

## SHORT BIODATA



Jose V. Garcia-Perez is an Associate Professor in the Department of Food Technology (DFT) at the Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV). He is part of the Analysis and Simulation of Agro-Food Processes (ASPA) research Group.

**EDUCATION:** Agricultural Engineering (Specialization in Food Engineering), UPV (2002). Master in Teaching Theory, UPV (2006), PhD in Food Technology, UPV (2007) (Homologated European PhD).

**POSITIONS:** Visiting PhD Fellow. Marie Curie Training Site. NTNU-SINTEF, Norway (2004-2005), Visiting Scholar. UC Davis, CA (2008-2009).

**TEACHING:** Agricultural Engineering and Biotechnology program degrees and Food Engineering Master program. Courses: Unit operations, heat transfer, modelling and simulation, process control and design of bio-reactors.

**RESEARCH:** Topics: Food Engineering, Drying, Application of high and low intensity ultrasound, Modeling, simulation and optimization. Publications: 51 in JCR journals and 4 book chapters. Conferences: more than 100 contributions.

**RECOGNIZATIONS:** National Award: Top 3 Best Agricultural Engineering students, Spanish Ministry of Education (2002). Outstanding Thesis Award, UPV (2007). Outstanding contributions to mass diffusion in natural materials. DSL Congress (2008). Excellence Award in Drying, European Federation of Chemical Engineering, 2010.

## ASPA GROUP

The research group ASPA ([www.aspa.upv.es](http://www.aspa.upv.es)), located in the Department of Food Technology at the Polytechnic University of Valencia, began its activities in 1991. Since then the group has been consolidated, incorporating new members, teachers and researchers interested in aspects of engineering in processes and in terms of their environmental influence.

The group's main objective is the analysis and optimization of agrofood processes (energy, environment, economics, production..). To this end, processes are characterized, designed and controlled by operation modelling and simulation using computer tools. Not only are conventional processes such as drying or thermal treatments considered, but new technologies like supercritical fluid extraction or high power ultrasonics are also investigated. Product assessment involves the classical physico-chemical analysis as well as the use of new techniques based on ultrasonics (non-destructive) or electromyography.

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