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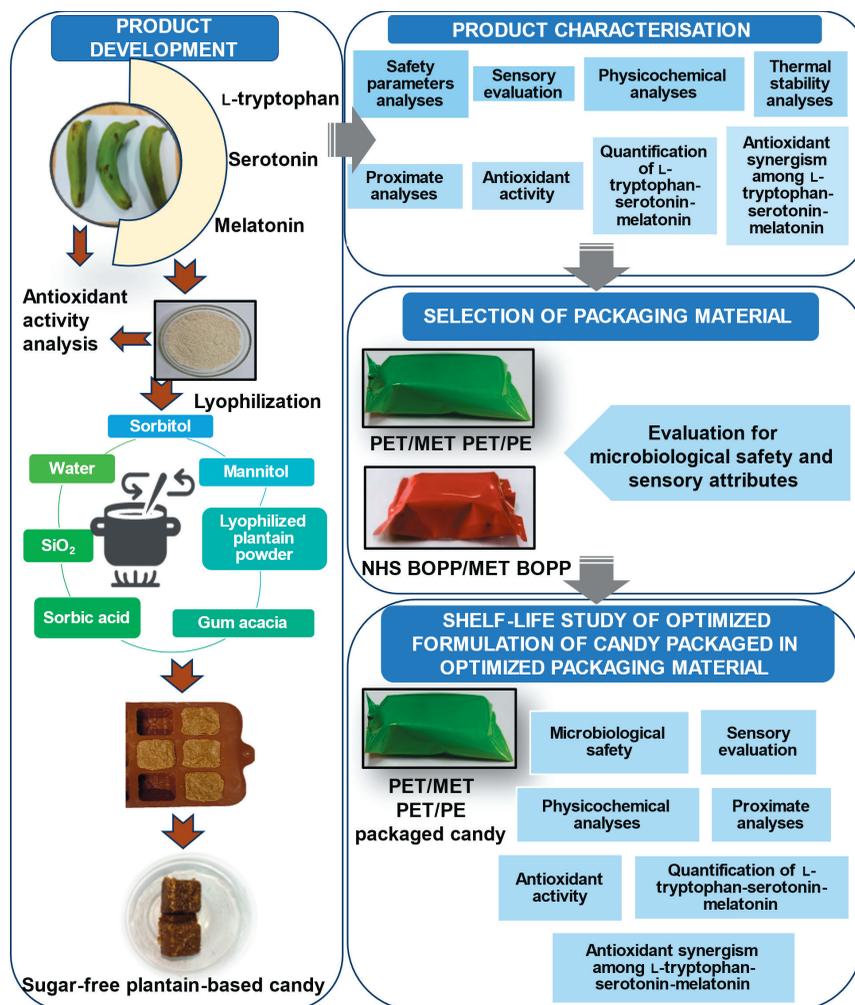


Fig. S1. Experimental design of the present study

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Table S1. Details of ingredients used in candy formulation

Ingredient	Function	Permitted amount	Used amount	Reference
Sorbitol	Low calorie sweetening agent, forms the body of candy	GMP (FSSAI)	<i>m</i> (sorbitol):	(27)
D-mannitol	Low calorie sweetening agent, forms the base of candy	GMP (FSSAI)	<i>m</i> (D-mannitol)=3:1	
Gum acacia	Thickening agent, stabilizer, emulsifier	–	30 %	(26)
SiO ₂	Desiccant, anticaking agent	–	0.5 %	(26)
Sorbic acid	Antifungal agent	1 g/L (FSSAI)	0.1 %	(26)
Lyophilized green plantain powder	Principle fortifying material rich in antioxidants	–	65 %	–
Potable water	To solubilize the ingredients	–	50 %	–
Vanilla essence	Flavouring agent	–	100 µL	–

FSSAI=Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, GMP=good manufacturing practices

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Table S2. Microbial counts in PET/MET PET/PE packaged candies during storage

t/day	N/(CFU/g)			
	Control candy sample		Plantain candy sample	
	Bacteria	Yeast/mould	Bacteria	Yeast/mould
0	0 ^a	0 ^k	0 ^a	0 ^k
7	0 ^a	0 ^k	0 ^a	0 ^k
14	0 ^a	0 ^k	0 ^a	0 ^k
21	0 ^a	0 ^k	0 ^a	0 ^k
28	(187.5±30.0) ^b	0 ^k	0 ^a	0 ^k
35	(250±78) ^c	0 ^k	(187.5±36.0) ^b	0 ^k
42	(500±84) ^d	0 ^k	(437.5±73.0) ^g	0 ^k
49	(562.5±96.0) ^e	0 ^k	(812.5±94.0) ^h	0 ^k
56	(1750±187.0) ^f	(937.5±80.0) ⁱ	(687.5±69.0) ⁱ	0 ^k
63	-	-	(1062.5±122.0) ^j	(312.5±116.0) ^m

Data are mean value±S.D., N=3. Different letters indicate significant differences at p<0.05 level. PET=polyethylene terephthalate, MET PET=metallized polyester, PE=polyethylene