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Title: Pickering emulsifiers based on hydrophobically modified small granular starches - Part I: Manufacturing and physico-chemical characterization

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Keywords: Rice; Quinoa; Amaranth; Starch granules; OSA; Pickering emulsions.

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Abstract: Small granular starches from rice, quinoa and amaranth were hydrophobized by esterification with octenyl succinic anhydride (OSA) in an aqueous alkaline slurry to obtain series of modified starches at defined intervals (i.e. 0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4, 3.0%). The physical and the physico-chemical properties of the starch particles were characterized by proximate analysis including protein level, amylose level and dry matter. The shape and size of the starch granules were characterized by scanning electron microscopy and light scattering. The gelatinization properties were characterized by differential scanning calorimetry. The degree of modification was determined by titration with NaOH. With regard to the emulsion formulation and in order to assess the emulsifying capacity of the small granular starches, the effect of starch type, degree of modification and starch concentration on the resulting emulsion droplet size were evaluated by light scattering and optical microscopy. Emulsifying properties were found to depend on the degree of substitution, size of the granules and the starch to oil ratio of the formulation. Quinoa starch granules, in general, had the best emulsifying capacity followed by amaranth and rice. However, in higher starch concentrations (>400 mg/mL oil) and adequate levels of OSA (3.0%) amaranth performed best, having the smallest size of starches studied.

- Small granular starches from rice, quinoa and amaranth were hydrophobized by OSA.
- Starch granules from small granule botanical sources have emulsification capacity.
- Quinoa and rice starch granules have emulsifying capacity in native and modified form.
- Emulsifying properties depend on modification level, size and concentration of starch.
- Quinoa starch granules had the best emulsifying capacity followed by amaranth and rice.

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**Authors: Ali Marefati, Berthold Wiege, Norbert Haase, Maria Matos, Marilyn Rayner**

We would like to thank the reviewers for their useful comments and suggestions on our manuscript titled: “Pickering emulsifiers based on hydrophobically modified small granular starches - Part I: Manufacturing and physico-chemical characterization”. After careful revision and taking into consideration those comments, changes have been made in red in MS word following the editor guidelines and are properly discussed in the following paragraphs.

#### **Reviewer No. 1**

This manuscript deals with the manufacturing and physicochemical characterization of OSA modified starches with small granules. The range of techniques employed is appropriate. However, there are some questions that should be addressed in the list below.

1. In the recent years, there are many papers reported the preparation and physicochemical properties of OSA modified starches. And there are also many reports about the Pickering emulsions made from quinoa, rice and corn starch.

Answer:

Yes, we have clarified this in the manuscript as stated in lines 127-143.

The new text is: “Several reports have been published on emulsifying properties of different types of OSA modified starch granules (Timgren et al., 2013, Simsek et al., 2015, Yusoff and Murray, 2011). In addition, there has been a considerable amount of work on development, characterization and physical and physiological stability of emulsions stabilized by OSA modified quinoa, maize, tapioca, and rice starch granules (Timgren et al., 2011, Rayner et al., 2012a, Marku et al., 2012, Matos et al., 2013, Marefati et al., 2013, Marefati et al., 2017, Song et al., 2014, Yusoff and Murray, 2011, Simsek et al., 2015, Timgren et al., 2013).

Though, a comparison of small starch granules with varying OSA level in incremental steps has not been investigated. In addition, although Bhosale and Singhal (2006) have carried out some research on manufacturing and characterization of OSA modified amaranth where they investigated the emulsification capacity of those starches in molecular form, to the best of authors' knowledge, OSA modified amaranth starch granules have not previously been utilized to stabilize Pickering type emulsions. In addition, there are several studies on physicochemical characterization of rice starch, however, application of different conditions in them makes a direct comparison difficult. Therefore, we investigated the three different starches in the same conditions to be able to compare performance as Pickering emulsifiers as well as document the properties of the granules used.”

2. Line 145-151: The authors isolated rice starch by NaOH-solution. “...the starch suspension was neutralized and spray dried using a spray dryer...at an inlet and outlet temperature of 180°C and 80°C, respectively.” So the starch would be gelatinized during spray drying.

Answer:

During spray drying at 180/80°C no starch gelatinization can occur. We clarified this point as stated in lines 154-169.

The new text is: “At this point it should be noted that spray drying is widely used in the food industry as a gentle drying process which is even used for heat sensitive enzymes (You et al., 2017). In this work, despite the high inlet and outlet temperatures of the air in the spray dryer, moist droplets never reach the air temperature and experience a much lower temperature than the air during drying that is the wet bulb temperature due to evaporative cooling during the constant rate period, Singh and Heldman (2001) and thus gelatinization is avoided. Only at the end of the drying time (3 to 5 seconds) does the temperature begin to rise in the now almost dry particles. The temperature within the water droplets and thus the starch particles during the drying process is always below the outlet temperature of 80°C and after separation in the cyclone the temperature decreases rapidly to about 50°C (below the peak temperature of gelatinization measured in excess water). Furthermore the peak temperature of gelatinization depends on the mass fraction of water in relation to starch (BeMiller and Whistler, 2009). For example, the dried starch with a mass fraction of water of 0.12 gelatinizes at temperatures above 150°C. Since the mass fraction of water during spray drying is quickly reduced from 0.75 to 0.12 no gelatinization occurs. The absence of gelatinization was verified by the SEM photographs of the 3 starches and DSC thermographs described in section 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 below.”

3. Line 156-157: "...the slurry went through enzymatic hydrolysis to assist protein separation ...” What kind of enzyme did the authors used in the study?

Answer:

We clarified this as stated in line 176.

The text now reads: “Thereafter, for improvement of the protein separation from the starch suspension, the slurry went through enzymatic hydrolysis using a commercially available enzyme (Alcalase 2.4 L FG, Novozymes A/S, Bagsvaerd, Denmark) and then mixed with a screw loop mixer (type 50, DMT, Germany) and a high-pressure homogenizer (type 317HD4-3TBS, APV Gaulin, Germany).”

4. Line 161-162: “... the starch was dried using a spray dryer ... at an input and output temperature of 180 °C to 80 °C respectively.” The Peak temp of native quinoa and amaranth starches were only 69.8 and 70.3 °C, respectively. The starches would be gelatinized during spray drying.

Answer:

See answer to comment 2.

5. Line 175-176: “... then in a convection dryer at 30 °C for 4 h,” What kind of convection dryer did the authors used? The temperature is only 30 °C, how to dry the samples?

Answer:

The type of the convention oven is stated in the text and we clarified the drying procedure in lines 195-199.

The text now reads:

“The third sediment was first dried at room temperature over the night and then in a laboratory convection dryer, WTB binder (Type MB6, Binder GmbH, Germany) at 30 °C for 4 h. At this conditions the acetone was quantitatively evaporated and the starch was dried below its equilibrium water content. Finally, in order for the starches to reach their equilibrium moisture content, samples conditioned at room temperature for 2 days”.

6. Line 220: There are some writing errors, such as “(Phosphate buffer (95%, 0.5 mM, pH 7, 0.2 M NaCl)”.

Answer:

We do apologize for the spelling error, we have carefully read and corrected the spelling.

7. Line 307-308: “The particle size distribution graph for the native rice granules showed a bimodal size distribution with small peak around 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and a large peak around 7.6  $\mu\text{m}$ . ”Why did the rice granules show a bimodal size distribution? Did the authors compare this result with the other reports?

Answer:

We have no clarified this in the text as follows and the new text can be found in lines 331-336.

The new text is: “Comparing these results with previous results in the literature, unimodal and bimodal size distribution could be found (Wani et al., 2012, Zuo et al., 2009). The amount of the small granules could depend on botanical source, as well as the isolation process as in some industrial processes the fine granules are lost in the separation step. In addition, depending on the measuring technique, the small peak may not be resolved and instead a wider peak is seen.”

8. Line 323-324: “This can be due to higher protein levels in quinoa and rice which provides additional natural hydrophobic groups.” The proteins have been removed in a low level as showed in Table 1. So I think this explanation is not right.

Answer:

We have provided more facts, calculations, evidence and reference to supporting literature to clarify this. The new text can be found in lines 365-382.

The new text reads:

“The amount of protein present as a minor component in starch granules is dependent on the botanical origin and purification method. According to Baldwin (2001), a substantial part of starch granule associated proteins are located at the surface of the starch granules. Due to the considerable surface area/g of the starches used in this study, which is 1.22, 1.98 and 2.86  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  for native rice, quinoa and amaranth respectively, the presence of these proteins may significantly influence the overall surface properties of starch granules. From the data presented in Table 1, the amount of protein was found to be higher in quinoa than rice (by a factor of 2) and amaranth (by a factor of approximately 6 and 17 for native and modified starches respectively). If we assume that all the proteins are at the surface of the starch granules, the amount of protein/unit area for native rice, quinoa and amaranth will be  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.4 \times 10^{-3}$   $\text{g}/\text{m}^2$  and for the modified rice, quinoa and amaranth we will have

$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.1 \times 10^{-3}$  g/m<sup>2</sup>. Considering the intermediate size of quinoa starch granules with more similarity in size and shape to amaranth, the better hydrophobicity and the higher emulsification capacity of quinoa starch could be explained by this protein level difference. This is further manifested in the case of the native starches where there was no chemical hydrophobization and the trace amount of protein present in amaranth did not create a stable emulsion. It is also due to this higher hydrophobicity that lower amounts of free (non-adsorbed) starches can be seen in particle size measurements for quinoa compared to other starches (see Fig. 4). “

9. Table 326-328: “This higher emulsifying capacity in native quinoa (as well as modified quinoa starches) could be attributed to higher protein level that may results higher hydrophobicity and better interfacial affinity which in turn can result in lower amount of free starch as well.” This explanation is also not right.

Answer:

Please see the answer to comment 8 where we explain this better.

10. Line 344: Figure 4 is not clear.

Answer:

We have increased the resolution of the figure and used a different format to increase the resolution. Note figure 4 is now figure 3. We hope that the image quality is now sufficient.

## **Reviewer No. 2**

In this paper, small granular starches from rice, quinoa and amaranth were characterized by proximate analysis, SEM, DSC and laser diffraction particle size analyzer. And next esterification with octenyl succinic anhydride (OSA) was carried out to increase the hydrophobic properties of these three starches. Finally, the effect of starch type, degree of modification and starch concentration on the resulting emulsion droplet size were evaluated by light scattering and optical microscopy. According to the experiments and results, the paper is not of sufficient novelty and quality to be published in Carbohydrate Polymers. And some suggestions were listed below:

## **Introduction**

1. Line 102-129, it is not necessary to present the characterizations of these three different starches individually.

Answer:

Yes, is not absolutely necessary to present these as separate sections, and since many who are in the field of Pickering emulsions are not starch experts we have decided to include this in the introduction.

## Materials & Methods

2. Line 2.6, the appearance of Pickering emulsions should be added in this paper.

Answer:

We have prepared a new set of samples and photographed them and put the photographs in Figure. 3, to avoid exceeding the total of 8 figure and tables.

We have provided some explanations for the observations in lines 342-382.

The new text is as follows:

**The appearance of the emulsions at all OSA modification levels** and the morphology of the emulsions' droplets produced with 200 mg/mL oil of different starches at 3.0% is presented in Fig. 3. The starch particles can be seen on the surface of the emulsions' droplet which is the characteristic trait of Pickering emulsion. **As can be seen in Fig. 3, these emulsions were not space filling and the droplets formed a sediment in the bottom of the test tubes due low oil fraction and high density of starch compared to the continuous phase respectively which agrees with the previous results for quinoa (Rayner et al., 2012b).** The cumulative and volume frequency particle size distribution of emulsions produced from native and modified starches at all OSA modification levels (i.e. 0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4, 3.0%) at the same oil/starch ratios (200 mg/mL oil) are presented in Fig. 4 and Table 2. There seems to be a negative correlation between the level of modification and droplet size and the amount of free starch at the same oil/starch ratios meaning that the greater the degree of OSA the smaller the resulting emulsions droplet were at the same starch to oil ratio and starch type as can be seen in the right column of Fig. 4. Moreover, the degree of modification appears to be more influential on emulsifying capacity of amaranth. **In addition, the thickness of the emulsions layer increased as the modification level increased. According to (Schröder et al., 2017), inter-particle interactions that are key factor to control the stability of the Pickering emulsions results in formation of three-dimensional network of aggregated droplets in continuous phase as can be confirmed by the micrographs in Fig. 3.** The emulsifying capacity was observed to be higher for quinoa and rice and lower for amaranth at lower OSA levels and this concentration of starch (200 mg/mL). In addition, among different native starches, native quinoa showed to have better emulsifying capacity (Fig. 4, Table 2). This higher emulsifying capacity in native



quinoa (as well as modified quinoa starches) could be attributed to higher protein level that may provide additional hydrophobic groups and results in higher hydrophobicity and better interfacial affinity which in turn can also result in lower amount of free starch as well. The amount of protein present as a minor component in starch granules is dependent on the botanical origin and purification method. According to Baldwin (2001), a substantial part of starch granule associated proteins are located at the surface of the starch granules. Due to the considerable surface area/g of the starches used in this study, which is 1.22, 1.98 and 2.86 m<sup>2</sup>/g for native rice, quinoa and amaranth respectively, the presence of these proteins may significantly influence the overall surface properties of starch granules. From the data presented in Table 1, the amount of protein was found to be higher in quinoa than rice (by a factor of 2) and amaranth (by a factor of approximately 6 and 17 for native and modified starches respectively). If we assume that all the proteins are at the surface of the starch granules, the amount of protein/unit area for native rice, quinoa and amaranth will be  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.4 \times 10^{-3}$  g/m<sup>2</sup> and for the modified rice, quinoa and amaranth we will have  $2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.1 \times 10^{-3}$  g/m<sup>2</sup>. Considering the intermediate size of quinoa starch granules with more similarity in size and shape to amaranth, the better hydrophobicity and the higher emulsification capacity of quinoa starch could be explained by this protein level difference. This is further manifested in the case of the native starches where there was no chemical hydrophobization and the trace amount of protein present in amaranth did not create a stable emulsion. It is also due to this higher hydrophobicity that lower amounts of free (non-adsorbed) starches can be seen in particle size measurements for quinoa compared to other starches (see Fig. 4).”

