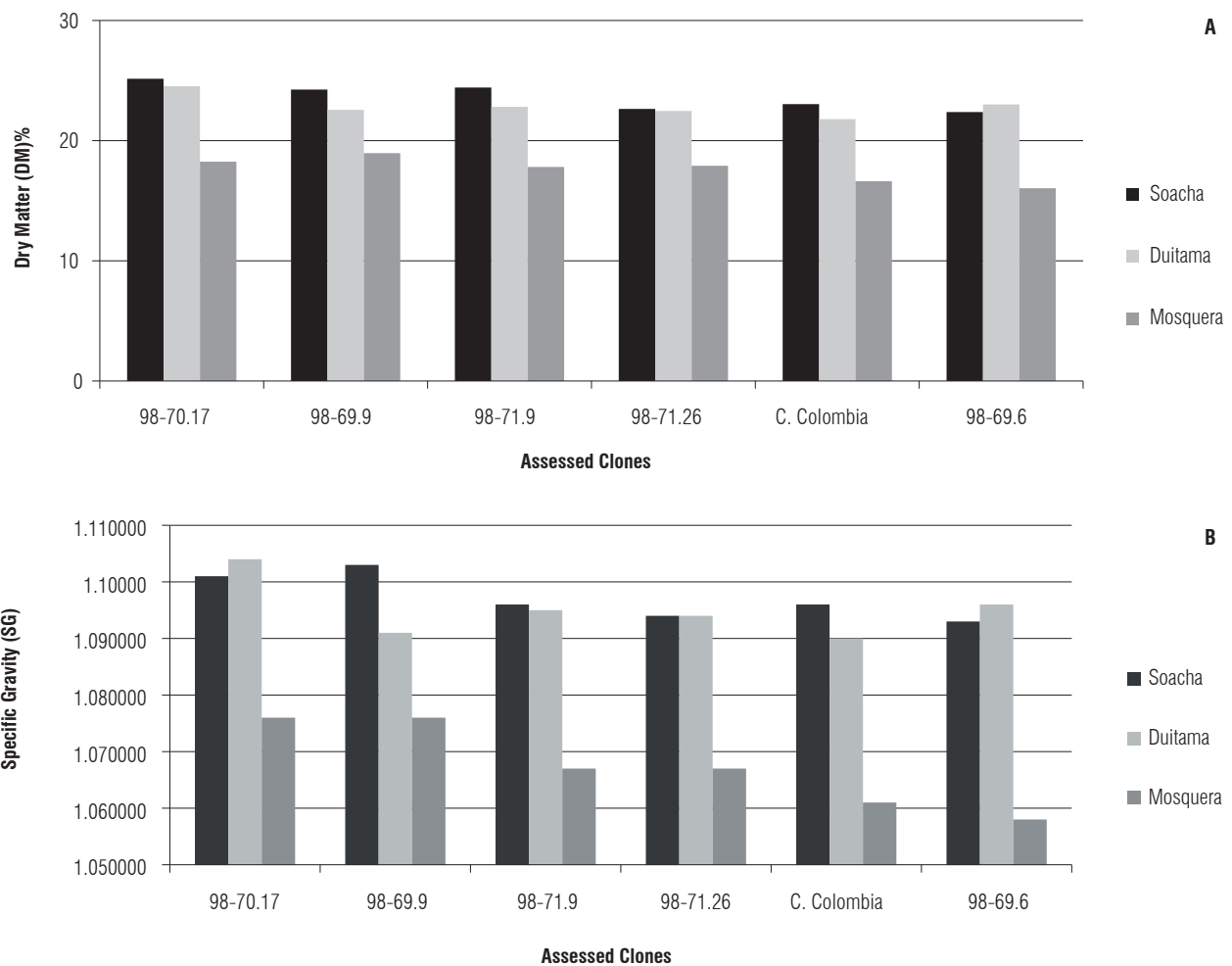
Although statistical differences weren't found between the different tuber shapes (Tab. 2) round tubers were predominant (Tab. 3). Genotypes 98-70.17 and 98-69.9 showed compressed shapes as a consequence of the sustained pulp loss which is inconvenient for the peeling process. In contrast, genotypes 98-71.9, 98-71.26 and 98-69.6 produced round tubers, a characteristic that favors their use for precooked and frozen or pickled potatoes as well as a good acceptance for fresh consumption. Kirkman (2007), referring to white potatoes, states that in order to process them as chips they have to show a relationship near 1.25 between their longitudinal and transverse axis.

