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# Formulation and Nutritional Assessment of Ready to Serve Supplementary Maternal Food

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**Abstract:** Poor nutrition during pregnancy and lactation periods put mothers and their growing children at a greater risk of disease, mental disorders, and death. Maternal nutrition during pregnancy influences the growth of the fetus and contributes to the development of a healthy baby. Consumption of a nutritionally balanced supplementary maternal food to meet the additional nutritional demand during pregnancy and lactation is a sustainable option for tackling the co-existence of undernutrition in pregnant women and children. The aim of this study was to formulate nutrient rich ready to serve supplementary maternal food from barely, teff, bean, sesame seeds, pumpkin seed, and groundnut. The proximate composition of formulations was determined using official method of AOAC. The results showed that treatment formulation SFF<sub>1</sub> which is Barley=40%; Teff=15%; Bean=20%; Sesame=5%; Pumpkin Seed=15% and Groundnut=5% had the most desirable nutritional benefits among the formulated supplementary maternal food. The appearance and taste of the prepared supplementary drink was acceptable and was found to be nutritious to meet the required additional nutrition for pregnant and lactating mothers. It is recommended to drink 500 ml of the supplementary drink per day to meet the daily Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) in addition to the ordinary meals.

**Keywords:** Bioavailability, Energy, Minerals, Protein, Supplementary Food

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## 1. Introduction

Adequate nutrient intake during the various stages of pregnancy and lactation is important for the proper fetal growth and production of breast milk. Nutrient needs during these periods are relatively higher compared to women who are not pregnant or lactating [1]. Maternal malnutrition is responsible to a great extent for millions of childhood deaths and incidences of diseases every year in lower-income countries [2]. The damage caused by poor nutrition in the womb or in the first years of life will be a burden that the infant /child must bear for the rest of his/her life. Maternal nutrition at pregnancy influences the growth and potential development of the fetus and contributes to the maturity of a healthy baby [3].

The extent and consequences of malnutrition among pregnant women is highly prevalent in developing countries particularly in Sub Saharan Africa, resulting in substantial increases in disease burden and mortality [4]. This may be due to poverty, low dietary intake, inequitable distribution of food within the household, food insecurity and dietary taboos [2, 5].

According to Ethiopian Demographic Health Survey in [6] 22% of women were malnourished and 24% were anaemic. Anaemia among pregnant women is a severe public health problem in Ethiopia with an overall prevalence of 62.7%. In addition, 24% of children under the age of 5 are underweight, 38% of children are stunted and 10% are wasted.

The main nutritional issues impacting pregnant women are protein and energy malnutrition and deficiencies of micronutrients, such as iron, folate, calcium, vitamin D and vitamin A [2, 5]. Consumption of locally available nutrient-dense foods is being emphasized as sustainable option for tackling undernutrition [7]. Therefore, formulation of supplementary maternal food for the additional nutrient need is important for a healthy pregnancy.

The objective of this study is to develop nutrient rich ready to serve supplementary maternal food to meet the additional nutrient requirement of a pregnant women from the second trimester and lactating mothers. The nutritional composition, antinutritional factor, bioavailability, and sensory evaluation of the formulated ready to serve supplementary food were determined.

## 2. Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in the experimental kitchen of Food Science and Nutrition Research Directorate at Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research in 2018 and 2019, Addis Ababa. The ingredients used for the formulation of ready to serve maternal supplementary food were barley, teff, bean, sesame seed, pumpkin seed, and groundnut. These ingredients were selected based on their nutritional benefits and organoleptic property.

### 2.1. Preparation of Ingredients in Ready to Serve Supplementary Maternal Food

Ingredients for ready to serve supplementary maternal food were prepared as follows.

**Barley:** A local variety of barley HB1307 was obtained from Holeta Agricultural Research Centre. The grains were cleaned, soaked overnight in water and the bran layer were removed by pounding. After dehulling, it was dried for 8 hours and roasted until its uniformly brown in colour and stored at room temperature until needed [8].

**Bean:** A local variety of biofortified bean, (GLP II) was obtained from Melkassa Agricultural Research Centre. It was cleaned, washed, soaked overnight in water, drained and steamed for about 10 minutes. The steamed beans were cooked for about 30 minutes to reduce anti-nutritional factors. Beans were cooled to room temperature and the skin was removed by hand. The beans were then oven dried and roasted for about 5 min to improve the flavour [9]. The dried beans were stored at room temperature until needed.