## Results and discussion

3. 3.1.1, 3.1.2 since a lot of researches have already investigated the properties of rice starch, it is not necessary to do the researches again about the granules properties.

Answer:

We clarified why we have done in lines 139-143.

The new text is:

“In addition, there are several studies on physicochemical characterization of rice starch however, application of different conditions in them makes a direct comparison difficult. Therefore, we investigated the three different starches in the same conditions to be able to compare performance as Pickering emulsifiers as well as document the properties of the

granules used.”

4. Line 326 How to get the conclusion about the relationship between protein content and emulsifying capacity? Please add more experiments to support your idea.

Answer:

We presented some more supporting facts to back up this observation as you can see in answer to comment 8, reviewer 1.

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1 Pickering emulsifiers based on hydrophobically modified small granular starches –

2 Part I: Manufacturing and physico-chemical characterization

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## 8 **Abstract**

9 Small granular starches from rice, quinoa and amaranth were hydrophobized by esterification with  
10 octenyl succinic anhydride (OSA) in an aqueous alkaline slurry to obtain series of modified starches  
11 at defined intervals (i.e. 0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4, 3.0%). The physical and the physico-chemical properties  
12 of the starch particles were characterized by proximate analysis including protein level, amylose  
13 level and dry matter. The shape and size of the starch granules were characterized by scanning  
14 electron microscopy and light scattering. The gelatinization properties were characterized by  
15 differential scanning calorimetry. The degree of modification was determined by titration with  
16 NaOH. With regard to the emulsion formulation and in order to assess the emulsifying capacity of  
17 the small granular starches, the effect of starch type, degree of modification and starch  
18 concentration on the resulting emulsion droplet size were evaluated by light scattering and optical  
19 microscopy.

20 Emulsifying properties were found to depend on the degree of substitution, size of the granules and  
21 the starch to oil ratio of the formulation. Quinoa starch granules, in general, had the best  
22 emulsifying capacity followed by amaranth and rice. However, in higher starch concentrations  
23 (>400 mg/mL oil) and adequate levels of OSA (3.0%) amaranth performed best, having the smallest  
24 size of starches studied.

## 25 **Key Words**

26 Rice, Quinoa, Amaranth, Starch granules, OSA, Pickering emulsions

27

## 28 **1. Introduction**

29 Many food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic products are formulations based on emulsions. Emulsions  
30 are mixtures of two immiscible phases where one phase is dispersed in the other in the form of  
31 small droplets. They can be water continuous in the case of oil-in-water emulsions (o/w) or oil  
32 continuous in water-in-oil emulsions (w/o). Due to the large interfacial area between the finely  
33 dispersed phase droplets and the continuous phase, emulsions are generally not thermodynamically  
34 stable, as there is a reduction in free energy if dispersed phase droplets coalesce, thereby  
35 minimizing the interfacial area. To prevent coalescence and stabilize the droplets, emulsifiers are  
36 used which act by decreasing the interfacial tension between the phases, increasing the steric  
37 hindrances and/or electrostatic repulsion between the droplets (Bergenstahl 2015). Typical  
38 examples include small molecular surfactants, proteins and hydrocolloids. In addition to low  
39 molecular mass and polymeric emulsifiers, particles can also be used to achieve droplet  
40 stabilization. Emulsions stabilized by particles are known as Pickering emulsions named after  
41 Pickering (1907). Pickering particles achieve droplet stabilization by dual wettability towards both  
42 phases. The adsorbed particles provide a steric barrier amongst the newly formed droplets which  
43 result in prevention of coalescence (Sjöö, Rayner et al. 2015). Compared to other stabilization  
44 mechanisms, Pickering emulsions are usually more stable against coalescence and Ostwald ripening  
45 (Aveyard, Binks et al. 2003, Yusoff and Murray 2011). This higher stability is due to higher energy  
46 of detachment of the particles thanks to the large particle sizes (>10 nm). Once these large particles  
47 are adsorbed at the oil-water interface, the energy needed to remove them is several thousand kT as  
48 long as the contact angle is not too close to 0° or 180°. As a result, presence of thick and irreversibly  
49 adsorbed barrier provides highly stable emulsions (Yusoff and Murray 2011, Rayner, Marku et al.  
50 2014). The energy of detachment per particle can be calculated by the following equation:

$$51 \quad \Delta G = r^2\pi\gamma(1 - |\cos \theta|)^2 \quad \text{Eq. 1.}$$

52 Where  $\Delta G$  is the energy of detachment,  $r$  is the particle radius (m),  $\gamma$  is the interfacial tension  
53 between oil and water (N/m), and  $\theta$  is the particle-oil-water contact angle measured through the  
54 water phase (Berton-Carabin and Schroën 2015).

55 In recent years there has been a push towards “green label” and “clean label” in many industries,  
56 especially in food, cosmetics and consumer products (Frost 2013). This trend has two main drivers,  
57 centering on the increase in consumer concerns for health and the environment. With respect to  
58 health, low molecular weight emulsifiers and surfactants have come under scrutiny in topical cream  
59 due to skin irritation (Wahlgren, Engblom et al. 2013), as well as in food where there is a proposed  
60 negative impact on gut health and inflammation (Chassaing, Koren et al. 2015). Furthermore, many

61 surfactants have an unknown fate in the aquatic environment. For these reasons, as well as an  
62 increasing interest in using ingredients that are biodegradable, based on renewable resources, and  
63 perceived as being natural and such, Pickering stabilizers based on biomass have been receiving  
64 increased interest. For recent and comprehensive reviews the interested reader is directed to  
65 Dickinson (2010), Rayner, Marku et al. (2014), Berton-Carabin and Schroën (2015), Rayner (2015).  
66 Examples of Pickering particles include clay, silica, alumina, titanium oxide, latex and starch  
67 (Binks and Lumsdon 1999, Ashby and Binks 2000, Binks and Lumsdon 2000, Binks and Lumsdon  
68 2001, Stiller, Gers-Barlag et al. 2004, Chen, Vogel et al. 2011, Timgren, Rayner et al. 2011, Yusoff  
69 and Murray 2011).

70 Starch is an interesting material as it is one of our major food constituents, a carbohydrate produced  
71 by most green plants as an energy store consisting of a large number of glucose units joined by  
72 glycosidic bonds. Starch consists of two different polymers, amylose and amylopectin. Amylose is a  
73 mainly linear polymer consisting of units of  $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranose with (1-4) glycosidic links and a  
74 few branches attached in (1-6) position. Amylopectin has a similar structure as amylose except that  
75 the polymer is more branched, and hence it is much larger. In native starches, amylose and  
76 amylopectin molecules, along with small amounts of water, are densely packed into partially  
77 crystalline, water-insoluble granules (Eliasson 2004).

78 Although the emulsifying capacities of native starch granules have been observed to be low (Li, Li  
79 et al. 2013, Timgren, Rayner et al. 2013), the hydrophobicity can be increased by chemical or  
80 physical modification. Starch can be chemically modified by treatment with different alkenyl  
81 succinyl anhydrides, for example 2-octen-1-yl succinic anhydride (OSA). The substitution with  
82 OSA can occur at the OH- group of carbon 2, 3 and 6 in the glucose molecule. The most widely  
83 described synthesis pathway is a reaction in aqueous medium under mild alkaline conditions with  
84 starch in its granular form (Trubiano 1986). In addition, modified starch produced through  
85 esterification is tasteless, colorless, odorless, inexpensive, non-allergic and approved food additive  
86 (E1450) and excipient with degree of modification lower than 3% based on the dry weight of starch,  
87 with no limit on application (Timgren, Rayner et al. 2011).

88 Generating Pickering particles based on starch can be achieved in 3 main ways. By dissolving and  
89 precipitation, size reduction of large granules by physical or chemical means, or isolating native  
90 starch granules from botanical sources which have small granules (Saari, Heravifar et al. 2016).  
91 Small particles (or granules) are of interest as the larger the particles, the larger the mass required to  
92 stabilize droplets of a given size. The sizes of starch granules are intrinsic to the botanical source  
93 they are isolated from. Starches have been classified in large granule (30-100  $\mu$ m) including in

94 tubers such as potato and canna; medium granule (5-30  $\mu\text{m}$ ) including starches such as tapioca,  
95 barley, maize, sorghum, small granule (2-10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) including rice, oat, buckwheat, and extremely  
96 small starch granules (0.3-2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) such as quinoa, amaranth, cow cockle and pig weed. Some types  
97 of starch have bimodal sized starch granules including some species of rice, barley, sorghum and  
98 wheat (Hall and Sayre 1970, Hall and Sayre 1971, French 1973, Jane, Kasemsuwan et al. 1994,  
99 Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2004, Pérez and Bertoft 2010).

100 In this work 3 small granule starches of different botanical origin (i.e. rice, quinoa, amaranth) have  
101 been considered as potential candidates as Pickering emulsifiers.

102 **Rice** (*Oryza Sativa*) is a cereal grain which is the staple food for Asian countries (Singh, Okadome  
103 et al. 2000). Rice has small and polygonal granule between 3-9  $\mu\text{m}$  (Juliano 1992, Wani, Singh et  
104 al. 2012). The total starch content of rice grain is 78-83% (Yadav, Sharma et al. 2010, Tran, Shelat  
105 et al. 2011, Ahmed, Tetlow et al. 2015). The reported amylose content ranges from 0.0-33.0% and  
106 the gelatinization temperature range ( $T_o$ - $T_c$ ) of 55-84.6  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  where temperature and  $T_o$  is the  
107 gelatinization onset temperature  $T_c$  is the gelatinization conclusion (Juliano 1992, Singh, Kaur et al.  
108 2006).

109 **Quinoa** (*Chenopodium quinoa Willd*) is a native pseudocereal of Andes in South America which  
110 has been cultivated for 3000-4000 years and constituted an important component in the diet of the  
111 Incan civilization (Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2005, Li, Wang et al. 2016). Recently quinoa has  
112 attracted interest due to its unique characteristics including: high nutritional value due to the quality  
113 of protein and fatty acids and its ability to grow under extreme conditions such as salinity, acidity,  
114 drought, flooding and frost (Gonzalez, Roldan et al. 1989, Przybylski, Chauhan et al. 1994, Li,  
115 Wang et al. 2016). Starch is a major component of quinoa seed which comprises approximately 55-  
116 60% of the dry matter (Mundigler 1998, Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2005). The starch is present in the  
117 form of small polygonal granules in diameter 0.6-3  $\mu\text{m}$  with mean diameter of 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (Atwell,  
118 Patrick et al. 1983, Lorenz 1990, Tang, Watanabe et al. 2002, Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2005). The  
119 amylose content of quinoa is reported to vary between 3.5-27% (Inouchi, Nishi et al. 1999, Qian  
120 and Kuhn 1999, Tang, Watanabe et al. 2002, Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2005) and the gelatinization  
121 temperature ranges from 50-74.9  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Atwell, Patrick et al. 1983, Qian and Kuhn 1999, Li, Wang et  
122 al. 2016).

123 **Amaranth** (*Amaranthus*) is another ancient pseudocereal domesticated in South America (Mundigler 1998)  
124 which currently constitutes a large part of diet in Asia and Africa in addition to South America (Qian and  
125 Kuhn 1999). The total starch content has been reported to be 67.2% (Mundigler 1998). The starch has  
126 small polygonal granules with a mean diameter around 0.8-1.3  $\mu\text{m}$  among different amaranth

127 cultivars (Bhosale and Singhal 2006, Kong, Bao et al. 2009). The amylose content of amaranth has  
128 reported to be in the range of 0-28% (Inouchi, Nishi et al. 1999, Qian and Kuhn 1999, Kong, Bao et  
129 al. 2009) and the gelatinization temperature ranges from 63.4-86.9 °C (Inouchi, Nishi et al. 1999,  
130 Qian and Kuhn 1999, Kong, Bao et al. 2009).