**TABLE 2.** Mean squares for internal and external tuber quality variables.

Source of variation	DF	Tuber shape <sup>1</sup>	Eye depth <sup>1</sup>	Dry matter	Specific gravity
Genotype (A)	5	4.45	13.75*	15.4028**	0.0004698**
Locality (B)	2	6.73	6.00*	397.8004**	0.0116461**
A × B	10	-	-	3.2813	0.0001188
Error	90	-	-	4.4643	0.0001208
CV (%)		16.02	41.05	9.87	1.01

DF: degrees of freedom; CV: coefficient of variation; \*: significance at 5%; \*\*: significance at 1%.  
<sup>1</sup> X<sup>2</sup> values determined by Friedman's test.

Eye depth varied statistically between genotypes and localities (Tab. 2) indicating that this character, despite being dependant on genotype as indicated by Li *et al.* (2005), is influenced by environment. Genotypes 98-71.9 and 98-69.6 showed superficial eyes, a characteristic favoring cleaning and peeling while 98-69.9 and 98-70.17 showed medium to deep eyes. The materials originating from Soacha showed more superficial eyes than those from Duitama, a condition that probably is determined by differences in soil texture, taking into account that soils of Soacha are silt loamy, which generates more tension to tubers when there are changes in soil humidity content (Gómez, 2005).



**FIGURE 2.** Average contents of Dry Matter (A) and Specific Gravity (B) showed high correlation, ratifying the observations of Gutiérrez and Medina (2000), Suárez (2001) and Storey (2007).

According to Tab. 3 all genotypes showed smooth skin, a favorable characteristic for processing. Summarizing, genotypes 98-71.9, 98-69.6, 98-71.26 and Criolla Colombia offer the best conditions for peeling processes which are natural in the preparation of chips and mashed potatoes.

### Internal quality

Highly significant differences were observed in the analysis of variance between genotypes and localities for DM and SG (Tab. 3). The differences found at genotype level suggest that the materials have different DM accumulation potential which are probably caused by the origin of the parents with different photoassimilate accumulation capacity. That is how genotypes 98-98-70.17 and 98-71.9 originating from the parental *S. goniocalyx* with high DM content (Fano *et al.* 1998), showed the highest values for this variable as well as for SG. Meanwhile, the control and genotype

98-69.6 showed the lowest levels (Fig. 2). These results, while confirming the findings of Gutiérrez and Medina (2000) and Monroy and Reynales (2001) who tested and initially selected these genotypes in the field, agree with the DM data reported for potatoes for industrial use, this is, between 18% and 26%.

The genotypes from Soacha and Duitama were statistically similar unlike those from Mosquera which showed the lowest levels for these two variables probably due to a higher content of nitrates in soil. This factor stimulates growth of vegetative organs and affects photoassimilate translocation to the tubers preventing their maturation (Monroy and Reynales, 2001). Exempting genotypes 98-69.6 and Criolla Colombia which were cultivated in Mosquera the other genotypes coincide with the SG range (between 1.060 and 1.110) found by Lulai and Orr (1979) in Norchip potatoes for industrial use.

**TABLE 3.** Genotype external quality characteristics in fresh condition.

Genotypes	Locality	Fresh weight (g)	Shape	Skin type	Eye depth
Criolla Colombia	Soacha	25.35	2	Smooth	4
	Mosquera	31.84	2	Smooth	4
	Duitama	37.20	2	Smooth	4
98-71.9	Soacha	29.78	2	Smooth	3
	Mosquera	31.52	2	Smooth	3
	Duitama	30.94	2	Smooth	4
98-70.17	Soacha	23.23	2	Smooth	4
	Mosquera	28.70	3	Smooth	5
	Duitama	30.94	3	Smooth	7
98-71.26	Soacha	23.64	2	Smooth	3
	Mosquera	25.65	3	Smooth	5
	Duitama	35.93	2	Smooth	6
98-69.6	Soacha	23.33	2	Smooth	3
	Mosquera	19.34	3	Smooth	3
	Duitama	34.68	2	Smooth	5
98-69.9	Soacha	38.02	2	Smooth	5
	Mosquera	25.84	3	Smooth	6
	Duitama	34.90	3	Smooth	7

**Shape:** 2 round, 3 compressed; **Eye depth:** 3 superficial, 5 medium, 7 deep.

**TABLE 4.** Potential use for the tested genotypes.

Locality or genotype	Dehydrated					
	Products	Pickles	Precooked	Vacuum packed	Chips (flakes)	French fries
Duitama	X		X	X	X	X
Soacha	X			X	X	X
Mosquera						
C. Colombia	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>		X	X
98-70.17	X*	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X	X*	X*
98-71.9	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X	X	X
98-71.26	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>			
98-69.6	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>		X	X
98-69.9		X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>			

\* If it peels chemically.

