

# Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry

© Copyright 1977 by the American Chemical Society

Volume 25, Number 3 May/June 1977

## SYMPOSIUM ON METHODS FOR THE ISOLATION OF TRACE VOLATILE CONSTITUENTS

### Introduction

This symposium was organized at the invitation of the Flavor Subdivision of the Agricultural and Food Chemistry Division. The subject is a valid symposium topic because of the pivotal roles that method selection and application play in any experimental study.

Numerous approaches have been developed for the concentration and isolation of volatile materials, but all have shortcomings which limit their universal applicability. It is necessary to be aware of these limitations and reduce their impact if possible by modifying and improving the most appropriate method, or by applying complementary techniques to compensate for shortcomings of any one method. The papers presented in this symposium describe the respective authors' attempts to do this. Several of the papers discuss efforts to refine and modify one or more of the experimental approaches, while the authors of the other papers were more concerned with developing an integrated application of such methods to specific research problems.

ROBERT A. FLATH

Western Regional Research Center  
Agricultural Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Berkeley, California 94710