131 Several reports have been published on emulsifying properties of different types of OSA modified  
132 starch granules (Yusoff and Murray 2011, Timgren, Rayner et al. 2013, Simsek, Ovando-Martinez  
133 et al. 2015). In addition, there has been a considerable amount of work on development,  
134 characterization and physical and physiological stability of emulsions stabilized by OSA modified  
135 quinoa, maize, tapioca, and rice starch granules (Timgren, Rayner et al. 2011, Yusoff and Murray  
136 2011, Marku, Wahlgren et al. 2012, Rayner, Sjöo et al. 2012, Marefati, Rayner et al. 2013, Matos,  
137 Timgren et al. 2013, Timgren, Rayner et al. 2013, Song, Pei et al. 2014, Simsek, Ovando-Martinez  
138 et al. 2015, Marefati, Bertrand et al. 2017). Though, a comparison of small starch granules with  
139 varying OSA level in incremental steps has not been investigated. In addition, although Bhosale and  
140 Singhal (2006) have carried out some research on manufacturing and characterization of OSA  
141 modified amaranth where they investigated the emulsification capacity of those starches in  
142 molecular form, to the best of authors' knowledge, OSA modified amaranth starch granules have  
143 not previously been utilized to stabilize Pickering type emulsions. **In addition, there are several  
144 studies on physicochemical characterization of rice starch, however, application of different  
145 conditions in them makes a direct comparison difficult. Therefore, we investigated the three  
146 different starches in the same conditions to be able to compare performance as Pickering emulsifiers  
147 as well as document the properties of the granules used.**

148

## 149 **2. Materials & Methods**

### 150 ***2.1 Isolation of starch granules***

#### 151 ***2.1.1 Rice***

152 Rice starch was isolated in a semitechnical scale. 8 kg of rice were steeped in 16 kg of a 0.4%  
153 NaOH-solution for 16 h at 4 °C to soften the endosperm and enhance protein solubilization. Then  
154 the supernatant was separated, 30 kg of fresh water added and the rice wet milled with a colloid-  
155 mill (150 µm). Afterwards, the protein and fiber were separated from the starch by repeated  
156 centrifugation (decanter) and wet-sieving (vibration sieve) steps. Finally, the starch suspension was  
157 neutralized and spray dried using a spray dryer (type Minor Production, Niro A/S, Denmark) at an



158 inlet and outlet temperature of 180 °C and 80 °C, respectively. At this point it should be noted that  
159 spray drying is widely used in the food industry as a gentle drying process which is even used for  
160 heat sensitive enzymes (You, Zhang et al. 2017). In this work, despite the high inlet and outlet  
161 temperatures of the air in the spray dryer, moist droplets never reach the air temperature and  
162 experience a much lower temperature than the air during drying that is the wet bulb temperature due  
163 to evaporative cooling during the constant rate period, Singh and Heldman (2001) and thus  
164 gelatinization is avoided. Only at the end of the drying time (3 to 5 seconds) does the temperature  
165 begin to rise in the now almost dry particles. The temperature within the water droplets and thus the  
166 starch particles during the drying process is always below the outlet temperature of 80°C and after  
167 separation in the cyclone the temperature decreases rapidly to about 50°C (below the peak  
168 temperature of gelatinization measured in excess water). Furthermore the peak temperature of  
169 gelatinization depends on the mass fraction of water in relation to starch (BeMiller and Whistler  
170 2009). For example, the dried starch with a mass fraction of water of 0.12 gelatinizes at  
171 temperatures above 150°C. Since the mass fraction of water during spray drying is quickly reduced  
172 from 0.75 to 0.12 no gelatinization occurs. The absence of gelatinization was verified by the SEM  
173 photographs of the 3 starches and DSC thermographs described in section 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 below.

#### 174 **2.1.2 Quinoa / Amaranth**

175 Quinoa and amaranth starch were separated according to the semitechnical process of Wilhelm,  
176 Themeier et al. (1998). Raw materials were *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* from Mexico and  
177 *Chenopodium quinoa* from Bolivia. All raw materials were procured as import products. In brief,  
178 the grains were dry-milled and the flour was suspended in water and mixed. Thereafter, for  
179 improvement of the protein separation from the starch suspension, the slurry went through  
180 enzymatic hydrolysis using a commercially available enzyme (Alcalase 2.4 L FG, Novozymes A/S,  
181 Bagsvaerd, Denmark) and then mixed with a screw loop mixer (type 50, DMT, Germany) and a  
182 high-pressure homogenizer (type 317HD4-3TBS, APV Gaulin, Germany). The starch and fiber  
183 were then separated by sieving. The proteins were separated from the starch in two steps, first using  
184 a decanter and then the remaining protein residues were manually removed by centrifugation.  
185 Finally, the starch was dried using a spray dryer (type Minor Production, Niro A/S, Denmark) at an  
186 input and output temperature of 180 °C to 80 °C respectively.

187

#### 188 **2.2 OSA Modification of starch granules**

189 *OSA modification reaction:* 50.0 g of the starch was suspended in 200.0 g distilled water. The pH  
190 was adjusted to 8.2-8.4 by titration with a 0.5 N NaOH solution, and maintained constant during the  
191 reaction. Then a solution of OSA in acetone (100 mg OSA/mL solution) was added within 5-40 min  
192 and the temperature was kept constant ( $32.0 \pm 0.5$  °C). The total amount of added OSA was varied  
193 (0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4 and 3.0% OSA) in relation to the dry matter of the starches. The reaction finished  
194 after 90-120 min. When the pH-value was constant at 8.3, no further addition of NaOH solution was  
195 necessary.

196 *Isolation of the product:* To the reaction slurry 190 g distilled water was added and the slurry was  
197 centrifuged (7 min, 5000 rpm). The sediment (89-92 g) was suspended again in 350 g distilled water  
198 and centrifuged. The second sediment was then suspended in 300 mL acetone stirred for 5 min and  
199 again centrifuged. **The third sediment was first dried at room temperature over the night and then in  
200 a laboratory convection dryer, WTB binder (Type MB6, Binder GmbH, Germany) at 30 °C for 4 h.  
201 At this conditions the acetone was quantitatively evaporated and the starch was dried below its  
202 equilibrium water content. Finally, in order for the starches to reach their equilibrium moisture  
203 content, samples conditioned at room temperature for 2 days.** All yields varied between 50.1 and  
204 51.1 g.

205

### 206 ***2.3 Determination of the degree of modification***

207 2000 $\pm$ 0.5 mg of the modified starches were weighed in a 100 mL Erlenmeyer flask. Then 60 mL of  
208 distilled water was added. The suspension was stirred with a magnetic bar and the pH-value (about  
209 8.4) was adjusted exactly to pH=  $7.0 \pm 0.1$  by addition of 0.1 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (Quinoa: 0.20-0.45 mL;  
210 Amaranth: 0.06-0.36 mL; Rice: 0.27-0.46 mL) until the pH-value was constant at the end of  
211 addition for at least 3 min. Then 20.00 $\pm$ 0.03 mL of a 0.1 N NaOH solution were added and the  
212 Erlenmeyer flask was quickly closed with a stopper to minimize the adsorption of carbon dioxide  
213 from the air. The suspension was then stirred in a water bath at  $35.0 \pm 0.5$  °C for 24 h. The minimum  
214 time of 24 h required for a quantitative hydrolysis of the ester was determined by kinetic studies.  
215 After 24 h, the suspension was cooled to room temperature and the excess of 0.1 N NaOH solution  
216 was back titrated to pH= $7.0 \pm 0.1$  with an 0.1 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution and a pH-meter. All samples were  
217 investigated in triplicate. The blank volume of 0.1 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was determined by a linear or quadratic  
218 extrapolation of the mean values of the titration function. The blank values were 19.786 mL, 19.712  
219 mL and 19.836 mL for rice, quinoa and amaranth starch, respectively.

220

## 221 **2.4 Characterization of starch granules**

### 222 **2.4.1 Proximate analysis (protein, amylose/amylopectin content, dry matter)**

223 The protein level of quinoa starch granules was determined using a nitrogen/protein analyzer (Flash EA 1112  
224 Series, Thermo Scientific, USA). The amylose level (% w/w) determined using a lectin Concanavalin A  
225 assay (Megazyme International, Ireland) which is a modified version of the method developed by (Yun and  
226 Matheson 1990). The dry matter of the isolated and OSA-modified starches was determined according to a  
227 modified version of previous method (Amtliche Sammlung von Untersuchungsverfahren nach § 64 LFGB  
228 Dez 2008). Approximately 1 g of each sample was weighed with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.2$  mg in a dry matter  
229 glass and dried at  $130 \pm 1$  °C for 90 min in a non-convection oven. The dry matter glass was then closed and  
230 cooled for 45 min in a desiccator to room temperature and weighed.

### 231 **2.4.2 Scanning electron microscopy**

232 Starch granules were characterized by scanning electron microscopy (SEM). The dried samples were coated  
233 with gold and examined under SEM (field emission SEM, JSM-6700F, JEOL, Japan) operated at 5 kV with a  
234 working distance of 8 mm. Lower detection imaging mode (LEI) was used to give clear three-dimensional  
235 images of the sample surface. The LEI detector combines both signals secondary and back scattered  
236 electrons during operation.

### 237 **2.4.3 Characterization of gelatinization properties of starch**

238 The gelatinization properties of starch granules were analyzed using a differential scanning calorimeter  
239 (DSC, Seiko 6200, Seiko instruments Inc., Japan), calibrated with indium ( $M_p = 156.6$  °C). Starch  
240 dispersions were prepared and weighed into coated aluminum pans (TA Instruments, USA) at a ratio of 1:10  
241 and gelatinization transition enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ , J/g dry matter), gelatinization onset temperature (°C),  
242 gelatinization peak temperature (°C) and gelatinization conclusion temperature (°C) were determined. The  
243 scanning rate was 10°C/min from 10 to 120 °C.

### 244 **2.4.4 Particle size of starch granules**

245 The particle size distribution of starch granules was determined using a laser diffraction particle size analyzer  
246 (Mastersizer 2000 Ver. 5.60, Malvern, Worcestershire UK). 70 mg of starch was dispersed in a 7 mL of  
247 phosphate buffer (95%, 5 mM, pH 7, 0.2 M NaCl) using a rotor-stator high shear homogenizer  
248 (Ystral D-79828, Ballrechten-Dottingen, Germany) with 6 mm dispersing tool, at 22 000 rpm for 30 s. The  
249 sample was added to the flow system containing MilliQ-water and was pumped through the optical chamber  
250 at a pump velocity of 2000 rpm. The refractive index (RI) of the starch was set to 1.54 (Bromley and  
251 Hopkinson 2002) and the RI of the continuous phase was set to 1.33 (water) and the obscuration was  
252 between 10 and 20%. This is referred as starch buffer mix (SBM) throughout the text.

253

## 254 **2.5 Formulations and Emulsification**

### 255 **2.5.1 Formulation with varying levels of OSA**

256 5% v/v oil-in-water starch granules stabilized emulsions were prepared using Miglyol 812 (Caesar  
257 & Loretz GmbH, Germany) as dispersed phase, phosphate buffer (95%, 5 mM, pH 7, 0.2 M NaCl)  
258 as continuous phase and starch granules from 3 different botanical origins (i.e. rice, quinoa and  
259 amaranth) in native and different modification levels from 0.6-3.0% OSA to stabilize the emulsions.

260 7 mL emulsions were prepared in a glass test tube using 5% v/v of the dispersed phase and 95% of  
261 aqueous phase. 200 mg of starch/mL oil was used to stabilize the emulsions. The emulsions were  
262 homogenized using a rotor-stator high shear homogenizer (Ystral D-79828, Ballrechten-Dottingen,  
263 Germany) with 6 mm dispersing tool, at 22 000 rpm for 30 s. The samples were prepared in  
264 duplicates. **The appearance of these emulsions are presented in Fig. 3.** Thereafter the emulsions  
265 were characterized as described below in section 2.6.

### 266 **2.5.2 Formulation with varying levels of starch**

267 5% v/v oil-in-water starch granules stabilized emulsions were prepared using Miglyol 812 (Caesar  
268 & Loretz GmbH, Germany) as dispersed phase, phosphate buffer (95%, 5 mM, pH 7, 0.2 M NaCl)  
269 and starch granules from the 3 different botanical origin (i.e. rice, quinoa and amaranth) with 3.0%  
270 OSA modification to stabilize the emulsions (this is described in section 2.4.4).

271 7 mL of emulsions were prepared in a glass test tube using 5% v/v of the dispersed phase and 95%  
272 of aqueous phase. Different amounts of starch namely 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 mg/mL oil were  
273 added to stabilize the emulsions. The emulsions and the starch dispersions were homogenized using  
274 a rotor-stator high shear homogenizer (Ystral D-79828, Ballrechten-Dottingen, Germany) with 6  
275 mm dispersing tool, at 22 000 rpm for 30 s. Thereafter, the emulsions were characterized as  
276 described below in section 2.6.

