

## TRUE HOPPING<sup>TM</sup>

Lorenzo Rossi, *PhD* lorenzo.rossi@milestonesrl.com Application Specialist











23/3/2024

## KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Hops in the brewing process
- Dry hopping challenges
- Introducing True Hopping approach
- Why True Hopping
- Q&A session





## THE HOP IN THE BREWING PROCESS



### Addition in kettle

- Alpha-acids thermally convert in iso alpha-acids to get the right IBU
- Very inefficient for hop flavor
  - At 100°C nearly all the volatile oil are lost!
- Dry Hopping
  - Dry-hopping is the cold, aqueous extraction of hops into beer
  - Dry-hopping achieves a distinctive aroma that is notably different from kettle or late-hop additions



## DRY HOPPING



- Dry hopping is a relatively inefficient process
  - Poor extraction efficiency of volatile oil into beer
  - Negatively impact brewing yield
  - All alpha-acids are wasted
- Highly hop-forward beers such as IPA, double IPA etc, require massive dry-hopping
  - Very low brewing yield
  - Very high costs



## DRY HOPPING – EXTRACTION EFFICIENCY

	OIL STILL RETAINED ON SPENT HOPS [%v/v]		
Hop Variety	Range	Mean	
Amarillo	35-68	57	
Cascade	30-60	41	
Centennial	39-65	51	

Average extraction efficiency 30-40%

- Extraction media is water with a low alcohol content
  - Poor extraction efficiency of volatile oil into beer
- Approximately from 30 to 70% v/v of volatile oils remain in spent hops
  - Today wasted!
- High variability of oil still retained
  - Poor flavor standardization



## DRY HOPPING – BEER LOSS



- Hop pellets are highly hygroscopic
  - Hop pellets can absorb
    approximately 8-10 times its weight
  - Adsorption depending on beer styles such as IPA, double IPA etc, require dry-hopping at high rates, up to 15 g/L

## • High beer loss

- Approximately 10-25% w/w beer was lost during the process!
- All alpha-acids are wasted



## ADDRESSING DRY HOPPING CHALLENGES

- Different addition strategies
  - Challenges in standardizing the process
  - More additional steps involved
  - Always a matter of equilibrium
- Use of additional equipment
  - Expensive
  - Maintenance is required
  - Compromise strategy
- Use of commercial extracts
  - Few varieties available
  - Restored with additional terpenes when quality is poor or extraction is partial





## INTRODUCING MILESTONE TRUE HOPPING



## THE MILESTONE TRUE HOPPING PROCESS PRINCIPLE



# Milestone true hopping process principle

- Head brewers select hops species and suppliers they trust
- Production of hops terpene extract with Microwave-assisted distillation
- Add terpene hop extract in conditioning and fermentation steps instead of directly using hops pellets



# MICROWAVE ASSISTED DISTILLATION OF HOPS

- True-hopping uses solvent-free microwave extraction (SFME)
  - Based on Microwave-assisted hydrodistillation
  - Patented technology by Milestone
- High quality terpene extracts from hops you trust
  - Fast and efficient extraction
  - No oxidation
  - Controlled isolation of strain-specific hop essential oils
- Water saving



#### ETHOS X 2.0

Material processed per shift

- 3.5 4kg (0.8-1kg per run)
- 2 hours/run



### ETHOS XL

Material processed per shift

- 10 12kg (3,5-4kg per run)
- 3 hours/run



# SOLVENT-FREE MICROWAVE EXTRACTION (SFME)



- Robust construction
  - Industrial design
- Semi automated operation
  - Load hops pellet in the reactor
  - Add water approximately 8-12 times its weight
  - Push start button
  - Collect pure hops oil
- Full extraction control for limited oxidation







True hopping enables to brewing highly hop-forward beers with high efficiency and profitability trough

1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops







- Dry Hopping, extraction efficiency: 30%
- True Hopping, extraction efficiency: 95%
- Negligible oils amount retained in spent hops treated with True Hopping, less than 5%

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract



SAMPLE TYPE	MOISTURE [%w/w]
Hop pellets	9.03
Spent hop pellets	75.8 ± 2.7

- Hop pellets absorb approximately 8-10 times its weight
- Less hop pellets usage ends up in less beer adsorbed by the hopping process

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract
- 3. Increase brewing yield



Hop variety	Certified α-acids content [%w/w]*	Iso-α-acid content on MW spent hop [%w/w]	α-acid content on MW spent hop [%w/w]
SIMCOE	12.6	8.3	3.1

- The spent microwaved hop contain isoα-acids
- It can be added into kettle at the end of the boiling for bittering

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract
- 3. Increase brewing yield
- 4. Dual purpose hops is used 100% both for flavor and alpha acids





- Iso- $\alpha$ -acids available in microwave spent hop
  - No need of boiling for isomerization process
- Reducing maturation time
  - No need to wait for dry hopping extraction
  - No need to wait for hop sedimentation
- Higher throughput, faster production

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract
- 3. Increase brewing yield
- 4. Dual purpose hops is used 100% both for flavor and alpha acids
- 5. Increase brewing capacity





- Essential oils from different hop varieties and botanicals
- Efficient flavor enrichment and standardization
- Very fast way to experiment rather than making boil additions

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract
- 3. Increase brewing yield
- 4. Dual purpose hops is used 100% both for flavor and alpha acids
- 5. Increase brewing capacity
- 6. Easier blending and flavor enrichment





- Increased stability by adding less vegetable material and oxygen
- Product stability is a must when working with Ho.Re.Ca. industry

- 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
- 2. Reduce hop pellet usage by working with personal flavor extract
- 3. Increase brewing yield
- 4. Dual purpose hops is used 100% both for flavor and alpha acids
- 5. Increase brewing capacity
- 6. Easier blending and flavor enrichment
- 7. Longer shelf-life



## SUMMARY

- True-hopping enables to brew highly hop-forward beers with high efficiency and profitability through
  - 1. Maximize extraction efficiency of flavor from hops
  - 2. Reduce hop pellet usage working with personal flavor extract
  - 3. Reduce beer loss
  - 4. Dual purpose hops is used 100% both for flavor and alpha acids
  - 5. Increase brewing capacity
  - 6. Easier blending and flavor enrichment
  - 7. Longer shelf-life
- ROI estimated in 12-18 months





## WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE?

Contact me: lorenzo.rossi@milestonesrl.com

