EVALUATION OF THE ENRICHMENT OF WHEAT FLOUR WITH THE SUPPORT OF
STATISTICAL PROCESS CONTROL
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Government policies in health are directed to preventive measures. In this respect, it was established in 2002 by the Brazilian Federal government, and also being controlled in several countries, that iron and folic acid must be added to wheat and corn flour. The aim of this research was to investigate the wheat flour enrichment process with folic acid. Were searched twenty-three among the largest flour mills in Rio Grande do Sul. Were tested ten wheat flour brands and three different lots of each brand, acquired in Santa Maria - RS supermarkets, which were performed folic acid dosage in the LARP laboratory in Santa Maria Federal University. The variation in production methods and inadequate process control were salient. The folic acid values ranged from 376.06 µg. kg⁻¹ to 2560.0 µg. kg⁻¹ among analysed brands. Only 18.3% of the samples studied were within the present regulatory measures. Thus, it was observed that the process, despite its importance, has low compliance.