277

## 278 **2.6 Emulsion characterization**

### 279 **2.6.1 Particle size distributions of Starch Pickering Emulsions**

280 The particle size distributions of the starch granule stabilized emulsions were characterized with a  
281 laser diffraction particle size analyzer, Mastersizer 2000 (Malvern Instruments, UK). Each emulsion

282 was added to the flow system (Hydro SM small volume wet dispersion unit) containing MilliQ-  
283 water and was then pumped through the optical chamber where it was measured. The refractive  
284 index of starch particles was set to 1.54 (Bromley and Hopkinson 2002) and the refractive index of  
285 the continuous phase was set to 1.33 which is the refractive index of the water and the obscuration  
286 was between 10 and 20%. For each emulsion sample added to the flow system three measurements  
287 were performed, and all emulsions were prepared in duplicates and analyzed 3 times.

## 288 **2.6.2 Microscopy**

289 The emulsions were characterized by light microscopy using a camera (DFK 41AF02, The Imaging  
290 Source, Germany) that was attached to a light microscope (Olympus BX50, Japan) and both were  
291 connected to a computer. The emulsions were diluted 5 times with MilliQ water and then one drop  
292 was placed on a glass microscopic slide. In order to prevent deformation of droplets no cover glass  
293 was used. The microscopic images were taken using objective magnifications of 20× and 50×.

294

## 295 **3. Results and discussion**

### 296 **3.1 Granules**

#### 297 **3.1.1 Proximate analysis and degree of modification**

298 The protein level of starches was highest for quinoa 0.538-0.687 followed by rice 0.271-0.328%  
299 and the lowest was amaranth with 0.032-0.112% (Table 1). Moreover, the protein content of native  
300 samples showed higher values which may be due to solubilization of proteins during modification  
301 as a result of exposure to alkali solution or being washed away by acetone at the end of  
302 modification process which could also result in further removal of proteins.

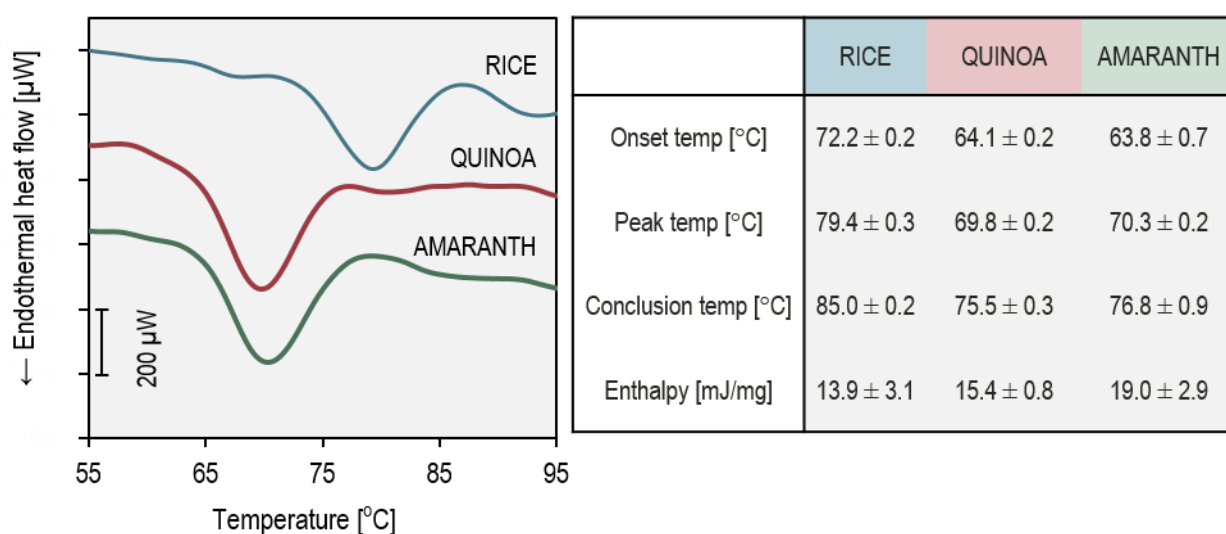
303 The amylose content of starches was lower for rice 4.43%±0.78 and somewhat similar for quinoa  
304 and amaranth with 20.95%±0.45 and 20.90%±0.98 which fall within the range of previous results in  
305 the literature (Juliano 1992, Inouchi, Nishi et al. 1999, Qian and Kuhn 1999, Tang, Watanabe et al.  
306 2002, Lindeboom, Chang et al. 2005, Singh, Kaur et al. 2006, Kong, Bao et al. 2009).

#### 307 **3.1.2 Gelatinization properties of starch**

308 The gelatinization temperature range ( $T_o$ - $T_c$ ) of different starches was the highest for rice 72.2-85.0  
309 °C which was similar to the previously reported values in the literature and lower for quinoa and  
310 amaranth with 64.1-75.5 °C and 63.8-76.8 °C respectively which again was similar previously

311 reported values (Atwell, Patrick et al. 1983, Inouchi, Nishi et al. 1999, Qian and Kuhn 1999, Singh,  
 312 Kaur et al. 2006, Kong, Bao et al. 2009, Li, Wang et al. 2016) (Fig. 1).

313 The higher gelatinization range for rice can be attributed to the higher amylopectin content since  
 314 according to Fredriksson, Silverio et al. (1998) starch crystallinity increases with amylopectin  
 315 content, and hence, starches with higher amylopectin content (i.e. lower amylose content) would  
 316 expect to have higher onset, peak and conclusion temperature. In the same way both similarity and  
 317 lower gelatinization range of quinoa and amaranth compared to rice can be described by similar and  
 318 lower amylopectin content of those corresponding starches.



319  
 320 **Figure 1.** DSC thermogram and thermal properties data for gelatinization of starches in buffer.

### 321 3.1.3 OSA modification

322 Different amount of OSA was bond to the starches at the same level of added OSA (i.e. 0.6, 1.2,  
 323 1.8, 2.4, 3.0) for different starches with different botanical origin (Table 1). Table 1 shows that the  
 324 OSA reaction efficiency (RE) was the highest for quinoa, followed by amaranth and it was lowest  
 325 for rice modified starches. The RE values for rice, quinoa and amaranth varied between 0.783-  
 326 0.840, 0.903-0.987 and 0.862-0.918 and among all added OSA points respectively.

327 **Table 1.** Proximate Analysis and OSA levels

RICE					
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)
R-Native	89.3±0.00	0	0	-	0.328±0.000
R-OSA-0.6	87.5±0.12	0.46 ± 0.01	0.0036	0.783	0.278±0.000

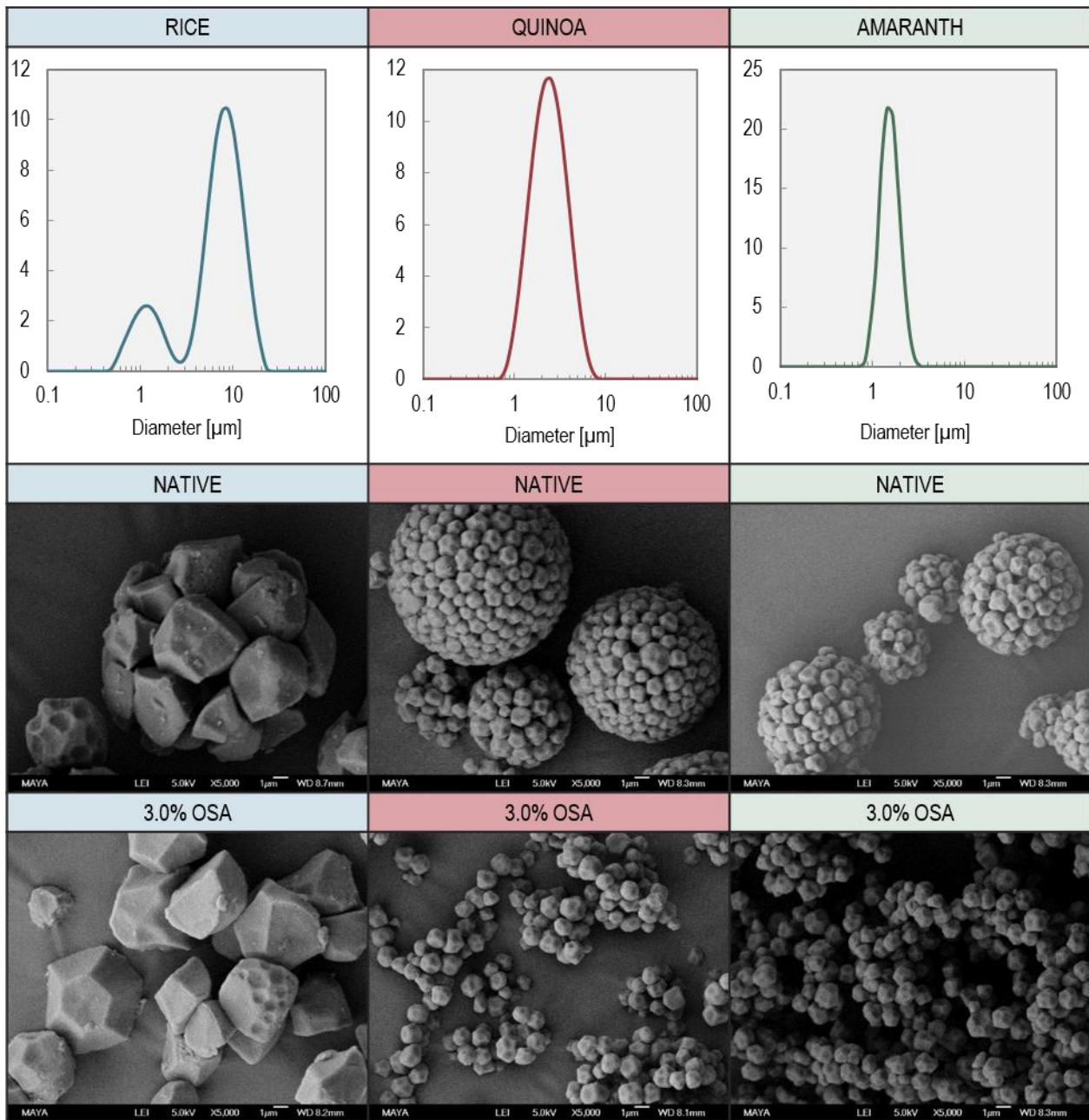
R-OSA-1.2	87.4±0.00	0.97 ± 0.03	0.0077	0.840	0.274±0.005
R-OSA-1.8	87.7±0.04	1.40 ± 0.05	0.0108	0.808	0.272±0.005
R-OSA-2.4	87.7±0.11	1.90 ± 0.05	0.0149	0.828	0.274±0.001
R-OSA-3.0	87.5±0.01	2.36 ± 0.02	0.0186	0.827	0.271±0.001
QUINOA					
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)
Q- Native	88.6±0.04	0	0	-	0.687±0.001
Q-OSA-0.6	87.7±0.20	0.58 ± 0.01	0.0045	0.987	0.570±0.006
Q-OSA-1.2	87.6±0.25	1.14 ± 0.04	0.0091	0.979	0.548±0.003
Q-OSA-1.8	87.3±0.01	1.67 ± 0.02	0.0130	0.958	0.538±0.004
Q-OSA-2.4	87.7±0.06	2.13 ± 0.04	0.0168	0.923	0.547±0.002
Q-OSA-3.0	87.7±0.59	2.59 ± 0.02	0.0205	0.903	0.539±0.025
AMARANTH					
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)
A-native	88.8±0.08	0	0	-	0.112±0.030
A-OSA-0.6	87.6±0.14	0.53±0.02	0.0041	0.908	0.036±0.001
A-OSA-1.2	87.8±0.21	1.07±0.01	0.0084	0.918	0.033±0.001
A-OSA-1.8	87.9±0.13	1.50±0.02	0.0117	0.862	0.032±0.001
A-OSA-2.4	88.2±0.18	2.06±0.03	0.0161	0.893	0.032±0.004
A-OSA-3.0	88.3±0.14	2.62±0.02	0.0208	0.915	0.032±0.004

328

### 329 **3.1.4 Size and morphology of starch granules**

330 The size distribution and granule morphology of native and 3.0% OSA modified rice, quinoa, and  
331 amaranth can be observed in Fig. 2. The details of particle size values for native starches can be  
332 found in Table 2. The volume mean diameter (D<sub>4,3</sub>) was consistent with what was expected with  
333 rice being the largest (6.92 μm) followed by quinoa (2.44 μm) and amaranth (1.48 μm) and comply  
334 with former results in the literature. The particle size distribution graph for the native rice granules  
335 showed a bimodal size distribution with small peak around 1 μm and a large peak around 7.6 μm.  
336 Comparing these results with previous results in the literature, unimodal and bimodal size  
337 distribution could be found (Zuo, Knoerzer et al. 2009, Wani, Singh et al. 2012). The amount of the  
338 small granules could depend on botanical source, as well as the isolation process as in some  
339 industrial processes the fine granules are lost in the separation step. In addition, depending on the  
340 measuring technique, the small peak may not be resolved and instead a wider peak is seen.





