

Benefits of Organizational Membership with **AOAC INTERNATIONAL**



*In Food & Agriculture,
We Set the Standard*



Global alignment for trusted
analytical solutions for **food
safety, food integrity, and
public health**



AOAC INTERNATIONAL's mission is to advance food safety and product integrity through standards, validated test methods, and laboratory quality programs

Official **3,000+**
MethodsSM

179 Performance
Tested
MethodsSM

Scientific
Excellence

Founded in 1884, AOAC INTERNATIONAL is one of the world's most respected food and agricultural standards organizations.

AOAC's *Official Methods of Analysis*SM is considered the gold standard for analytical science, and the methods contained within are used and trusted by regulatory and industry laboratories worldwide. AOAC's *Official Methods* is accessed over 16,500 times a month by scientists and has had more than 592,000 views since 2023.

Each year, AOAC's Proficiency Testing Program helps more than 500 laboratories compete in the global marketplace by demonstrating that they meet the highest international standards.

International
Trade

As the accredited administrator of the US Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to ISO/TC 34 (Food products) and an active observer to Codex Alimentarius, AOAC INTERNATIONAL is positioned at the center of critical global standards alignment that keeps goods flowing.

AOAC's 15 Regional Sections across the Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa, and Australia translate global standard alignment into regional impact, representing economies that account for 85% of the world's population and 80% of global GDP.

ACCURACY
RELIABILITY
COMPLIANCE



AOAC SECTIONS
REPRESENT
80%
OF WORLD GDP



AOAC INTERNATIONAL is the preeminent standards developing organization with the scientific reputation and process efficiency to meet regulatory, business, and technical needs.



16 program areas
30+ working groups
500+ experts

HOW AOAC WORKS

Supporting Innovation

As new ingredients, technologies, and product claims evolve, scientifically rigorous methods are essential to demonstrate their safety, quality, and performance. AOAC INTERNATIONAL supports the development of consensus-based testing methods providing confidence and closing critical testing gaps

Leveraging the power of 16 program areas, an average 30-plus working groups, and more than 500 expert volunteers, AOAC INTERNATIONAL can develop critically needed voluntary consensus standards and testing methods in as little as three months.

Risk Management

The World Trade Organization estimates that globally, 600 million people fall ill each year after eating contaminated food, with an economic cost of \$95 billion USD a year.

In 2024, there were 296 food recalls in the U.S. (241 FDA and 55 USDA). It is estimated that the average cost of a recall to a food company is \$10 million USD.

AOAC INTERNATIONAL continually lowers the cost and time of ensuring food safety by developing new, more accurate and faster chemistry and microbiology methods.

Full Circle: Integrating Essential Services for Scientific Excellence

AOAC’s global suite of initiatives supports analytical excellence by developing standards, validating methods, certifying technical performance, and providing proficiency testing, training and capacity-building programs. Together, these create the environment essential for global confidence in the food supply.



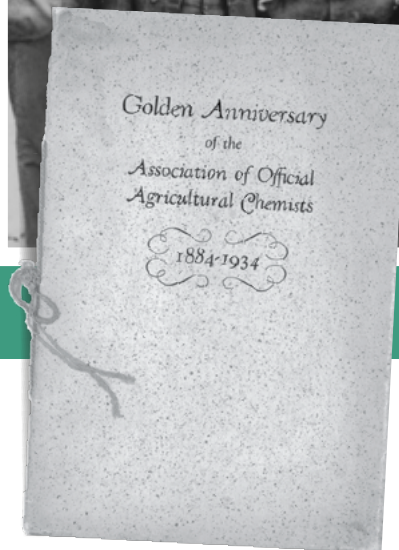
Global Confidence in Food Supply



AOAC INTERNATIONAL founding member, Harvey W. Wiley



Harvey Wiley (third from right) and his staff, about 1883



More Than 140 Years of Collaboration

AOAC INTERNATIONAL was founded on September 8, 1884 as the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists by the United States Department of Agriculture, to establish uniform chemical analysis methods for analyzing fertilizers. Since then, it has led continuous advancement in food safety and integrity testing.



