

ABSTRACT**PROCESS FOR PRODUCING INSTANT RICE IN BLOCK FORM AND INSTANT RICE IN BLOCK FORM**

The present invention discloses a process for producing a food product, more specifically a ready-to-eat rice for cooking, namely an instant rice in block form, which can be reconstituted with a unique crunchy texture and sensory appeal, in a reduced preparation time, either by cooking in a conventional pan or by heating in a microwave oven. The present process includes the steps of metering rice grains into individual portions; continuously cooking in a two-compartment tunnel with constant water exchange; moulding and compacting into blocks; dehydrating by frying; and cooling and packaging.

[FIG. 1]