341

342 **Figure 2.** Size and morphology of granules. Top row: Particle size distribution of starch in buffer dispersions for Rice,  
 343 Quinoa, and Amaranth. Middle row: SEM images of the various native starch granules. Bottom row: SEM images of the  
 344 various starch granules after 3.0% OSA modification.

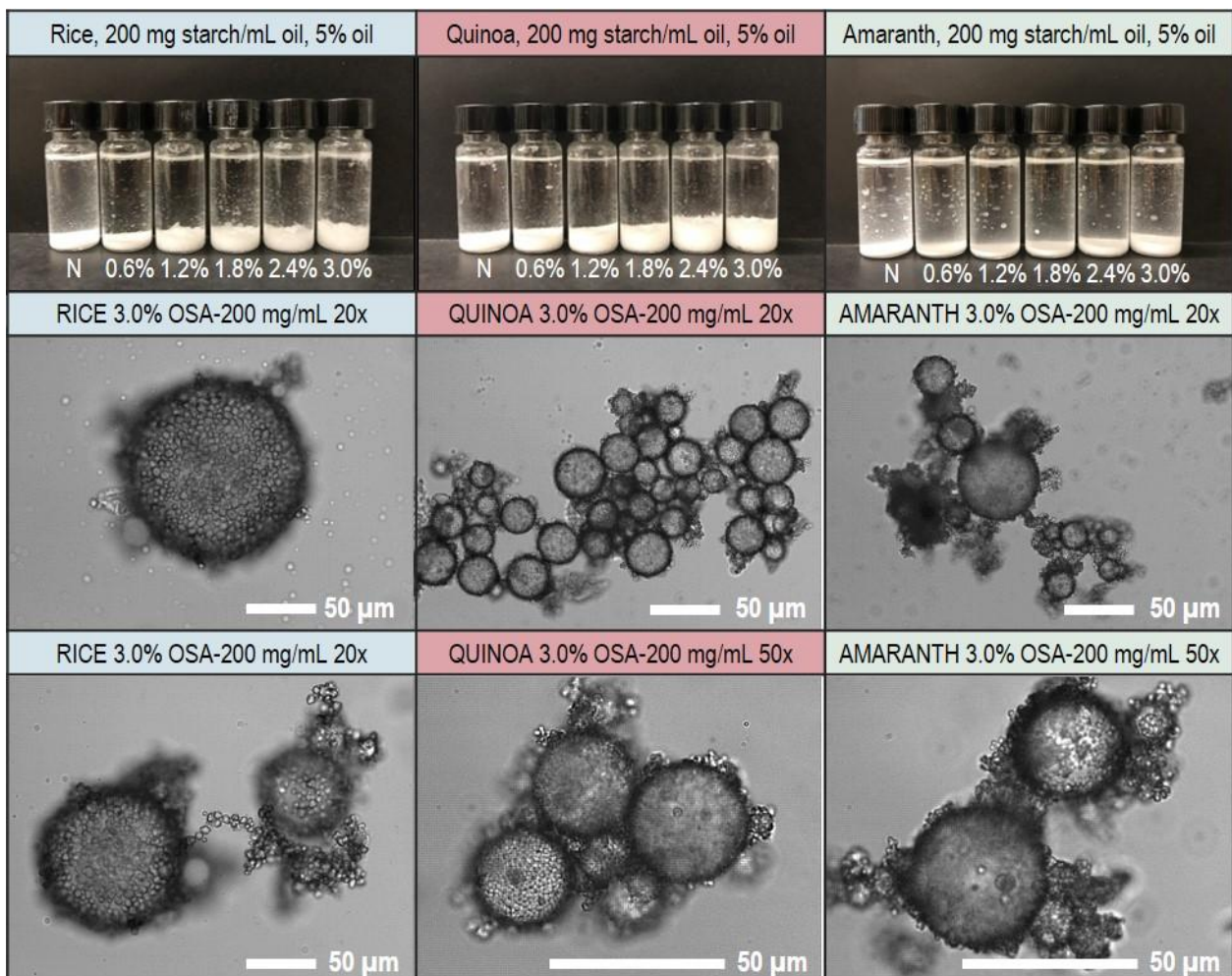
345 **3.2 Effect of the degree of OSA modification on the emulsifying capacity**

346 **The appearance of the emulsions at all OSA modification levels** and the morphology of the  
 347 emulsions' droplets produced with 200 mg/mL oil of different starches at 3.0% is presented in Fig.  
 348 3. The starch particles can be seen on the surface of the emulsions' droplet which is the  
 349 characteristic trait of Pickering emulsion. **As can be seen in Fig. 3, these emulsions were not space**  
 350 **filling and the droplets formed a sediment in the bottom of the test tubes due low oil fraction and**  
 351 **high density of starch compared to the continuous phase respectively which agrees with the**

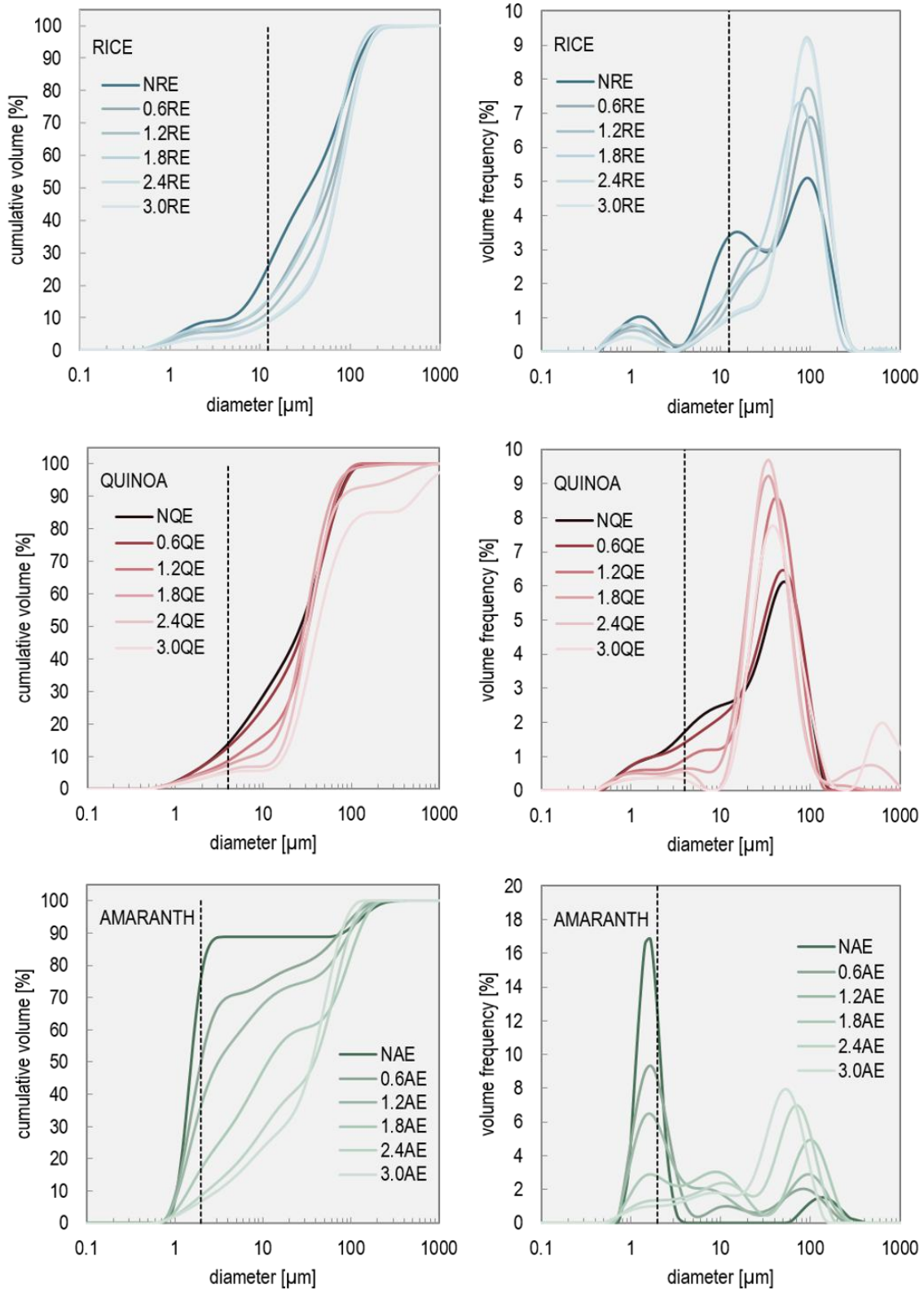


352 previous results for quinoa (Rayner, Timgren et al. 2012). The cumulative and volume frequency  
353 particle size distribution of emulsions produced from native and modified starches at all OSA  
354 modification levels (i.e. 0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4, 3.0%) at the same oil/starch ratios (200 mg/mL oil) are  
355 presented in Fig. 4 and Table 2. There seems to be a negative correlation between the level of  
356 modification and droplet size and the amount of free starch at the same oil/starch ratios meaning  
357 that the greater the degree of OSA the smaller the resulting emulsions droplet were at the same  
358 starch to oil ratio and starch type as can be seen in the right column of Fig. 4. Moreover, the degree  
359 of modification appears to be more influential on emulsifying capacity of amaranth. In addition, the  
360 thickness of the emulsions layer increased as the modification level increased. According to  
361 (Schröder, Sprakel et al. 2017), inter-particle interactions that are key factor to control the stability  
362 of the Pickering emulsions results in formation of three-dimensional network of aggregated droplets  
363 in continuous phase as can be confirmed by the micrographs in Fig. 3. The emulsifying capacity  
364 was observed to be higher for quinoa and rice and lower for amaranth at lower OSA levels and this  
365 concentration of starch (200 mg/mL). In addition, among different native starches, native quinoa  
366 showed to have better emulsifying capacity (Fig. 4, Table 2). This higher emulsifying capacity in  
367 native quinoa (as well as modified quinoa starches) could be attributed to higher protein level that  
368 may provide additional hydrophobic groups and results in higher hydrophobicity and better  
369 interfacial affinity which in turn can also result in lower amount of free starch as well. The amount  
370 of protein present as a minor component in starch granules is dependent on the botanical origin and  
371 purification method. According to Baldwin (2001), a substantial part of starch granule associated  
372 proteins are located at the surface of the starch granules. Due to the considerable surface area/g of  
373 the starches used in this study, which is 1.22, 1.98 and 2.86 m<sup>2</sup>/g for native rice, quinoa and  
374 amaranth respectively, the presence of these proteins may significantly influence the overall surface  
375 properties of starch granules. From the data presented in Table 1, the amount of protein was found  
376 to be higher in quinoa than rice (by a factor of 2) and amaranth (by a factor of approximately 6 and  
377 17 for native and modified starches respectively). If we assume that all the proteins are at the  
378 surface of the starch granules, the amount of protein/unit area for native rice, quinoa and amaranth  
379 will be  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.4 \times 10^{-3}$  g/m<sup>2</sup> and for the modified rice, quinoa and amaranth we will  
380 have  $2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.1 \times 10^{-3}$  g/m<sup>2</sup>. Considering the intermediate size of quinoa starch granules  
381 with more similarity in size and shape to amaranth, the better hydrophobicity and the higher  
382 emulsification capacity of quinoa starch could be explained by this protein level difference. This is  
383 further manifested in the case of the native starches where there was no chemical hydrophobization  
384 and the trace amount of protein present in amaranth did not create a stable emulsion. It is also due to  
385 this higher hydrophobicity that lower amounts of free (non-adsorbed) starches can be seen in  
386 particle size measurements for quinoa compared to other starches (see Fig. 4). Vertical dashed lines

387 in Fig. 4 are the  $d(90)$  of the size distribution of starch granules dispersed in buffer. This gives an  
 388 indication of the degree of free starch in the system. For amaranth in particular, there is a very high  
 389 amount of free starch observed in the particle size distribution seen as a peak in the 1-2  $\mu\text{m}$  range.  
 390 By looking at the cumulative plot we can note that for native amaranth, there was no effective  
 391 droplet stabilization as the majority of the oil was phase separated and 80% of the starch remained  
 392 free in the continuous phase. Furthermore, between 30% and 50% of the cumulative volume of  
 393 particles measured in the samples for 0.6% OSA, and 1.2% OSA amaranth starch stabilized  
 394 emulsions were present as free starch and not adsorbed at the oil-water interface. For similar  
 395 degrees of modification in quinoa the volume of free starch is observed to be in the range of 8 to  
 396 12% (see left column of Fig. 4). **Therefore, the precise influence of the surface proteins of starch**  
 397 **granules with respect to the optimization of emulsification capacity of starch granules could be**  
 398 **topic of further investigations.**



399  
 400 **Figure 3.** Images of starch granule stabilized emulsions (top row), Optical micrographs of 3.0% OSA modified starch  
 401 granule stabilized emulsions (200 mg starch / mL oil) (two bottom rows)



402

403 **Figure 4.** Particle size distributions (left cumulative and right frequency) of starch granule stabilized emulsions (200 mg  
 404 starch/mL oil) for various levels of OSA modification: native emulsion, 0.6% OSA, 1.2%, 1.8%, 2.4%, 3.0%. Vertical  
 405 dashed lines are  $d_{90}$  of the granules size Rice: 12.3  $\mu\text{m}$ , Quinoa 3.93  $\mu\text{m}$ , and Amaranth 1.97  $\mu\text{m}$  respectively.