**Teff:** A local variety of teff, Kora (*DZ-Cr-438*), was

obtained from Debre-zeit Agricultural Research Centre. It was cleaned and milled into flour. The flour was lightly toasted on a pan to remove the raw taste and stored at room temperature until needed.

**Pumpkin seed:** Pumpkin seeds purchased from local market were cleaned and lightly roasted and stored at room temperature until needed.

**Sesame seed:** Sesame seeds purchased from the local market was cleaned, soaked overnight in water, dehulled by hand rubbing, oven dried and lightly roasted and stored at room temperature until needed.

**Preparation of groundnut:** A local variety of groundnut (Sedi) was obtained from Werer Agricultural Research Centre. Then it was de-skinned, sorted, lightly roasted, dehulled, and stored at room temperature until needed.

**Mixing of the ingredients:** All ingredients were prepared separately and blended according to the proportions of different treatment formulations. The ingredients for the various treatments were milled together to give separate formulations. Table 1 presents different proportions of weight expressed as percentages for each ingredient's formulations of five treatments.

### 2.2. Formulations of Ready to Serve Supplementary Maternal Food

The treatments consisted of fixed proportions of barley, teff, bean with various proportions of sesame, pumpkin, and groundnut to formulate the ready to serve supplementary maternal food (RTSSMF). The treatments were blended to meet the nutrient requirements of pregnant women after their first trimester and lactating mothers.

Table 1. Formulation of ready to serve supplementary maternal food treatments (%).

Treatments	Barely	Teff	Bean	Sesame	Pumpkin seed	Groundnut
SFF <sub>1</sub>	40	15	20	5	15	5
SFF <sub>2</sub>	40	15	20	15	5	5
SFF <sub>3</sub>	40	15	20	15	0	10
SFF <sub>4</sub>	40	15	20	0	15	10
SFF <sub>5</sub>	40	15	20	10	10	5

SFF=supplementary food formulation and the subscript numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 represents treatment number

### 2.3. Nutritional Composition Analysis

#### 2.3.1. Proximate Composition

Proximate composition of the formulation treatments was determined using official method of AOAC [10]. Moisture content was determined by drying the samples in air convection oven at 130°C for one hour. Total ash was determined by incinerating 2 g of sample in a furnace at 550°C until the colour changed to grey/white. Crude fat was determined by solvent extraction using Soxtec extraction system (Soxtec 8000, FOSS). Nitrogen content of samples was determined according to Kjeldahl using block digestion and steam distillation with Tecator Kjelttec Systems (Kjelttec 8400, FOSS). Crude protein was estimated by multiplying N content by 6.25, Crude fibre was determined according to method according to official method of AOAC [11], number 978. Total carbohydrate was determined using difference

method by subtracting measured protein, fat, ash, and moisture from 100 [12]. The gross energy value was estimated (in kcal/g) by multiplying the percentages of crude protein, crude lipid and carbohydrate using the Atwater's conversion factors; 16.7 kJ/g (4 kcal/g) for protein, 37.4 kJ/g (9 kcal/g) for fat and 16.7 kJ/g (4 kcal/g) for carbohydrates and expressed in calories [13].

#### 2.3.2. Determination of Mineral and Phytate

Mineral content was determined using graphite furnace atomic absorption instrument according to AOAC [11]. Phytate was determined using spectrophotometer at 500 nm as in [14].

#### 2.3.3. Bioavailability

Mineral bioavailability was estimated using molar ration of phytate to mineral. The mole of phytate and minerals was

determined by dividing the weight of phytate and minerals with its atomic weight (phytate: 660g/mol; Fe: 56g/mol; Zn: 65g/mol; Ca: 40 g/mol). The molar ratio between phytate and mineral was obtained after dividing the mole of phytate with the mole of minerals.

#### 2.4. Preparation of Supplementary Maternal Food

The RTSSMF treatments were prepared by mixing 50g powder with 110ml of water (room temperature), 2 tablespoon sugar and a pinch of salt.