<sup>1</sup> Cultivated under conditions of Mosquera.

Fig. 3 shows the differences in DM and SG contents between localities. The tuber growth in the localities of Duitama and Soacha produced more DM than those from Mosquera. The results suggest that under the actual experimental conditions the genotypes produced in the regions of Duitama and Soacha would be more suitable for dehydrated products such as mashed potatoes, chips and snacks. In turn, the genotypes produced in Mosquera would be suitable for canning or other processes involving cooking. As stated by Storey (2007) these variations in DM content between localities can be the result of the action of environmental factors such as intercepted solar radiation, soil temperature, water availability and agricultural practices.

## Potential use for the tested genotypes

Taking into account the different sources consulted and the observations of the present study (Tab. 4) as well as the characteristics of external quality, values of SG and contents of DM, starch and RS reported for these genotypes by Gutiérrez and Medina (2000)<sup>5</sup> the following potential uses are proposed.

The materials growth in Duitama and Soacha, according to the analysis performed, are suggested to be the most suitable for elaboration of dehydrated products, vacuum packed potato, flakes and French fries due to SG values being higher than 1,080. In turn, the tubers originating from Mosquera showed an average value of 1,066 which makes them suitable for elaboration of pickles or precooked frozen potatoes because of presenting SG values lower than 1,080.

Genotypes 98-71.26, 98-69.6, 98-69.9 and Criolla Colombia are considered suitable for elaboration of refrigerated and vacuum packed potatoes due to their SG of 1,100 (25 % DM). Genotype 98-70.17 is considered suitable for dehydration as long as it is peeled chemically since its eye depth and compressed shape determine considerable pulp losses. All genotypes can develop the characteristics necessary for elaboration of precooked frozen potatoes if they are cultivated under height and soil conditions similar to those of Mosquera so that a product which SG is lower than 1,080 (21,05 % DM) can be obtained.

Genotype 98-71.26 is not considered suitable for the industry of chips or French Fries because it exceeds 0,1 % RS (Moreno, 2000) although internationally it is accepted 0,2% to 0,3% for chips and from 0,3% to 0,5% for French Fries (Storey, 2007). For the elaboration of dehydrated products and French Fries it wouldn't be convenient to use genotype 98-69.9 because of its compressed shape and medium depth eyes which causes losses in peeling besides of its pale yellow color.

## Quality parameters for different processing options

Because of the possibilities of industrialization shown by creole potato, of the niches that are being established on the internal and external market of processed products and the necessity of establishing parameters able to define product quality (which at the present time are very scarce or have been defined independently) the following requirements for external and internal quality that creole potatoes have to meet for elaboration of the products presented in Tab.

<sup>5</sup> 0% for genotypes 71.9, 69.9 and 69.6; 0.1% for 70.17 and 0.25 % for 71.26.

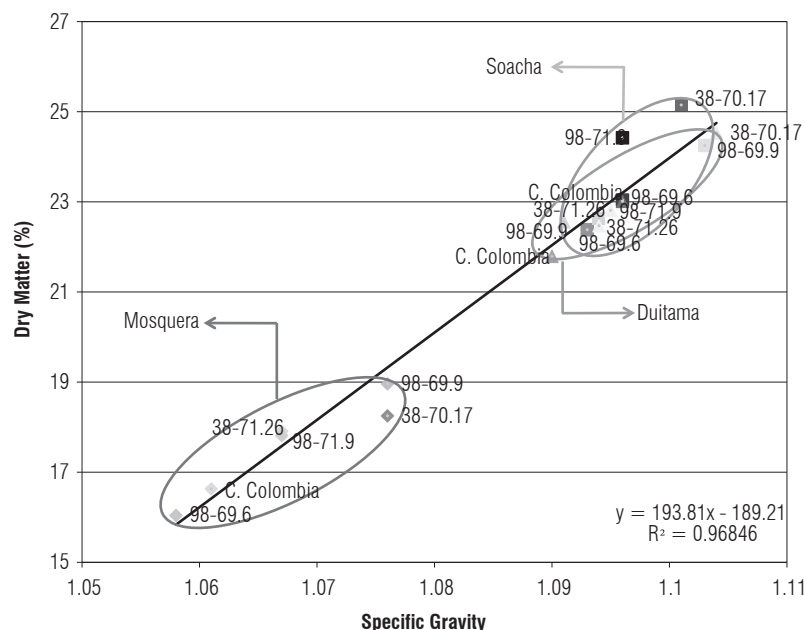


FIGURE 3. Relationship between dry matter and specific gravity.