406 **Table 2.** Different size measurements for: native starch granules dispersed in buffer, native emulsion, 0.6% OSA  
 407 emulsion, 1.2% OSA emulsion, 1.8% OSA emulsion, 2.4% OSA emulsion, 3.0% OSA emulsion for rice, quinoa and  
 408 amaranth respectively.

RICE					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NRSBM	7.69±0.12	6.92±0.17	1.66±0.01	3.29±0.15	6.77±0.14
NRE	90.2±12.2	52.9±4.95	3.58±0.53	7.88±0.49	34.7±2.39
0.6RE	94.4±11.5	66.3±12.3	2.50±0.71	10.5±2.66	56.3±17.7
1.2RE	36.0±8.68	23.9±6.50	1.50±0.19	11.7±1.75	65.1±5.10
1.8RE	42.2±5.00	27.8±2.35	1.50±0.28	9.27±0.67	50.3±3.45
2.4RE	87.8±12.9	80.8±12.8	1.73±0.06	15.6±1.70	74.9±10.9
3.0RE	86.8±6.84	76.6±5.99	1.77±0.10	15.2±1.79	72.2±4.56
QUINOA					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NQSBM	2.22±0.15	2.44±0.10	1.21±0.06	2.02±0.09	2.22±0.11
NQE	47.8±5.33	32.6±3.39	2.61±0.13	7.36±0.41	26.9±3.79
0.6QE	46.1±7.82	34.3±4.07	2.40±0.11	7.86±0.64	29.6±4.43
1.2QE	39.2±2.13	35.2±2.26	1.91±0.05	9.86±0.63	32.6±2.39
1.8QE	31.8±0.66	34.5±3.59	1.83±0.07	10.3±0.39	29.3±0.90
2.4QE	31.8±1.32	62.1±4.75	2.67±1.47	13.4±0.85	32.5±2.11
3.0QE	36.4±4.18	48.2±8.19	1.88±0.08	13.6±2.04	36.7±4.17
AMARANTH					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NASBM	1.42±0.03	1.48±0.03	0.63±0.01	1.40±0.03	1.43±0.03
NAE	No emulsion	-	-	-	-
0.6AE	1.52±2.08	18.9±0.12	36.5±4.92	2.05±0.10	1.99±0.09
1.2AE	1.50±0.10	26.3±6.72	29.0±1.22	2.57±0.22	3.30±0.73
1.8AE	95.0±9.48	42.6±3.09	10.6±2.53	4.47±0.35	11.7±2.31
2.4AE	66.1±1.46	43.0±0.92	2.44±0.06	7.15±0.18	38.3±0.32
3.0AE	49.8±0.28	37.9±1.02	2.09±0.06	8.19±0.40	35.7±1.18

409

### 410 **3.3 Effect of starch concentration on emulsion droplet size**

411 The particle size distribution values and particle size distribution as a function of starch  
 412 concentration for 3.0% OSA level can be found in Table 3 and Fig. 5. Except in very low  
 413 concentration for rice and amaranth modified starches, there was a negative correlation between the  
 414 amount of starch and the particle size. It was shown that modified quinoa starch had a good overall

415 emulsifying capacity and it was the best emulsifier in the lower starch concentrations among the  
 416 starch varieties tested. Furthermore, it was also shown that, in higher concentrations of starch and  
 417 adequate level of OSA modification, (>400 mg/mL oil) amaranth had the highest emulsification  
 418 capacity among the different starches.

419 **Table 3.** Different size measurements for: 3.0% OSA modified starch emulsions, with 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 mg starch/  
 420 mL of oil for rice, quinoa, and amaranth respectively.

RICE					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	123.2 $\pm$ 17.5	101.6 $\pm$ 11.79	1.86 $\pm$ 0.09	19.8 $\pm$ 2.83	97.4 $\pm$ 10.44
100 mg/mL	131.0 $\pm$ 15.0	107.8 $\pm$ 9.67	1.79 $\pm$ 0.06	24.1 $\pm$ 0.88	103.9 $\pm$ 8.76
200 mg/mL	95.6 $\pm$ 7.59	80.6 $\pm$ 6.45	1.89 $\pm$ 0.15	18.8 $\pm$ 1.60	74.6 $\pm$ 5.25
400 mg/mL	51.9 $\pm$ 2.31	49.9 $\pm$ 4.04	1.90 $\pm$ 0.08	13.7 $\pm$ 0.74	44.2 $\pm$ 2.45
800 mg/mL	28.6 $\pm$ 4.29	34.0 $\pm$ 2.78	2.06 $\pm$ 0.20	9.34 $\pm$ 1.01	26.0 $\pm$ 3.74
QUINOA					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	104.5 $\pm$ 9.29	104.80 $\pm$ 7.66	1.16 $\pm$ 0.18	35.0 $\pm$ 4.28	99.9 $\pm$ 6.47
100 mg/mL	67.6 $\pm$ 1.29	69.6 $\pm$ 2.91	1.12 $\pm$ 0.10	24.9 $\pm$ 0.57	66.0 $\pm$ 1.78
200 mg/mL	32.7 $\pm$ 1.09	48.8 $\pm$ 3.13	2.49 $\pm$ 0.29	14.9 $\pm$ 0.57	34.9 $\pm$ 1.17
400 mg/mL	25.6 $\pm$ 3.13	35.8 $\pm$ 2.58	2.34 $\pm$ 0.78	10.7 $\pm$ 1.29	25.7 $\pm$ 2.49
800 mg/mL	18.7 $\pm$ 0.71	20.7 $\pm$ 2.68	1.55 $\pm$ 0.04	8.34 $\pm$ 0.42	17.6 $\pm$ 0.89
AMARANTH					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	128.9 $\pm$ 14.0	100.3 $\pm$ 9.77	1.89 $\pm$ 0.03	13.4 $\pm$ 0.48	100.6 $\pm$ 9.61
100 mg/mL	74.5 $\pm$ 4.57	46.7 $\pm$ 7.10	3.11 $\pm$ 0.83	7.21 $\pm$ 0.81	36.9 $\pm$ 12.81
200 mg/mL	45.4 $\pm$ 9.54	38.2 $\pm$ 2.24	3.34 $\pm$ 0.76	6.89 $\pm$ 0.27	27.1 $\pm$ 3.56
400 mg/mL	15.6 $\pm$ 8.15	23.5 $\pm$ 1.70	5.05 $\pm$ 2.22	4.94 $\pm$ 0.69	12.2 $\pm$ 3.31
800 mg/mL	11.6 $\pm$ 2.85	12.0 $\pm$ 0.29	3.28 $\pm$ 0.36	3.78 $\pm$ 0.09	8.15 $\pm$ 0.96

421

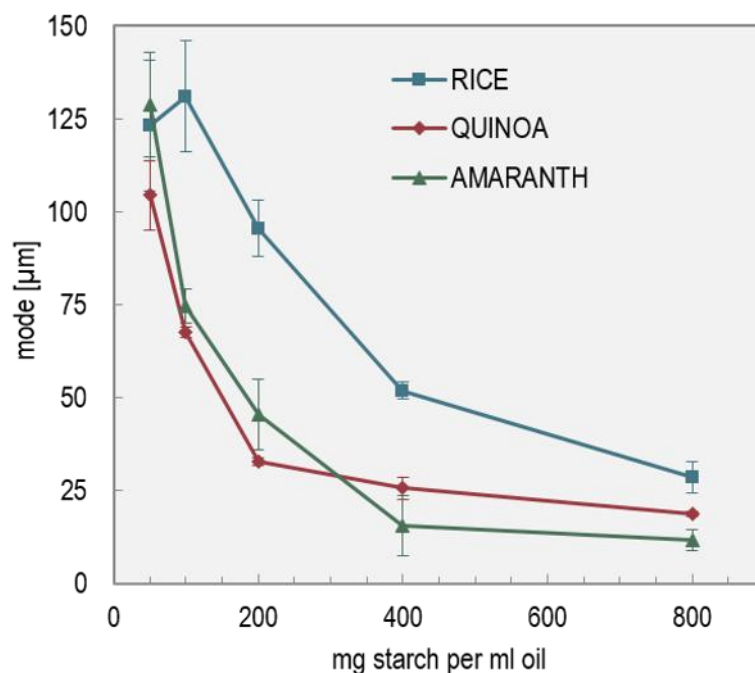
422 By taking a mass balance over the amount of particles available for stabilizing the emulsions  
 423 droplets assuming no free starch in the limited coalescence regime the theoretical droplet diameter  
 424 of emulsion droplets can be estimated by:

425 
$$\frac{1}{D} = \frac{m_p}{\varphi 4 d_p \rho_p V_{disp}} \quad \text{Eq. 2.}$$

426 Where the emulsions droplet size is D, the mass  $m_p$  and density  $\rho_p$  of particles, and the volume of  
 427 dispersed phase  $V_d$  and  $\varphi$  is the packing density assumed to be  $\varphi \approx 0.907$ , i.e. hexagonal close



428 packing of spheres in a plane (Arditty, Schmitt et al. 2004). If we compare the theoretical droplet  
429 size for a formulation with a certain starch granule size and amount of starch we find that in the  
430 case of quinoa and amaranth the experimental droplet sizes to be 1.7 to 5 times and 3.4 to 4.9 times  
431 larger than the predicted theoretical diameter respectively. However, in the case of rice, the measured  
432 droplet sizes we closed to be predicted values being 0.6 to 2.2 times larger. This suggests that the  
433 rice granules are performing better than the quinoa and amaranth if we adjust for the effect of their  
434 size. This could be attributed to rice's bimodal particle size distribution (Fig. 2) with the smaller  
435 fraction contributing more to the apparent emulsifying capacity.



436  
437 **Figure 5.** Particle size (mode of D43) for: 3.0% OSA modified starch emulsions.

438  
439 **4. Conclusions**

440 This study showed that starch granules from small granule botanical sources have the capacity to  
441 stabilize emulsions. In addition, starch granules from quinoa have good emulsifying capacity in  
442 both native and OSA modified form and especially better emulsifying capacity in the lower starch  
443 concentrations compared to the rice and amaranth. Native rice was also able to stabilize emulsion  
444 droplets. This may be due to higher protein contents of quinoa and rice starch granules in the native  
445 form that can optimize the hydrophobicity, **which could be the topic of further investigations.**

446 In the case of modified starches and when enough starch is available for stabilization (starch  
447 concentrations >400 mg/mL oil), smaller size of amaranth granules seems to be optimum.

448 Lastly, the bimodal nature of rice starches could be subjected to future studies for exploring the  
449 effect of size on the emulsifying capacity of starch granules from the same plant.