AOAC Meeting, Washington, DC, November 1908

1884 – 1920s

AOAC's first meeting; *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* and *Official Methods of Analysis* begin publication

1930s – 1960s

AOAC moves to the newly formed Food, Drug and Insecticide organization which becomes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1930

1970s – 1980s

AOAC becomes an independent nonprofit organization; membership is expanded from government to all analytical scientists; local Sections launch in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia

1990 – 2000s

Launch of test kit certification and laboratory proficiency testing programs; *Inside Laboratory Management* begins publication; launch of technical divisions on reference materials and laboratory management; China Section launched

2010 – present

MOU with ISO, named administrator to U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 34; Africa, Arab, India, Southeast Asia, and South West Pacific Sections established; launch of scientific programs for agent detection assays, cannabis, dairy protein hydrolysates, dietary fiber and other carbohydrates, food authenticity, infant formula, novel foods, PFAS, and other important topics

AN ORGANIZATION ON THE MOVE

- **Official Methods Program**
- **Analytical Solutions Forum**
- **Proficiency Testing Program (PT)**
- **Research Institute *Performance Tested Methods*SM (PTM) Program**
- **Research Institute *Performance Tested Consumables* (PTC) Program**
- **AOAC INTERNATIONAL Microbiological Standards Program (AIMS)**
- **Botanical Ingredients and Dietary Supplement Integrity Program (BIDSi)**
- **Cannabis Analytical Science Program (CASP)**
- **Dairy Protein Hydrolysates Program**
- **Dietary Fiber and Other Carbohydrates Program**
- **Gluten & Food Allergens Program (GFA)**
- **Novel Foods Program**
- **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**
- **Stakeholder Program on Agent Detection Assays (SPADA)**
- **Stakeholder Program on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN)**
- **Vitamins Program**



Collaborating with Scientific Centers of Excellence

The *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* is one of many distinguished scientific journals published by Oxford University Press.

AOAC and ISO are a part of a cooperative agreement for joint development and approval of common standards and methods.

Meeting Regulatory Needs

AOAC standards and methods are referenced in regulations by government agencies. For example, AOAC's *Standard Method Performance Requirements*SM for analyzing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content of hemp became the cited standard in the USDA's Domestic Hemp Production Program final rule (7 CFR 990) in 2021.

AOAC *Official Methods* are being adopted by Codex Alimentarius and listed in Codex standards, including CXS 234-1999 on Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling. For instance, more than 20 nutrient methods developed through AOAC Stakeholder Program on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN) have been adopted as dispute resolution methods to verify Codex provisions in infant formula and follow-up formula since 2015.

Keeping Pace with Expanding Safety Testing Needs

AOAC's Proficiency Testing (PT) Program's scope of ISO 17043 accreditation continues to expand to include additional programs for microbiology and chemistry methods, with several programs added for hemp and cannabis matrices in recent years. In addition to regular PT rounds, Quality Assurance & Educational Samples (QAES) are now also available to support method development, validation, and other quality control needs.

The Analytical Solutions Forum is an "idea incubator" bringing stakeholders together for horizon scanning on emerging food analytical science needs and innovation.



Opening Doors for Trade

AOAC's Board of Directors sets strategy, priorities, and goals in AOAC's international food safety testing harmonization efforts.

AOAC's sections in developing nations, the "eyes and ears on the ground" to identify emerging issues, are increasingly serving as expert resources for local authorities and food sector decision makers.

AOAC meetings bring together representatives from all AOAC sections including China, India, Japan, Southeast Asia, South West Pacific, Taiwan, Europe, Latin America-Caribbean, Africa, Arab, Mid-Canada, and four U.S. sections.

Meeting Emerging Needs

AOAC has established collaborative and other partnership agreements with the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO), Land O'Lakes Venture37, United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA FSIS), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Dairy Federation (IDF), International Special Dietary Foods Industries (ISDI), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL), Chinese Institute of Food Science and Technology (CIFST), Institute for the Advancement of Food and Nutrition Sciences (IAFNS), National Institute for Food Control (NIFC), Nordic Committee on Food Analysis (NMKL), Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine (FDA CVM), Qingdao Customs Technical Center, Minor Use Foundation, the Global Retailer and Manufacturer Alliance (GRMA), and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to expand its global impact.

