

Instructions to Authors

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Scope of Articles and Review Process

The Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL publishes basic and applied research in the analytical sciences related to foods, drugs, agriculture, and the environment and that present, within these fields of interest of the Association: unpublished original research; new methods; further studies of previously published methods; background work leading to development of methods; compilations of authentic data of composition; technical communications; cautionary notes; comments on techniques, apparatus, and reagents; and invited reviews and features. Emphasis is on research and development of precise, accurate, sensitive methods for analysis of foods, food additives, supplements and contaminants, cosmetics, drugs, toxins, hazardous substances, pesticides, feeds, fertilizers, and the environment. The usual review process is as follows: (1) Author submits manuscript online; (2) AOAC editorial office transmits each submitted paper to appropriate subject matter editor, who solicits peer reviews; (3) editor sends e-mail to author for revision in response to reviewers' comments; editor accepts or rejects revision; and informs author and AOAC editorial office; (4) AOAC editorial staff edits accepted papers following the *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* style guide and transmits approved manuscripts to typesetter; (5) sends page proofs to author for final approval. Page proofs will be sent from the following e-mail address: aoac.caps@luminad.com

General Information

The *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* has an online submission process. Please see <http://www.aoac.org/pubs/journal.htm> to submit. Please follow these instructions closely; doing so will save time and revision.

For all questions of format and style not addressed in these instructions, please visit our website at: <http://www.aoac.org> >Publications and Resources > Journal of AOAC > Author Resources

1. Write in clear, grammatical English.
2. Submit all the following mandatory information: (1) title; (2) all authors' full names (full first, middle initial if any, full last), addresses including mail codes, and corresponding author's e-mail address; (3) abstract; (4) text (introduction, method or experimental, results and/or discussion, acknowledgments, references); (5) figure captions; (6) footnotes; (7) tables with captions, 1 per page; and (8) figures (see instructions below).
3. Suggest at least 4 qualified reviewers, i.e., individuals engaged in or versed in research of the type reported.
4. Double space all materials. Do not right justify or use proportional spacing; avoid hyphenation.
5. If the Section Editor sends notification to author that changes are necessary, it is the author's responsibility to upload updated files per Section Editor's comments before approval is granted.

Format and Style

1. *Abstract*.—250 words. Provide specific information, not generalized statements; abstracts must be organized and include the following subheads: Background, Objective, Methods, Results, Conclusions, Highlights.

2. *Text*.—Please send manuscript text as a Word file. **Do NOT** embed figures or tables in the document. Please include all figures with captions and tables at the end of the manuscript, following the references.

Introduction.—Include information on why work was done, previous work done, use of compound, or process being studied.

Method or Experimental.—Consult recent issue of Journal for proper format. Separate special reagents/apparatus from details of procedure and list in sections with appropriate headings; avoid use of brand names. (Common reagents/apparatus or those that require no special treatment need not be listed separately.) Place detailed operations in separate sections with appropriate heading (e.g., Preparation of Sample, Extraction, and Cleanup). Include necessary calculations; number of significant figures must reflect accuracy of method. Use metric units for measurements of quantities wherever possible. Note hazardous and/or carcinogenic chemicals.

Results/Discussion.—Cite tables and figures consecutively in text with arabic numerals. Do not intersperse tables and figures in text.

Acknowledgments.—Give brief thanks (no social or academic titles) or acknowledge financial aid in this section. *References*.—Submitted papers or unpublished oral presentations may not be listed as references; cite them in text as unpublished data or personal communications. Cite all references to previously published papers or papers in press in numerical order in text with number in parentheses on line (not superscript). List references numerically in References in exactly (arrangement, punctuation, capitalization, use of ampersand, etc.) the same styles of examples shown below or see recent issue of Journal for less often used types of entries. Follow Chemical Abstracts for abbreviations of journal titles.

Journal Article Reference

- (1) McClearly, B.V., & Draga, A. (2016) *J. AOAC Int.* 99, 364–373. doi: 10.5740/jaoacint.15-0289

Book Chapter Reference

- (1) Hum, B.A.L., & Chantler, S.M. (1980) in *Methods in Enzymology*, Vol. 70, H. Van Vunakis & J.J. Langone (Eds), Academic Press, New York, NY, pp 104–142

Book Reference

- (1) Siegel, S. (1956) *Nonparametric Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences*, McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York, NY

Official Methods Reference

- (1) *Official Methods of Analysis* (2016) 20th Ed., AOAC INTERNATIONAL, Rockville, MD, Method **2000.01**. www.eoma.aoac.org [accessed on May 25, 2016]

3. *Tables*.—Please submit tables in Word, in table format. Each "entry" must be in a cell of its own.

4. *Figures*.—Figures must be submitted in a graphic format, preferably .jpg or .pdf.

Usually a minimum of 300 dots per inch is required for acceptable print quality. Each figure should be submitted as its own file. Color is available for online figures; figures will appear in black and white in print.

5. *Footnotes*.—Avoid use of footnotes to text. Include location/date of presentation, if appropriate; present address(es) of author(s); identification of corresponding author, if not senior author, proprietary disclaimers; institution journal series numbers.

6. *Miscellaneous*.—Abbreviation for liter is L; abbreviation for micron is μ . Do not italicize common Latin expressions such as et al. and in vitro; for nomenclature of spectrometry, gas chromatography, and liquid chromatography, follow practice of American Society for Testing and Materials.

Do not use numbering in your headings or subheadings. Major headings should be set in bold font, secondary headings in italic font, and third level headings should be set using alphabetical lists (a).

The Journal prefers the use of the front solidus (/) do not use superscript⁻¹ (i.e., $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$).

Required Signature Documents

Authors must sign and upload, at the time of submission, the required signature document which includes the following signature pages:

1. *Copyright*.—In the event that this article is accepted for publication in the Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL, the Author(s) hereby transfers to AOAC INTERNATIONAL all copyrights and certifies that he/she is authorized to do so.

2. *Statement of Authorship*.—This document attests to the following (1) This manuscript has been submitted solely to this journal and is not published, in press, or submitted elsewhere. (2) This manuscript is an original work without fabrication or plagiarism. (3) All authors have read and approved the manuscript and are prepared to take public responsibility for the work; (4) This manuscript identifies all co-authors who have substantially contributed to the concept, data collection and analysis, or preparation of the manuscripts and, therefore, who may have intellectual property claims to the content. The authors attest that those individuals or organizations mentioned in the Acknowledgments are aware that their names appear in the manuscript. (5) All authors have declared all sources of funding for the work reported in their manuscript and reported all potential conflict of interest.

3. *Manuscript Preparation: Style and Format*.—Which states that you have read and followed these instructions.

Special Instructions for Journal Articles containing Official Methods of Analysis First and Final Action Methods

First and Final Action Official Methods will need to include InChi numbers and CAS numbers where appropriate.