



June 9, 2021

Keep the conversation going! Join AOAC's Cannabis and Hemp Community on [LinkedIn](#) to network, engage, and discuss current issues.

Working Group Updates:

- **Microbiology Working Group**

The CASP Advisory Panel has directed this group, chaired by Julia Bramante of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, begin work on validation guidance for cannabis microbiology. The group met on May 26 and on June 8 to discuss the format of this document and the potential for breaking into subgroups. Subgroups will include: matrices, decontamination of matrix, suitability testing of media, looking at quantitative vs. qualitative methods, requirements for reference methods, and requirements for different technologies for *in-silico* analysis. The SMPR titled *Viable Total Yeast and Mold Count Enumeration* completed a public comment period on April 30. Comments have been compiled and provided to the working group chair to address. Once all comments are addressed, this SMPR will be sent out to the CASP community with an e-ballot for a final vote of approval. Once approved, AOAC will issue a broad call for methods for methods that may meet the new SMPR.

- **CASP Product Centric Working Group**

The CASP Advisory Panel has directed this group to continue to explore issues surrounding cannabinoid infused beverages before moving on to new matrices including cosmetics and hempseed oil. The CASP Product Centric Working Group will meet on Friday, June 11 to discuss their first project as a new group. Working group chairs have developed a [spreadsheet](#) listing testing requirements that apply specifically to finished product beverages in each state. **AOAC and the Chairs need community input on this!** We are looking for the source of the regulation (e.g. California BCC, State X Dept of Health, etc.) and also a link to cite that information. If you have something to contribute please [access the spreadsheet](#) and add it. If you have any questions, please [contact us](#).

- **Training and Education Working Group**

After developing and executing a series of webinars earlier this year, this working group is now looking towards new training and education opportunities. The group met on April 27 and discussed several possibilities including expanding on method validation, method demonstrations, regional training, and/or an international overview of the cannabis and hemp industry. The group will be coordinating several sessions over the next few months, including a talk from USDA on the "Final Rule" and a vaping science panel. Dates and registration information for both of these will be provided to everyone on this list soon.

Status of Working Group Drafts:

Three draft documents are scheduled to go out to the CASP Community for a final vote soon: SMPR for Total Yeast and Mold, SMPR for Mycotoxins (Quantitative), and the Drying Guidance document. Working group chairs are working to reconcile the final comments on these documents and you will see a ballot shortly.

Expert Review Panel Updates:

Upcoming ERP Meetings

The CASP Expert Review Panels for Microbiology and Chemical Contaminants will both meet during the next Analytical Methods Week, August 2-6. Methods have been submitted for pesticides in cannabis, heavy metals, and total yeast & mold (total yeast & mold methods were submitted as part of the Emergency Response Validation (ERV) – a broad call for methods in this area will still be issued once that SMPR is approved). All will be welcome to attend these ERP sessions. More information will be provided in the next newsletter. Do you have a method you'd like submitted for AOAC ERP Review? See the open CASP Calls for Methods below:

- [Detection of Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli in Cannabis and Cannabis Products](#)
- [Mycotoxin Screening Technique in Cannabis Plant Materials and Cannabis Derivatives](#)
- [Detection of Salmonella species in Cannabis and Cannabis Products](#)
- [Identification and Quantitation of Selected Pesticide Residues in Dry Cannabis Materials](#)
- [Identification and Quantitation of Residual Solvents in Cannabis](#)
- [Detection of Aspergillus in Cannabis and Cannabis Products](#)

Submitted methods will be considered for AOAC *Official Methods of Analysis*SM(OMA) status and/or the AOAC *Performance Tested Methods*SM program. Please follow the appropriate link above for details.

Relevant Speaking Engagements and/or Training Opportunities:

Upcoming Virtual Short Course: Cannabis Infused Foods – An Entrepreneur's Primer

August 10-12

Hosted by the [Institute of Food Technologists](#) (IFT), a CASP Affiliate Member

For the recently licensed cannabis producer interested in developing infused foods, the world of beverages and edibles can seem confusing and poorly supported. Regulations, from track and trace to laboratory analyses, consume large amounts of the entrepreneur's time. Food quality, food science, and critical controls are often only touched upon. With limited capital, production is frequently a scaled up culinary operation that promises unique products, yet soon strains under production, laboratory, and quality pressures. Join IFT for this new and exciting short course that will address solutions from the small producer's point of view versus presentations describing specific products or services. [Register Here](#).

Coupon Code to Register at the IFT member rate: **CIF2021**

Do you want your organization to join the CASP Advisory Panel and help determine priorities for the AOAC Cannabis Analytical Science Program? If so, contact Alicia Meiklejohn (ameiklejohn@aoac.org) for details. For general CASP inquiries please contact Christopher Dent, CASP Program Lead, cdent@aoac.org.

If you would prefer not to receive emails about AOAC CASP, please reply to this email with the subject "Unsubscribe."

2275 Research Blvd, Ste 300
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3250 USA
P: +1 301.924.7077 • F: +1 301.924.7089
www.aoac.org

Copyright AOAC INTERNATIONAL. All rights reserved.