

## **Flavors**

- Flavors usually diluted in carriers:
- Oil-soluble carriers: soy- bean and other edible oils
- Water-soluble carriers: water, ethanol, propylene glycol, glycerin, and emulsifiers
- Dry powders: include maltodextrins, corn syrup solids, modified starches, gum arabic, salt, sugars, and whey protein.

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# Flavors stability

- Flavors can degrade as a result of exposure to:
  - light,
  - temperature,
  - oxygen,
  - · water,
  - enzymes,
  - contaminants,

They must be carefully selected and checked for stability



### Types of flavors

- Natural:
  - Examples: oleoresin, essential oil, fruit components
  - Chemical structure is not necessarily known.
  - Used within 1-2%
- Artificial:
  - Used within 0.1-0.2%
- The selection is based on:
  - · desired flavor,
  - solubility characteristics,
  - · chemical and physical compatibility

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An "electronic tongue" is used to aid in providing a global "taste fingerprint" during formulation development.

It provides information on bitterness levels and the stability of flavors in terms of taste



**FIGURE 4.4** Electronic tongue to assist in formulation development. (Courtesy of Alpha MOS.)



## **Sweetening**

- Sucrose Natural
- Aspartame (~ 200)
- Saccharine (~ 300)
- Sucralose (~ 600)
- Cyclamate (~ 200)
- There are many safety issues regarding the artificial ones.

**Artificial** 

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## Sweetening, safety issues

- Diet soft drinks introduction in 1950
- Patients with DM.
- Aspartame metabolized, or processed, in the digestive tract.
- Breaks down in the body into three components:
  - Phenylalanine .
  - · Aspartic acid.
  - · Methanol.
- In patients with **phenylketonuria** (PKU), phenylalanine metabolism is defective.
- Use of aspartame by persons with phenylketonuria is discouraged



### Aspartame safety issues

- Drinks or medicines containing aspartame should be labeled.
- Hyperphenylalaninemia can result in mental retardation and can affect the fetus of a pregnant woman who has PKU.

### Saccharine safety issues

- In November 1977, saccharine was permitted to be used in USA.
- But patients should be advised that it caused cancer in animals.

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## **Cyclamate Safety Issues**

- Introduced into beverages and foods in the 1950s and dominated the artificial sweetener market in the 1960s.
- Cyclamate is claimed to cause cancer and genetic change and testicular atrophy.
- In 1969, FDA banned cyclamates from use in the United States.



## Stevia powder

- New sweetening agent
- The extract from the leaves of a plant.
- Natural, nontoxic, safe
- About 30 times as sweet as cane sugar, or sucrose. It can be used in both hot and cold preparations

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# **Sweetening selection**

- Most large pharmaceutical manufacturers have special laboratories for taste-testing proposed formulations of their products.
- Panels of employees or interested community participants participate in evaluating the various formulations, and their assessments become the basis for the firm's flavoring decisions.