TABLE 5. Parameters of external and internal quality for creole potatoes for some industrial processes.

QUALITY PARAMETERS	PRODUCT TO BE OBTAINED					
	Dehydrated (flakes or flour)	Canned or bottled	Precooked and frozen	Chips and French fries	Vacuum packed and refrigerated	
Internal	DM (%)	21-25	16-19	18,5-20,5	> 23	> 25
	SG	1,080-1,100	1,055-1,070	1,068-1,070	1,089	> 1,100
	Starch content (%)	14.5-18.5	9.85-12.70	12-14	>16.61	>18,5
	RS	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 0,1	< 1
External	Ø ( mm)	> 4,5* or > 3**	2,5-3,5	2,5-3,5 ***	> 4,5	3-3,5
	Shape	Round	Round to compressed	Round to compressed	Round	Round to compressed
	Eye depth	Superficial* to medium depth **	Superficial to medium depth	Superficial to medium depth	Superficial* to medium depth **	Superficial to medium depth
Sensory	Product appearance	Flakes of uniform size, without strange particles or pieces of skin.	Good distribution liquid - potato, translucent and clear brine	Uniform tubers with low presence of frost. Smooth and turgid skin	Product not greasy or excessively dry. Uniform sticks with absence of spots	Good distribution of the potatoes in the package without evidence of water or vacuum losses
	Color	Uniform, Intense or opaque yellow (Y12A – YO 15B) <sup>1</sup> B <sup>2</sup> > 34,00 Saturation % <sup>2</sup> > 30%	Intense uniform yellow in skin and pulp (Y13A – YO 15B) b > 34,01 Saturation % > 30%	Intense uniform yellow in skin and pulp (Y13A – YO 15B) b > 34,02 Saturation % > 30%	Homogeneous color without evidence of darkening b > 34,03 Saturation % > 30%	Intense uniform yellow in skin and pulp. (Y13A – YO 15B) b > 34,04 Saturation % > 30%
	Aroma and Taste	Nice and balanced, characteristic of creole potatoes	Nice, characteristic of vinegar or brine and as creole potatoes	Nice, characteristic of creole potatoes	Nice, characteristic of creole potatoes. Slightly salty taste	Nice, characteristic of creole potatoes
	Texture	Soft, homogeneous, compact and without clots	Firm and turgid. Not wrinkly nor slippery	Consistent or rigid, slightly sandy	Crackling and firm without crumbling.	Consistent or rigid, slightly sandy

\* If abrasive peeling is applied.

\*\* In case of peeling with lye or others.

\*\*\* Average sizes found in the products for sale at the present time.

<sup>1</sup> Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.

<sup>2</sup> Color parameter for the CIE Lab's System.

5 are suggested. This suggestion is sustained by the results obtained in the present study, by the sources consulted for its development and by the experienced acquired by the authors through the processing of these materials in ways of precooked, pickled and dehydrated potatoes, which results are presented in detail by Rivera (2002).

## Conclusions and recommendations

Raw material for processing purpose has to be selected according to specifications of size and physicochemical characteristics of the product that is going to be elaborated in order to optimize yield and avoid cost overruns in labor at the factory.

The majority of variables, despite being determined by genotype, are affected by environmental conditions. Because of producing tubers with low dry matter contents the locality of Mosquera turned out to be the most suitable for producing tubers destined to the elaboration of precooked potatoes which is the reason why the culture locality had a marked effect on the characteristics and quality of the processed tubers.

On the other hand, genotypes Criolla Colombia and 98-71.26 show high potential for being processed as precooked-frozen or pickled potato because of presenting low precooking loss and good organoleptic characteristics.

For the producer it is important to know the characteristics of the cultivar he is going to sow as well as the adequate culture techniques for obtaining a product that meets market demands. In turn, the industry must know if the tuber acquired is adequate for the process that is going to be performed.

Different quality parameters are proposed for creole potatoes which should be taken into account in the different transformation processes in order to obtain higher yields and quality.

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