#### 2.5. Sensory Evaluation

Sensory evaluation was done by 21 pregnant women and mothers randomly selected among the staff at EIAR. A five-point hedonic scale was used for sensory evaluations where 5 was 'like very much' and 1 'dislike' for each of the sensory attributes (appearance, flavour, colour, taste, and overall acceptability).

#### 2.6. Statistical Analysis

Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to test treatment differences. Data was analysed using the General Linear Model procedure of SAS software. Duncan multiple comparisons were deployed to separate treatment means. Differences among means with  $p < 0.05$  was taken as representing statistically significant differences.

### 3. Result and Discussion

#### 3.1. Nutritional Composition of Supplementary Maternal Food

The nutritional composition (g/100g dry weight) of formulated RTSSMF treatments is presented in Table 2. There was significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) difference between treatments.

There were significant differences in the moisture content 4.48 to 5.64 g/100g of the formulated treatments. Powdered foods with lower content of moisture (<10%) are suitable for extended shelf life. Low moisture contents of formulations are also convenient for packaging and transport of products [15].

The fat content of formulated treatments ranged from 12.32 to 14.90 g/100g and there was significant difference. Lipids are essential for formation of cell membranes hormones and necessary for proper eye and brain development. The daily total fat intake during pregnancy and lactation recommendations are related to energy requirements and fat should supply 20% to 35% of a woman's total energy [16]. All the formulated treatments give 27.1-32.4% of energy from fat, which could meet required fat content for total energy needs during pregnancy and lactation. The fat content in SFF<sub>3</sub> was found to be higher among the treatments which may be the result of higher proportion of sesame and groundnut in the formulation.

Table 2. Proximate composition of formulated supplementary maternal food (g/100g).

Treatments	Moisture	Fat	Protein	Fiber	Ash	Carbohydrate	Energy (Kcal/100g)
SFF <sub>1</sub>	5.64 <sup>a</sup>	12.39 <sup>d</sup>	16.33 <sup>a</sup>	6.56 <sup>c</sup>	2.71 <sup>ab</sup>	56.38 <sup>bc</sup>	411.34 <sup>c</sup>
SFF <sub>2</sub>	4.48 <sup>c</sup>	14.70 <sup>b</sup>	15.38 <sup>d</sup>	6.58 <sup>c</sup>	2.77 <sup>a</sup>	56.10 <sup>c</sup>	418.15 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>3</sub>	4.41 <sup>d</sup>	14.90 <sup>a</sup>	15.38 <sup>d</sup>	8.21 <sup>a</sup>	2.68 <sup>ab</sup>	54.45 <sup>d</sup>	413.38 <sup>b</sup>
SFF <sub>4</sub>	4.60 <sup>b</sup>	12.32 <sup>d</sup>	16.54 <sup>a</sup>	7.20 <sup>b</sup>	2.57 <sup>b</sup>	56.80 <sup>b</sup>	404.17 <sup>d</sup>
SFF <sub>5</sub>	4.49 <sup>c</sup>	13.63 <sup>c</sup>	15.73 <sup>c</sup>	5.30 <sup>d</sup>	2.63 <sup>ab</sup>	58.28 <sup>a</sup>	418.69 <sup>a</sup>
CV	0.59	0.42	0.35	2.26	2.86	0.41	0.15
Mean	4.72	13.59	15.87	6.77	2.67	56.39	411.34

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different ( $p > 0.05$ )

SFF<sub>1</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+5%Sesame+15%PumpkinSeed+5%groundnut,

SFF<sub>2</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Beans+15%Sesame+5%Pumpkinseed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>3</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%Sesame+10%groundnut,

SFF<sub>4</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20% Bean+15%PumpkinSeed+10%groundnut and SFF<sub>5</sub>=40% Barley +15%Teff+20%Bean+10%Sesame +10% Pumpkin Seed+5%groundnut; CV coefficient of variation

The WHO [17] recommends that pregnant women should consume 9 and 31 g of additional protein daily during the second and third trimesters, respectively. The protein content of formulated treatments was in the range of 15.38 - 16.54 g/100g and has significant difference. Protein is a constituent of all cells and a component of enzymes, membranes, transport carriers, and many hormones. The suggested additional daily protein for lactating women during the first and second 6 months is 19 and 12.5 g respectively. SFF<sub>1</sub> and SFF<sub>2</sub> showed a higher content of protein which may be caused by higher proportion of pumpkin seed and groundnut. All the formulated treatments could meet more than 50% of the additional daily required protein for both pregnant and lactating women.

