

Full Manuscripts and Validation Report Submissions

The *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* publishes refereed papers and reviews in the fields of chemical, biological, and toxicological analytical chemistry for the purpose of showcasing the most precise, accurate, and sensitive methods for analysis of foods, food additives, supplements and contaminants, cosmetics, drugs, toxins, hazardous substances, pesticides, feeds, fertilizers and the environment available at that point in time. The scope of the *Journal* includes unpublished original research describing new analytical methods, techniques and applications; improved approaches to sampling, both in the field and the laboratory; better methods of preparing samples for analysis; collaborative studies substantiating the performance of a given method; and statistical techniques for evaluating data. The *Journal* will also publish other articles of general interest to its audience, e.g., technical communications; cautionary notes; and comments on techniques, apparatus, and reagents.

Letters to the Editor

The *Journal* publishes Letters to the Editor related to papers published in the *Journal*, and where appropriate, the *Journal* will send letters commenting on the *Journal* article to the author of the paper for a response, and publish the letter and the response at the same time.

Reviews

Reviews are published on topics within the scope of the *Journal*. Published reviews will be a critical evaluation of recent work, which may include or reference the historical background. Review papers are reviewed by the appropriate section editor, who may accept without change, accept with revision, or reject the original submission.

Special Guest Editor Sections

Special Guest Editor sections are published on topics of which are appropriate to the work of AOAC's analytical communities and allow for in-depth treatment of an issue. They are intended to bring together papers from the best scientific minds on the topic. The guest editor is responsible for submitting a proposal, soliciting four to 10 papers, obtaining two peer reviews for each paper, acting as a reviewer or co-reviewer, and writing an introduction to the section, as well.

Joseph Sherma, the *Journal*'s acquisition editor, is available to guide guest editors through the process. (shermaj@lafayette.edu)

Technical Communications

Technical Communications are types of papers, briefer than full research papers, typically less than 10 double spaced, one-sided pages, including text, references, tables, figure captions, and figures, which will be reviewed, with the editor determining the extent of review needed, and published in a separate section of the *Journal*; Technical Communications may include:

- Note on attendant hazard within a method
- Design and description of nonproprietary laboratory apparatus
- Preliminary findings or observations

- Brief note elaborating on an existing method
- Critical comments (not research) on existing methods, especially First Action methods
- Minor modifications to existing analytical methods

Short Communication

Short Communications are types of papers, briefer than full research papers, typically less than 10 double spaced, one-sided pages, including text, references, tables, figure captions, and figures, which will be reviewed, with the editor determining the extent of review needed, and published in a separate section of the Journal.

Symposium Papers

It is general policy that AOAC has first right of refusal of material first presented in symposia at AOAC annual meetings. A symposium containing fewer than 10 papers may be considered for publication as a group in a regular issue of the *Journal*. Symposium organizers collect the papers and submit them to the AOAC Publications Department, but should notify the AOAC Publications Department of their wish to have a symposium considered for publication soon after accepting their role as symposium organizer.

Extended Abstracts

Extended abstracts are restricted length (4-5 double spaced, one-sided pages) papers, including all text, references, tables, figure captions, and figures. Expanded abstracts are lightly reviewed, and fast tracked into a separate section of the *Journal*. Extended abstracts and full research papers are nearly the same, but the extended abstracts are especially meant to promote communication and discussion of subjects that are usually associated with posters, and have yet to be established or completed as research projects, and to provide a venue for early experimental work.