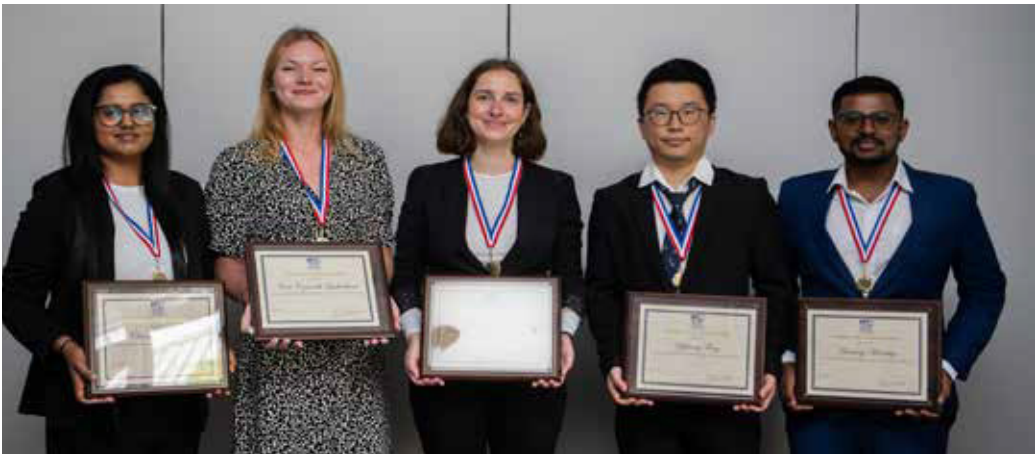
Laying Foundations for a Strong Future

AOAC is focused on attracting the next generation of analytical scientists, as well as providing ongoing introductory training and orientation in person at the Annual Meeting.

AOAC has been partnering with the Eurofins Foundation and Herbalife Nutrition to provide two student awards designed to encourage student research and innovation in analytical science.

Eligible student members receive complimentary memberships.

2025 recipients of AOAC INTERNATIONAL/Eurofins Foundation "Testing for Life" Student Award from left to right: Chamali Kodikara, Eva Czmorik Ludvickova, Julia Andronache, Yihang Feng, and Gururaj Moorthy.



Why have more than 100 of the world's top manufacturers, laboratories, government agencies, and test developers joined AOAC?

CASE STUDY:

Animal rights militants in New Zealand threatened to contaminate infant formula with the highly toxic Compound 1080 if it were not banned for pest control. Government testing labs found no poison in commercial formula, but their test had not been formally validated and consumer fear continued to spread.

SOLUTION:

With an experienced infant formula Stakeholder Advisory Panel and a Pesticide Contaminants Working Group already in place, AOAC assembled a top-quality Expert Review Panel immediately. Within two weeks, nine candidate methods were reviewed and three received Official Method status.

“AOAC is breaking new ground in developing methods with efficiency AND scientific rigor.”
—Dustin Starkey, PhD, MBA, *Director Research & Development*
Nutrients & Bioanalytical Global Analytical & Food Safety, Abbott Nutrition

CASE STUDY:

An Indian consumer group claimed there were high levels of pesticides in soft drinks produced in India by foreign-owned companies, resulting in a governmental inquiry and sales bans in some Indian states. With no officially validated methods that could be used to refute the allegations, the companies were losing sales and consumer confidence in India.

SOLUTION:

The companies turned to AOAC, which convened an Expert Review Panel to review and assess methodology used by the consumer group. Within a year, the panel produced two validated methods and helped inform the official Indian government report stating the consumer group's allegations were unreliable. In the end, the product bans were lifted, and the methods supported the development of new food safety regulations in India.



If we had started from scratch, our gluten in oats method would have taken forever.



—Paul Wehling, *ChemStats Consulting (previously with General Mills/Medallion Labs)*

CASE STUDY:

In 2016, new regulations requiring listing of BPA in beverages were enacted in California. However, fit-for-purpose analytical standards and methods did not exist, exposing producers to potentially crushing noncompliance issues.

SOLUTION:

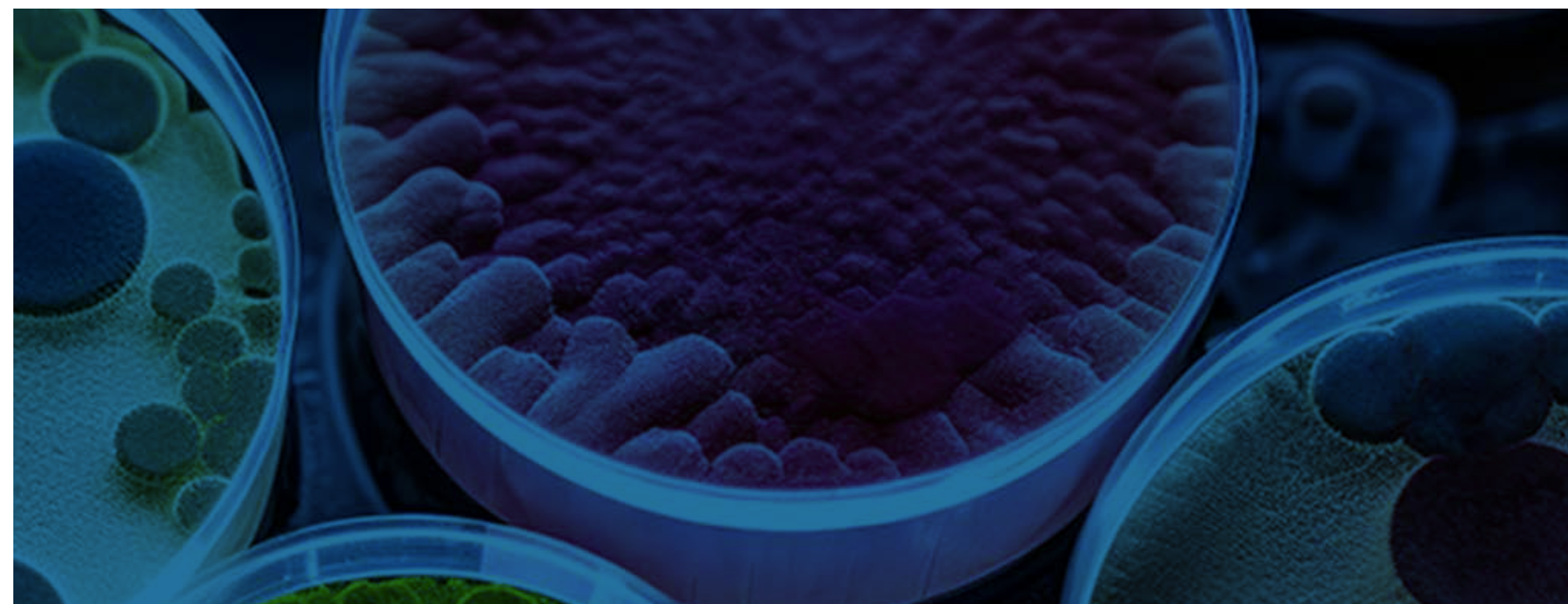
After receiving an urgent request from the American Beverage Association, AOAC launched a working group and Expert Review Panel uniting industry, academia, and government. By the time the new regulations went into effect, the suitable testing methods these businesses needed were available.

CASE STUDY:

Companies eager to boost opportunities for oats in the lucrative gluten-free consumer market were blocked because existing analytical tests were not applicable to oats.

SOLUTION:

Seven AOAC Organizational Members initiated a project taking advantage of an existing AOAC stakeholder panel. With experts assembled and a working infrastructure already in place, consensus was quickly reached on a new method that unlocked this valuable business opportunity.





Join more than 100 of the world's top manufacturers, laboratories, government agencies, and test developers in advancing food safety, product integrity, and public health. As an AOAC Organizational Member, your organization will:

- **Gain Global Recognition:** Tie your reputation to AOAC INTERNATIONAL, the gold standard in food and agricultural analytical science since 1884.
- **Access Proven Solutions:** Utilize over 3,000 *Official Methods*SM and 179 *Performance Tested Methods*SM trusted by regulatory and industry laboratories worldwide.
- **Influence Standards:** Collaborate with key stakeholders to shape global food safety regulations and standards, including those adopted by Codex Alimentarius and ISO.
- **Reduce Risks:** Leverage AOAC's validated methods to lower costs, ensure compliance, and protect your brand from costly recalls and noncompliance issues.
- **Expand Opportunities:** Unlock new markets and business potential with AOAC's innovative testing methods, such as those for gluten-free oats, BPA, and hemp.

Join AOAC INTERNATIONAL and position your organization as a leader in ensuring safe, high-quality food for a global marketplace.

Contact us at members@aoac.org or visit www.aoac.org to learn more and become a member today!

AOAC INTERNATIONAL: Where Government, Industry, and Academia Meet

AOAC's position at the confluence of key stakeholder groups facilitates exceptional opportunities for official collaboration leading to analytical solutions essential to promoting public health.

To learn more, contact
members@aoac.org.



www.aoac.org

P.O. Box 1067, Rockville, MD 20849 +1 (800) 379-2622