Fiber content of formulated treatments ranged between 5.30- 8.21g/100g and there were significant differences

among treatments. Fiber is non-digestible carbohydrate and found as lignin in plant derived foods. Benefits of dietary fibers include feelings of fullness and improved bowel movement, which could help reduce the chances for hemorrhoids during pregnancy. The Adequate Intake (AI) for fiber during pregnancy and lactation is 14 grams per 1,000 calories [18]. Thus, all the formulated treatments could meet more than 100% of the required fiber for both pregnant and lactating women at the given energy value of the RTSSMF.

The Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) of carbohydrate for a pregnant woman is 45 grams above the non-pregnancy state and 80 grams for lactating woman to compensate for the carbohydrate secreted in breast milk [18]. The carbohydrate content of the formulated treatments ranged between 54.45 to 58.28 g/100g and there was a significant difference between the treatments. The formulated supplementary food provides

more than 100% of the additional carbohydrate required for pregnant women and 67% of nursing mothers.

The energy value of formulated treatments showed significant difference and ranged from 411.3 -418.6 kcal/100 g. The suggested calorie increases for women who conceive at a normal body weight range is 340 calories a day in the second trimester and to consume 330 additional calories per day for the first six months after delivery [18]. The formulated supplementary food provides more than 124% of the additional energy required for both pregnant women and nursing mothers.

The amount of ash for all formulated supplementary maternal foods has significant differences and were found in the range of 2.38% - 2.66%. Ash contents show the presence of mineral in the treatments.

### 3.2. Mineral Composition and Phytate of Supplementary Maternal Food

The amount of phytate, iron, zinc, and calcium of formulated treatments (mg/100g) were summarized in Table 3. All the formulated treatments showed significant differences at ( $p < 0.05$ ).

The phytate in the formulated treatments was significantly different and ranged between 178 - 595.24 mg/100. The higher amount of phytate was found in treatment SFF<sub>5</sub> and the lowest in treatment SFF<sub>3</sub>. The lowest and the highest amount of phytate may be due to different proportion of sesame and pumpkin seeds.

**Table 3.** Amount of phytate and minerals in the supplementary maternal food formulations (mg/100g).

Treatment	Phytate	Ca	Fe	Zn
SFF <sub>1</sub>	218.96 <sup>b</sup>	102.10 <sup>b</sup>	23.02 <sup>a</sup>	3.53 <sup>ab</sup>
SFF <sub>2</sub>	218.96 <sup>c</sup>	103.20 <sup>b</sup>	19.50 <sup>c</sup>	3.62 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>3</sub>	178.47 <sup>d</sup>	129.9 <sup>a</sup>	21.13 <sup>b</sup>	3.25 <sup>c</sup>
SFF <sub>4</sub>	219.40 <sup>b</sup>	55.8 <sup>d</sup>	21.13 <sup>b</sup>	3.15 <sup>c</sup>
SFF <sub>5</sub>	595.24 <sup>a</sup>	72.45 <sup>c</sup>	21.83 <sup>b</sup>	3.44 <sup>b</sup>
CV	1.55	1.95	2.06	2.48
Mean	283.84	92.69	21.35	3.40

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different ( $p > 0.05$ ), SFF<sub>1</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+5%Sesame+15%PumpkinSeed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>2</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Beans+15%Sesame+5%Pumpkinseed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>3</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%Sesame+10%groundnut, SFF<sub>4</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%PumpkinSeed+10%groundnut and SFF<sub>5</sub>=40% Barley +15%Teff+20%Bean+10%sesame +10% Pumpkin Seed+ 5%groundnut; CV coefficient of variation

The dietary reference intake (DRI) of iron during pregnancy is 27 mg/day and 9mg/day for lactating women [19]. The amount of iron in this study was significantly different and ranged between 19.5-23.03 mg/100g. Iron is vital to the production of hemoglobin, and energy production, fetal immunity, and development of the central nervous system. The suggested additional daily iron requirement for pregnant woman is 9mg and all the formulated treatments could meet 211% of the additional and 70-85% of the total daily required

amount of iron for both pregnant and lactating women.