450

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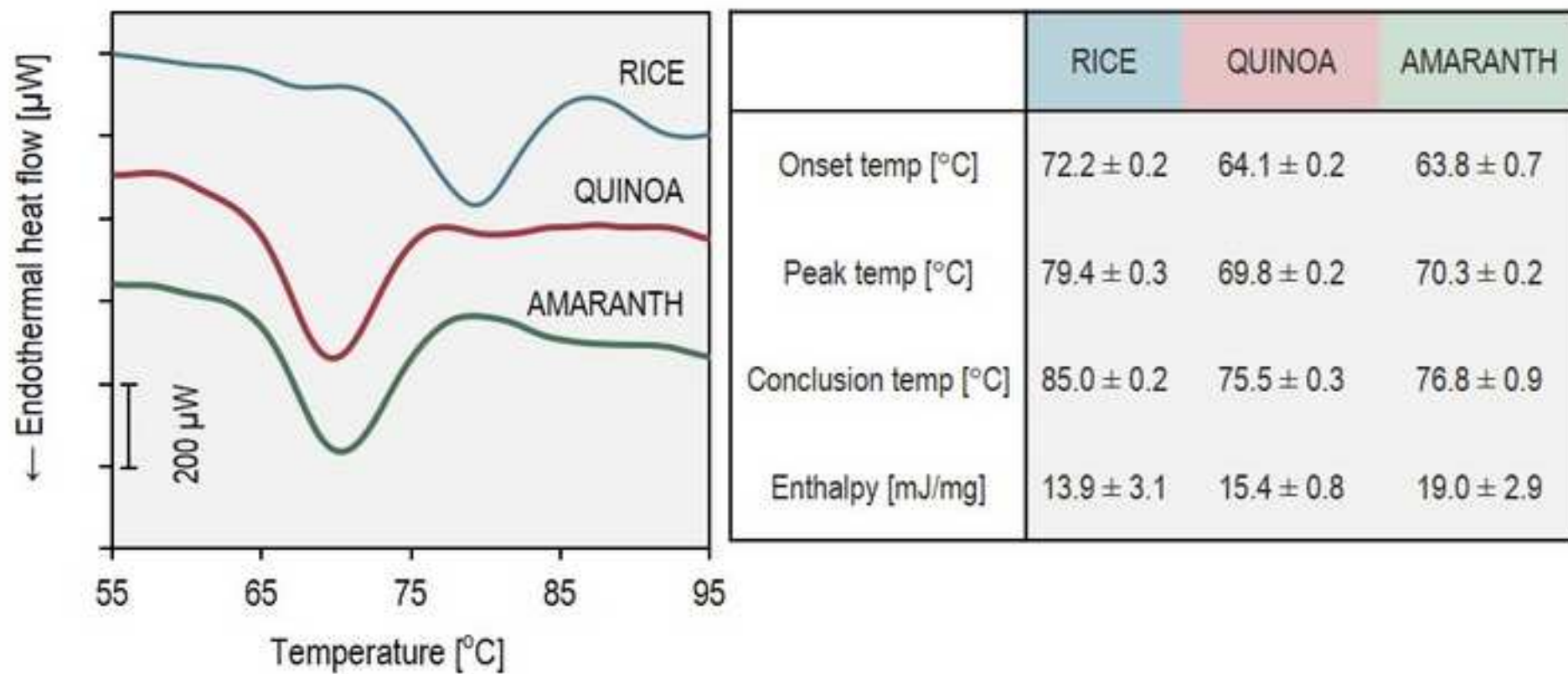
RICE						
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)	
R-Native	89.3±0.00	0	0	-	0.328±0.000	
R-OSA-0.6	87.5±0.12	0.46 ± 0.01	0.0036	0.783	0.278±0.000	
R-OSA-1.2	87.4±0.00	0.97 ± 0.03	0.0077	0.840	0.274±0.005	
R-OSA-1.8	87.7±0.04	1.40 ± 0.05	0.0108	0.808	0.272±0.005	
R-OSA-2.4	87.7±0.11	1.90 ± 0.05	0.0149	0.828	0.274±0.001	
R-OSA-3.0	87.5±0.01	2.36 ± 0.02	0.0186	0.827	0.271±0.001	
QUINOA						
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)	
Q- Native	88.6±0.04	0	0	-	0.687±0.001	
Q-OSA-0.6	87.7±0.20	0.58 ± 0.01	0.0045	0.987	0.570±0.006	
Q-OSA-1.2	87.6±0.25	1.14 ± 0.04	0.0091	0.979	0.548±0.003	
Q-OSA-1.8	87.3±0.01	1.67 ± 0.02	0.0130	0.958	0.538±0.004	
Q-OSA-2.4	87.7±0.06	2.13 ± 0.04	0.0168	0.923	0.547±0.002	
Q-OSA-3.0	87.7±0.59	2.59 ± 0.02	0.0205	0.903	0.539±0.025	
AMARANTH						
Sample	Dry matter (%)	OSA (%)	Degree of substitution (DS)	Reaction efficiency	Protein content (%)	
A-native	88.8±0.08	0	0	-	0.112±0.030	
A-OSA-0.6	87.6±0.14	0.53±0.02	0.0041	0.908	0.036±0.001	
A-OSA-1.2	87.8±0.21	1.07±0.01	0.0084	0.918	0.033±0.001	
A-OSA-1.8	87.9±0.13	1.50±0.02	0.0117	0.862	0.032±0.001	
A-OSA-2.4	88.2±0.18	2.06±0.03	0.0161	0.893	0.032±0.004	
A-OSA-3.0	88.3±0.14	2.62±0.02	0.0208	0.915	0.032±0.004	

RICE					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NRSBM	7.69 $\pm$ 0.12	6.92 $\pm$ 0.17	1.66 $\pm$ 0.01	3.29 $\pm$ 0.15	6.77 $\pm$ 0.14
NRE	90.2 $\pm$ 12.2	52.9 $\pm$ 4.95	3.58 $\pm$ 0.53	7.88 $\pm$ 0.49	34.7 $\pm$ 2.39
0.6RE	94.4 $\pm$ 11.5	66.3 $\pm$ 12.3	2.50 $\pm$ 0.71	10.5 $\pm$ 2.66	56.3 $\pm$ 17.7
1.2RE	36.0 $\pm$ 8.68	23.9 $\pm$ 6.50	1.50 $\pm$ 0.19	11.7 $\pm$ 1.75	65.1 $\pm$ 5.10
1.8RE	42.2 $\pm$ 5.00	27.8 $\pm$ 2.35	1.50 $\pm$ 0.28	9.27 $\pm$ 0.67	50.3 $\pm$ 3.45
2.4RE	87.8 $\pm$ 12.9	80.8 $\pm$ 12.8	1.73 $\pm$ 0.06	15.6 $\pm$ 1.70	74.9 $\pm$ 10.9
3.0RE	86.8 $\pm$ 6.84	76.6 $\pm$ 5.99	1.77 $\pm$ 0.10	15.2 $\pm$ 1.79	72.2 $\pm$ 4.56
QUINOA					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NQSBM	2.22 $\pm$ 0.15	2.44 $\pm$ 0.10	1.21 $\pm$ 0.06	2.02 $\pm$ 0.09	2.22 $\pm$ 0.11
NQE	47.8 $\pm$ 5.33	32.6 $\pm$ 3.39	2.61 $\pm$ 0.13	7.36 $\pm$ 0.41	26.9 $\pm$ 3.79
0.6QE	46.1 $\pm$ 7.82	34.3 $\pm$ 4.07	2.40 $\pm$ 0.11	7.86 $\pm$ 0.64	29.6 $\pm$ 4.43
1.2QE	39.2 $\pm$ 2.13	35.2 $\pm$ 2.26	1.91 $\pm$ 0.05	9.86 $\pm$ 0.63	32.6 $\pm$ 2.39
1.8QE	31.8 $\pm$ 0.66	34.5 $\pm$ 3.59	1.83 $\pm$ 0.07	10.3 $\pm$ 0.39	29.3 $\pm$ 0.90
2.4QE	31.8 $\pm$ 1.32	62.1 $\pm$ 4.75	2.67 $\pm$ 1.47	13.4 $\pm$ 0.85	32.5 $\pm$ 2.11
3.0QE	36.4 $\pm$ 4.18	48.2 $\pm$ 8.19	1.88 $\pm$ 0.08	13.6 $\pm$ 2.04	36.7 $\pm$ 4.17
AMARANTH					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
NASBM	1.42 $\pm$ 0.03	1.48 $\pm$ 0.03	0.63 $\pm$ 0.01	1.40 $\pm$ 0.03	1.43 $\pm$ 0.03
NAE	No emulsion	-	-	-	-
0.6AE	1.52 $\pm$ 2.08	18.9 $\pm$ 0.12	36.5 $\pm$ 4.92	2.05 $\pm$ 0.10	1.99 $\pm$ 0.09
1.2AE	1.50 $\pm$ 0.10	26.3 $\pm$ 6.72	29.0 $\pm$ 1.22	2.57 $\pm$ 0.22	3.30 $\pm$ 0.73
1.8AE	95.0 $\pm$ 9.48	42.6 $\pm$ 3.09	10.6 $\pm$ 2.53	4.47 $\pm$ 0.35	11.7 $\pm$ 2.31
2.4AE	66.1 $\pm$ 1.46	43.0 $\pm$ 0.92	2.44 $\pm$ 0.06	7.15 $\pm$ 0.18	38.3 $\pm$ 0.32
3.0AE	49.8 $\pm$ 0.28	37.9 $\pm$ 1.02	2.09 $\pm$ 0.06	8.19 $\pm$ 0.40	35.7 $\pm$ 1.18

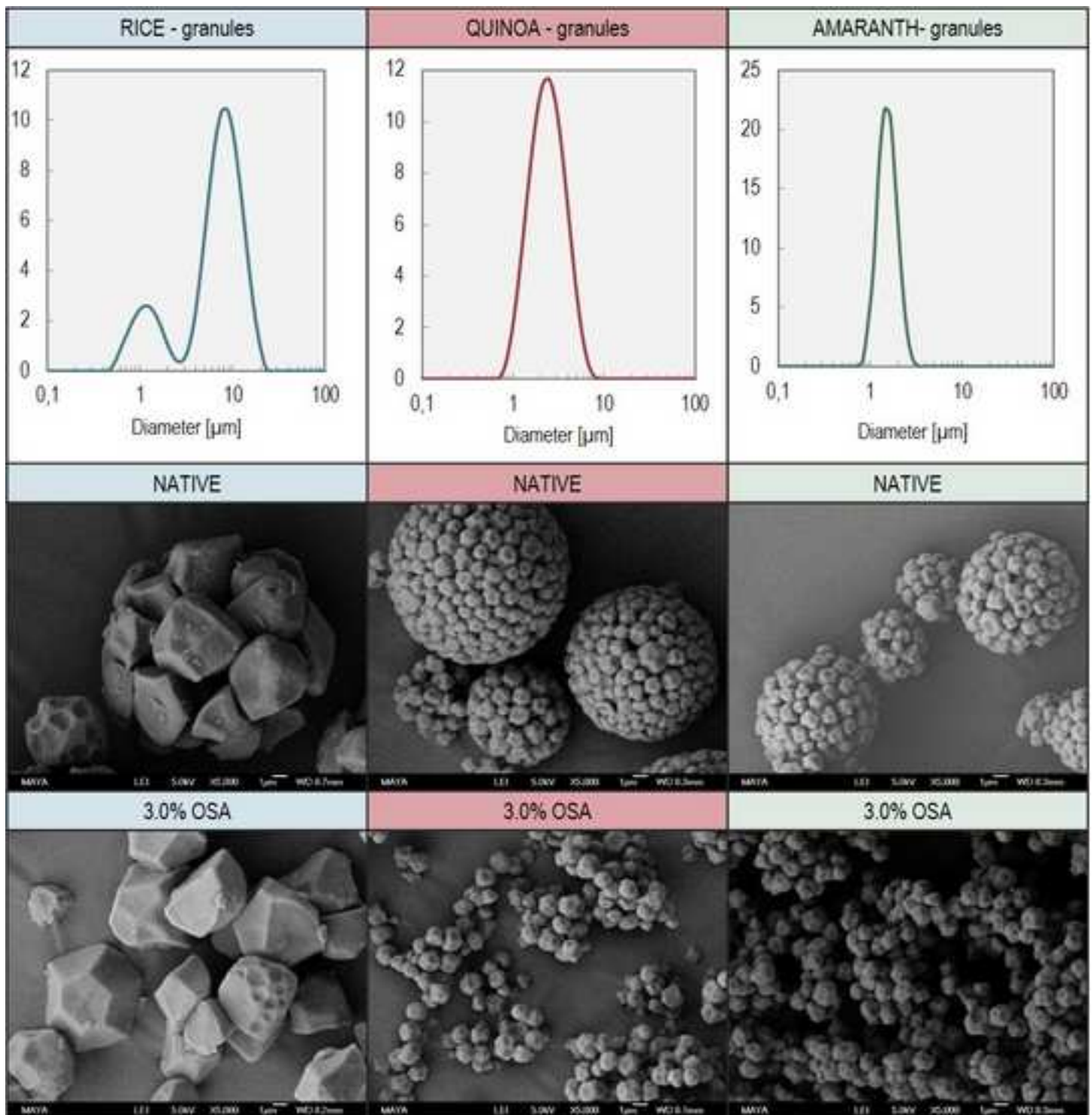


RICE					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	123.2 $\pm$ 17.5	101.6 $\pm$ 11.79	1.86 $\pm$ 0.09	19.8 $\pm$ 2.83	97.4 $\pm$ 10.44
100 mg/mL	131.0 $\pm$ 15.0	107.8 $\pm$ 9.67	1.79 $\pm$ 0.06	24.1 $\pm$ 0.88	103.9 $\pm$ 8.76
200 mg/mL	95.6 $\pm$ 7.59	80.6 $\pm$ 6.45	1.89 $\pm$ 0.15	18.8 $\pm$ 1.60	74.6 $\pm$ 5.25
400 mg/mL	51.9 $\pm$ 2.31	49.9 $\pm$ 4.04	1.90 $\pm$ 0.08	13.7 $\pm$ 0.74	44.2 $\pm$ 2.45
800 mg/mL	28.6 $\pm$ 4.29	34.0 $\pm$ 2.78	2.06 $\pm$ 0.20	9.34 $\pm$ 1.01	26.0 $\pm$ 3.74
QUINOA					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	104.5 $\pm$ 9.29	104.80 $\pm$ 7.66	1.16 $\pm$ 0.18	35.0 $\pm$ 4.28	99.9 $\pm$ 6.47
100 mg/mL	67.6 $\pm$ 1.29	69.6 $\pm$ 2.91	1.12 $\pm$ 0.10	24.9 $\pm$ 0.57	66.0 $\pm$ 1.78
200 mg/mL	32.7 $\pm$ 1.09	48.8 $\pm$ 3.13	2.49 $\pm$ 0.29	14.9 $\pm$ 0.57	34.9 $\pm$ 1.17
400 mg/mL	25.6 $\pm$ 3.13	35.8 $\pm$ 2.58	2.34 $\pm$ 0.78	10.7 $\pm$ 1.29	25.7 $\pm$ 2.49
800 mg/mL	18.7 $\pm$ 0.71	20.7 $\pm$ 2.68	1.55 $\pm$ 0.04	8.34 $\pm$ 0.42	17.6 $\pm$ 0.89
AMARANTH					
Sample	Mode [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [4, 3] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	Span [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	D [3, 2] [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	d (0.5) [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
50 mg/mL	128.9 $\pm$ 14.0	100.3 $\pm$ 9.77	1.89 $\pm$ 0.03	13.4 $\pm$ 0.48	100.6 $\pm$ 9.61
100 mg/mL	74.5 $\pm$ 4.57	46.7 $\pm$ 7.10	3.11 $\pm$ 0.83	7.21 $\pm$ 0.81	36.9 $\pm$ 12.81
200 mg/mL	45.4 $\pm$ 9.54	38.2 $\pm$ 2.24	3.34 $\pm$ 0.76	6.89 $\pm$ 0.27	27.1 $\pm$ 3.56
400 mg/mL	15.6 $\pm$ 8.15	23.5 $\pm$ 1.70	5.05 $\pm$ 2.22	4.94 $\pm$ 0.69	12.2 $\pm$ 3.31
800 mg/mL	11.6 $\pm$ 2.85	12.0 $\pm$ 0.29	3.28 $\pm$ 0.36	3.78 $\pm$ 0.09	8.15 $\pm$ 0.96

