

Ccaspo

The logo for AOAC INTERNATIONAL is located inside the first letter 'C' of the 'Ccaspo' text. It consists of the letters 'AOAC' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with the word 'INTERNATIONAL' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font directly below it.

Cannabis Analytical
Science Program

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AOAC INTERNATIONAL — At a Glance

AOAC's history is intertwined with the development of food safety science in the US:

- Formed in 1884 at USDA, later part of FDA, AOAC became independent in 1970s
- Leader in Standards Development
- Global Trade Facilitator
- International Member Base
- Consensus Builder
- Official Methods of Analysis Publisher
- **Academic, Industry & Regulatory Collaboration.**
- Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program

AOAC INTERNATIONAL:

- has responded to regulators and taken action to convene experts and approve consensus methods for the analysis of cannabis and hemp in food, feed, plant materials, and other substances of interest.
 - implementing the *best available science* to promote public health.
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- Note: AOAC recognizes that hemp is in fact cannabis, but hemp is often specifically identified in state, provincial, and federal regulatory statutes.



Cannabis-Related AOAC Standard Method Performance Requirements (SMPR)

- **SMPR 2017.001**
Cannabinoids in Cannabis Concentrates
- **SMPR 2017.002**
Cannabinoids in Dried Plant Materials
- **SMPR 2017.019**
Cannabinoids in Chocolate
- **SMPR 2018.011**
Pesticides in Cannabis

Cannabis-Related AOAC Official Methods of Analysis

AOAC Official Method 2018.10

Cannabinoid in Dried Flowers and Oil Liquid Chromatographic Method

AOAC Official Method 2018.11

Quantitation of Cannabinoids in Cannabis Dried Plant Materials, Concentrates, and Oils using Liquid Chromatography–Diode Array Detection Technique with Optional Mass Spectrometric Detection

CASP Objectives

- Facilitate a forum where the science of cannabis analysis is discussed with international experts.
- Facilitate the development and publication of cannabis and hemp specific methods and standards.
- Develop cannabis and hemp reference materials.
- Establish a cannabis and hemp proficiency testing program in accord with International Standards.
- Provide analytical and laboratory management training, in particular ISO accreditation training.
- Provide resources and education to regulators responsible for establishing rules and laws around cannabis and hemp.

CASP Funding Policy

It is the policy of the AOAC INTERNATIONAL Board of Directors that we will not advocate for or against the use or legalization of cannabis. Our mission is consistent with ensuring public health and food safety by facilitating the development of methods for testing cannabis in food, feed or other substances of interest to determine the best available science to promote public health.

Policy on Funding

1. AOAC INTERNATIONAL can accept funding from: a. US, Canadian and other federal agencies. b. Provincial (Canada) and state (US) public health laboratories. c. Commercial testing laboratories not involved in cultivating, manufacturing, or distributing cannabis in any form. d. Test kit and rapid methods companies. e. Technology providers.
2. AOAC INTERNATIONAL cannot accept funding from any organization involved in the cultivation, manufacture, distribution or possession of cannabis as long as it is illegal in the US.
3. Any potential funding organization not described in section 1 or 2 may be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by AOAC legal counsel, to determine acceptability under this policy.

Current CASP Projects

Microbiology in Cannabis

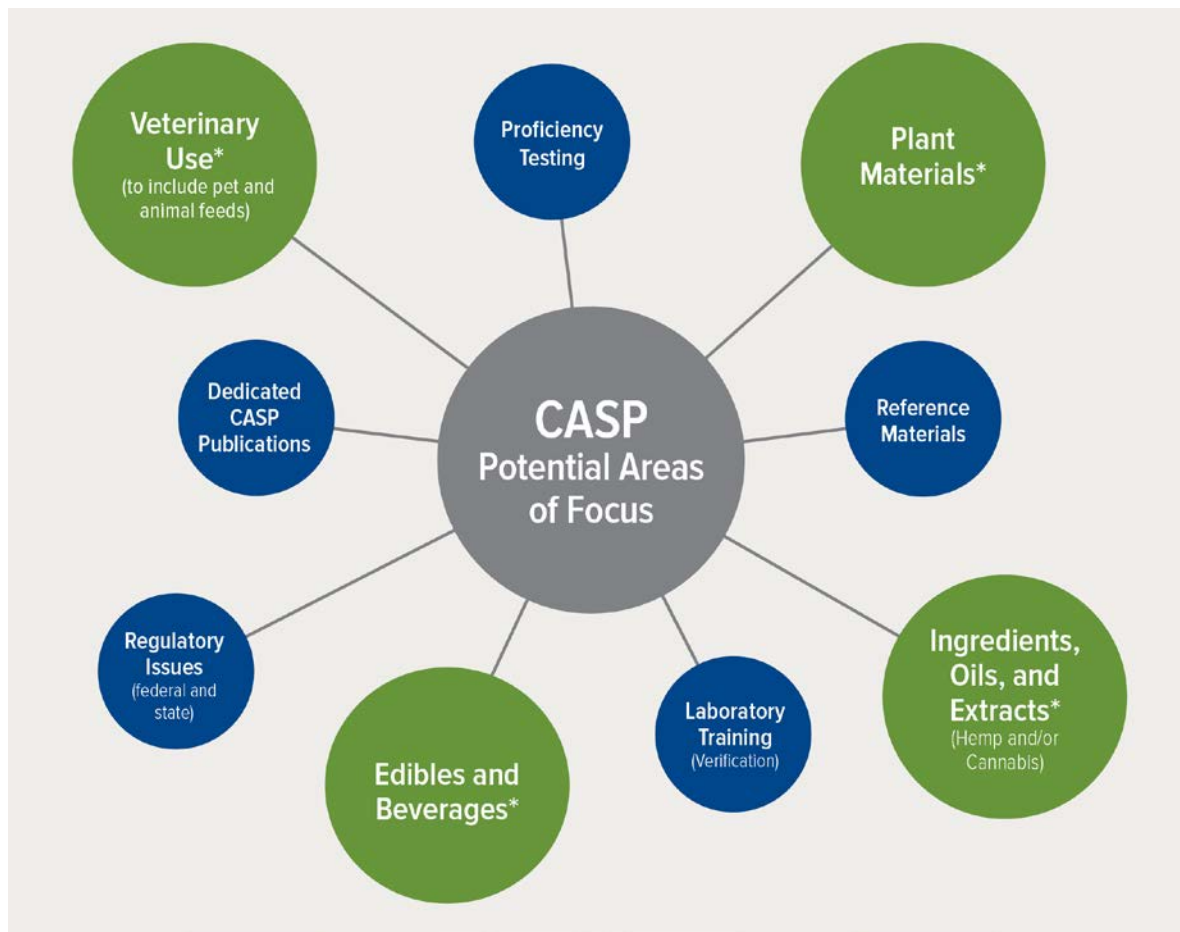
- Initial focus on *Aspergillus*.

Cannabinoids in Consumables

- Initial focus on cannabinoids in hemp plant materials.
- Recommendation on reporting total THC (THC + THCA)
- Recommendation on dry weight.

Chemical Contaminants in Cannabis

- Review Target Limit of Quantitation for pesticides.



Targeting cannabis and hemp specific standards and/or methods of analysis such as:

- potency
- pesticide residues
- biological contaminants
- chemical contaminants including select mycotoxins
- untargeted testing profiles
- method validation guidelines

For more than 125 years, AOAC has set the standard for the development of scientifically reliable analytical methods for food and health regulators and industry globally.

Development of scientific methods and standards and supporting programs for cannabis and hemp in food products and plant materials is a critical need.

For more Information, contact:

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