Zinc was significantly different at ( $p < 0.05$ ) in the formulated treatments and ranged between 3.15 - 3.6mg/100g. The primary function of zinc is to promote cell reproduction and tissue growth and repair, it is essential for growth and development, as well as reproduction and immunity [19]. Zinc plays a critical role in embryogenesis and fetal growth, as well as being secreted in breast milk, the body's need for zinc is greater during pregnancy and lactation [20]. The recommended additional daily zinc requirement for pregnant and lactating woman is 3 and 4 mg respectively [16]. All the formulated treatments provide more than 100% and 75% of the additional required amount of zinc for pregnant and lactating mothers respectively, and 25% of the total amount of zinc required per day.

The recommended intake for calcium established by FAO/WHO [21] for pregnant and lactating women is 1000 mg/day but increases to 1200 mg/day during the last trimester of pregnancy. The amount of calcium was significantly different at ( $p < 0.05$ ) and ranged between 77.92 to 109.6mg/100g. In this study all the formulated foods provide about 10% of the daily required amount of calcium for both pregnant and lactating mothers. Calcium has structural and metabolic functions. The skeleton and teeth serve as reservoirs for about 99% of the body's calcium; it plays a role in vascular contraction and vasodilation, muscle contraction, and nerve transmission [22].

### 3.3. Bioavailability of Minerals

**Table 4.** Bioavailability of the minerals in supplementary maternal food (mg/100g).

Treatments	Phytate: Ca	Phytate: Fe	Phytate: Zn
Critical Values	>0.24	>1	>15
SFF <sub>1</sub>	0.063 <sup>e</sup>	0.807 <sup>c</sup>	6.126 <sup>c</sup>
SFF <sub>2</sub>	0.112 <sup>c</sup>	0.90 <sup>b</sup>	5.647 <sup>d</sup>
SFF <sub>3</sub>	0.149 <sup>b</sup>	0.717 <sup>d</sup>	5.417 <sup>d</sup>
SFF <sub>4</sub>	0.113 <sup>c</sup>	0.875 <sup>b</sup>	6.858 <sup>b</sup>
SFF <sub>5</sub>	0.149 <sup>b</sup>	2.314 <sup>a</sup>	17.044 <sup>a</sup>
CV	0.925	2.384	2.969
Mean	0.130	1.123	8.218

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different ( $p > 0.05$ ), SFF<sub>1</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+5%Sesame+15%PumpkinSeed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>2</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Beans+15%Sesame+5%Pumpkinseed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>3</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%Sesame+10%groundnut, SFF<sub>4</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%PumpkinSeed+10%groundnut and SFF<sub>5</sub>=40% Barley +15%Teff+20%Bean+10%sesame +10% Pumpkin Seed+ 5%groundnut; CV coefficient of variation

In developing countries, bioavailability of micronutrients is a main concern due to plant based and unvaried diets. Micronutrients such as calcium, iron and zinc are very important in maternal nutrition both for the mother and the fetus. Critical values for the bioavailability of minerals are Phytate: Ca > 0.24, Phytate: Fe >1 and Phytate: Zn >15. The mineral is poorly available if the concentration of phytate is greater than the critical numbers. As shown in Table 4, there is

a significance difference in the bioavailability of minerals among the treatments at ( $p < 0.05$ ).

Calcium is bioavailable in all formulated treatments and the calcium in treatment SFF<sub>1</sub> is found to be most available. Iron is bioavailable in all treatments except in SFF<sub>5</sub>, which is found to be poorly available. The critical value for iron is molar ratio of phytate/Iron more than 1 is being considered as poorly available. Zinc is bioavailable in all formulated treatments except in treatment SFF<sub>5</sub>.

### 3.4. Sensory Evaluation

Table 5 summarizes the organoleptic property of the formulated RTSSMF treatments. As it is shown in the table there is no significance difference in all sensory parameters at ( $p < 0.05$ ). All the formulated supplementary maternal foods were acceptable by pregnant women and lactating mothers.