Figure(s)

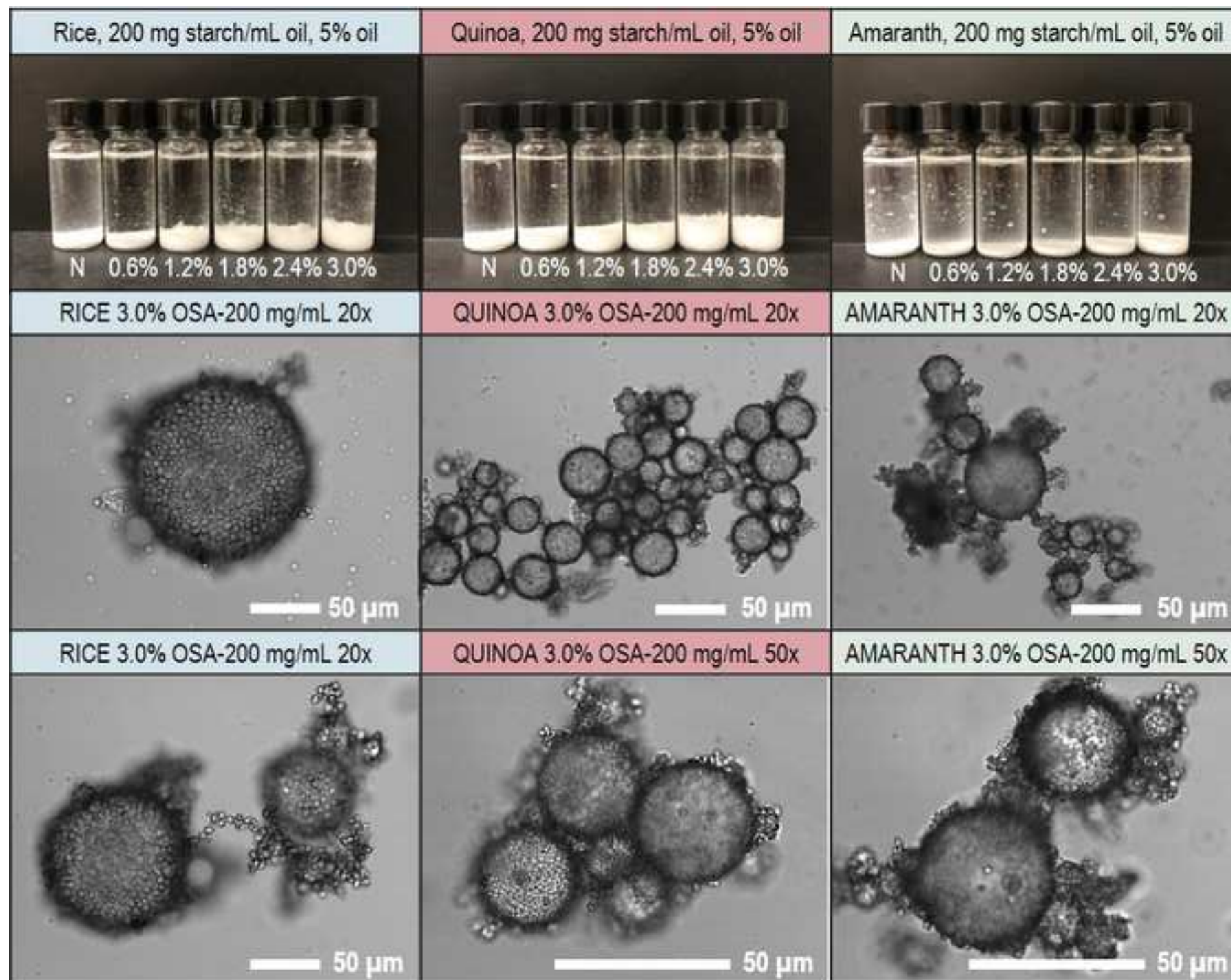
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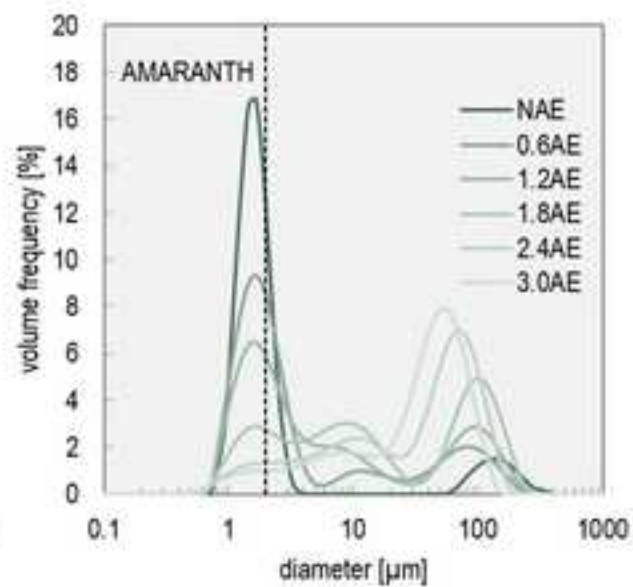
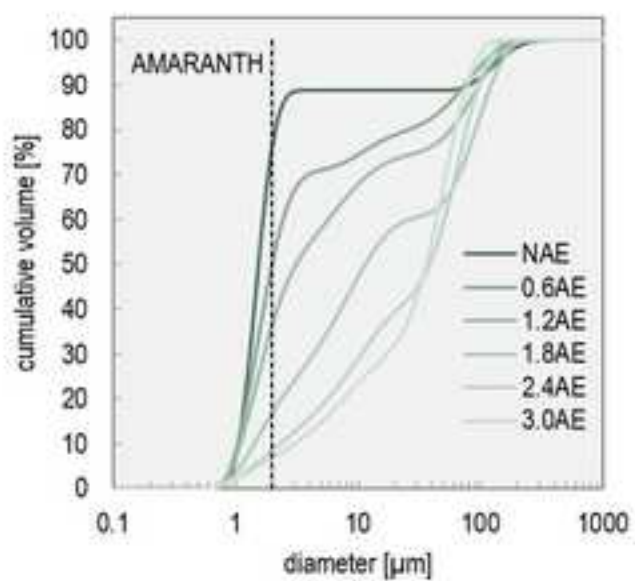
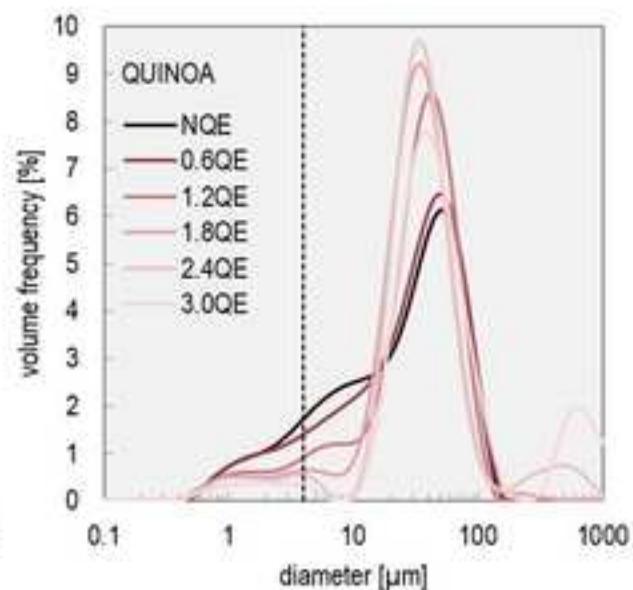
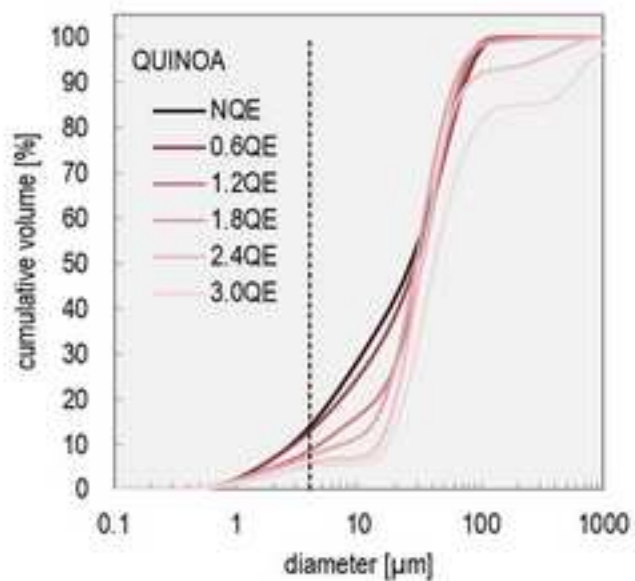
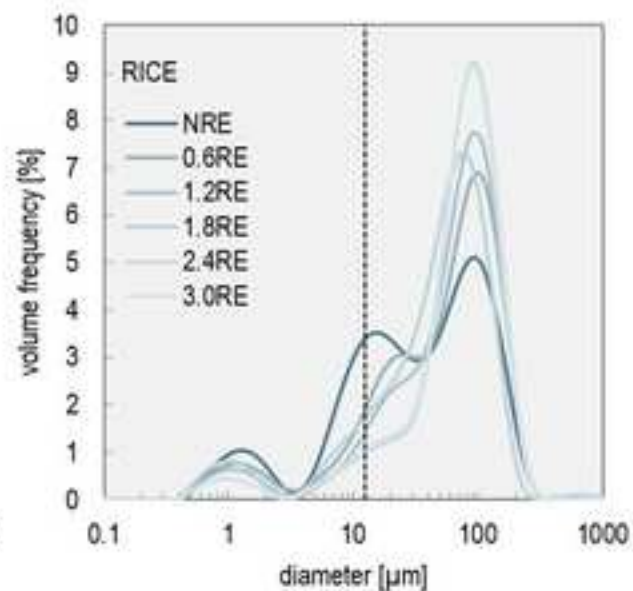
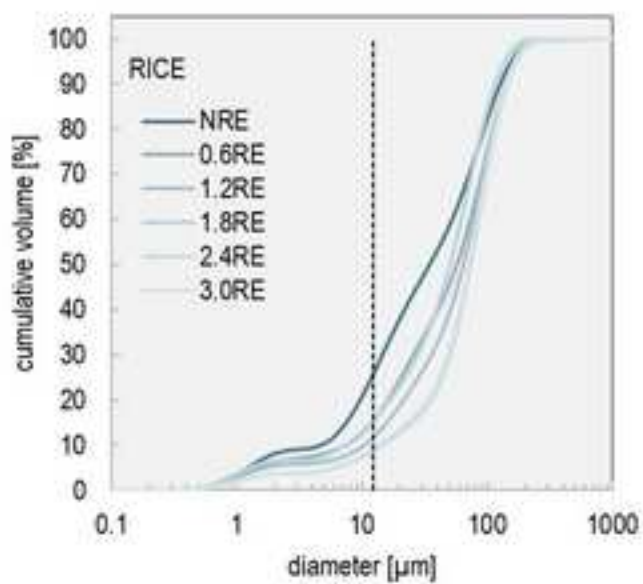
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