



February 18, 2022

## CASP Meeting Coming Soon!

If you haven't already registered for the AOAC Mid-Year Meeting, which includes the CASP meeting on March 16, now is the time! There are multiple options for attendance – in-person, remote, and one-day passes. Please [view the website](#) for more information. **NOTE:** Early bird registration ends on 2/21!

## 2022 Priorities and the CASP Advisory Panel

The CASP Advisory Panel (AP) met on Monday, January 31 to review the results of the prioritization survey and confirm the 2022 CASP workplan. The following has now been confirmed:

- Complete 2021 Projects
  - Micro Validation Guidance
  - Drying Guidance Document
  - Suite of Beverage SMPRs
- Commence 2022 Workplan
  - Microbial contamination of edibles
  - Cannabis containing dietary supplements
  - Hempseed oil (pending completion of above)
  - Training sessions for:
    - Testing Cannabis Beverages
    - Validation of Cannabis Testing Methods

2022 working groups will include:

- Training Development Working Group (Chair: Toby Astill)
- Cannabis Microbiology Working Group (Chair: Julia Bramante)
- Cannabis Chemistry Working Group (Co-Chairs: Julie Kowalski and Holly Johnson)

Working group members will receive an email within the next week asking them to confirm their participation on these working group(s). Are you interested in supporting CASP and helping to set future priorities? Join the advisory panel! Please contact Alicia Meiklejohn, AOAC Director of Business Development, at [ameiklejohn@aoac.org](mailto:ameiklejohn@aoac.org) or 301-924-7077 x 101.

## Working Group Updates

### • **Cannabis Microbiology Working Group**

The CASP Microbiology Working Group, chaired by Julia Bramante of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, met on January 11, 2022, to conduct a final review of the draft *Guidelines for Validation of Microbiological Methods for Cannabis and Cannabis Products*. This document has now proceeded to the next phase of the approval process, the [public comment period](#). This document is expected to be presented for approval at the AOAC Mid-Year Meeting and published as an appendix to the *Official Methods of Analysis*® after that.

### • **Cannabis Chemistry Working Group**

Ballots to approve both the Cannabinoids in Cannabis Beverages SMPR and the Heavy Metals in Cannabis Beverages are both now open! Please [cast your vote](#) if you have not already done so. **All members of the CASP community are encouraged to vote on the SMPRs!**

The subgroup working on the residual solvents in cannabis beverages SMPR has completed their draft and that document will soon move to a public comment period. The pesticide residues in cannabis beverages subgroup continues work on the SMPR and have recently completed discussions on how to categorize the matrices. Soon the group will move on to determine the list of analytes as well as the performance requirements. These two SMPRs will complete the suite of cannabis beverage SMPRs.

### • **Training Development Working Group**

This group has been re-launched as the Training Development Working Group to emphasize the mission of *developing* cannabis science training and education sessions. The sessions they develop will be announced on the AOAC website and the CASP newsletter and will require registration. AOAC is now calling for volunteers to sign up for this group's re-launch. The group will work to develop no less than two training sessions in 2022, one for analyzing cannabis beverages and another for general validation of cannabis testing methods. If you feel that you can contribute to the development these sessions, you may [sign up here](#).

## Open Calls for Methods

Do you have a method you'd like submitted for AOAC ERP Review? See the open CASP Calls for Methods below. AOAC is happy to discuss the method submission process with method authors prior to submission. If you would like to organize a call, simply reply to this email.

- [Quantitative Analysis of Mycotoxins in Cannabis Biomass and Cannabis Derived Products](#) (NEW!)
- [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*<sup>SM</sup>(OMA) status and/or the AOAC *Performance Tested Methods*<sup>SM</sup> program. Please follow the appropriate link above for details.

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

**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](mailto:ameiklejohn@aoac.org)) for details. For general CASP inquiries, please contact Christopher Dent, CASP Program Lead, [cdent@aoac.org](mailto:cdent@aoac.org).**