**Table 5.** Sensory analysis of the supplementary maternal food (mg/100g).

Treatment	Appearance	Flavour	Colour	Taste	Overall acceptability
SFF <sub>1</sub>	4.11 <sup>a</sup>	3.72 <sup>ab</sup>	4.28 <sup>a</sup>	3.72 <sup>a</sup>	3.94 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>2</sub>	4.05 <sup>a</sup>	3.67 <sup>ab</sup>	4.22 <sup>a</sup>	4.00 <sup>a</sup>	3.88 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>3</sub>	4.16 <sup>a</sup>	3.6 <sup>b</sup>	4.11 <sup>a</sup>	4.05 <sup>a</sup>	4.00 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>4</sub>	4.17 <sup>a</sup>	3.78 <sup>ab</sup>	4.22 <sup>a</sup>	3.83 <sup>a</sup>	3.94 <sup>a</sup>
SFF <sub>5</sub>	4.38 <sup>a</sup>	4.00 <sup>a</sup>	4.33 <sup>a</sup>	3.83 <sup>a</sup>	3.94 <sup>a</sup>
CV	4.18	3.76	4.23	3.89	3.94
Mean	12.18	12.59	11.91	13.54	14.19

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different ( $p > 0.05$ ), SFF<sub>1</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+5%Sesame+15%PumpkinSeed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>2</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Beans+15%Sesame+5%Pumpkinseed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>3</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%Sesame+10%groundnut, SFF<sub>4</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%PumpkinSeed+10%groundnut and SFF<sub>5</sub>=40% Barley +15%Teff+20%Bean+10%sesame +10% Pumpkin Seed+5%groundnut; CV coefficient of variation

## 4. Ranking and Selection

Ranking was done to identify the optimal RTSSMF formulation based on the method as in previous study [23]. High content of protein, energy value, bioavailability of iron and calcium, were used as a criterion to rank and select the optimal RTSSMF formulation. The RTSSMF which has

lowest score was chosen as the formulation most suitable nutritional benefits. As per table 6, SFF<sub>1</sub> had the lowest rank score, high nutritional value, and bioavailability of minerals. Therefore, treatment SFF<sub>1</sub>, formulation of Barley=40%; Teff=15%; Bean=20%; Sesame=5%; Pumpkin Seed=15% and Groundnut=5% had the most desirable nutritional benefits among the formulated five RTSSMF.

**Table 6.** Ranking of formulated supplementary maternal foods.

Treatments	Protein	Energy	Phytate: Fe	Phytate: Ca	Total
SFF <sub>1</sub>	1	3	2	1	7
SFF <sub>2</sub>	3	1	3	2	9
SFF <sub>3</sub>	3	2	1	3	8
SFF <sub>4</sub>	1	4	3	2	10
SFF <sub>5</sub>	2	1	4	3	10

SFF<sub>1</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+5%Sesame+15%PumpkinSeed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>2</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Beans+15%Sesame+5%Pumpkinseed+5%groundnut, SFF<sub>3</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%sesam+10%groundnut, SFF<sub>4</sub>=40%Barley+15%Teff+20%Bean+15%PumpkinSeed+10%groundnut and SFF<sub>5</sub>=40% Barley +15%Teff+20%Bean+10%sesame +10% Pumpkin Seed+5%groundnut

## 5. Conclusion and Recommendation

The ready to serve supplementary maternal food formulations were compared for nutritional composition, antinutritional factor, bioavailability, and sensory evaluation. The various supplementary maternal drink formulations have shown satisfactory result in terms of bioavailability of minerals and providing protein and energy to supplement the required additional nutrients during pregnancy and lactation. Incorporating micronutrient rich seeds such as teff, pumpkin seeds and beans increased, the amount of mineral formulated foods. Dehusking and mild roasting also improved the nutritional value and organoleptic properties. Even though the formulations were low in calcium, its recommended to use milk instead of water to enrich the drink with calcium.

This finding showed that the supplementary maternal powdered drinks were acceptable and nutritious and could meet the required additional nutrient demand for pregnant and lactating mothers. The formulation of SFF<sub>1</sub> which is Barley=40%; Teff=15%; Bean=20%; Sesame=5%; Pumpkin Seed=15% and Groundnut=5% RTSSMF had the most desirable nutritional value among the five formulated treatments. To meet the daily Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) it is recommended to drink 500 ml of the supplementary drink per day in addition to the ordinary meals. Preparing and drinking the supplementary food using milk is recommended for better nutritional benefits.

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