

### Paraquat Determination

The Open Forum item by Kaistha *et al.*<sup>1</sup> on Paraquat is very interesting and also appropriate due to the high risks involved in Paraquat-contaminated marijuana smoking. However, the described method is time consuming, particularly when one is looking for a quick answer.

I believe that a recent technique that utilizes sodium bicarbonate and sodium dithionate solutions in the marijuana washings for the development of a blue color is rather simple and convenient. Moreover, our laboratory has developed a single TLC and spot test technique<sup>2</sup> for the Paraquat-sprayed hallucinogen.

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<sup>1</sup> K. K. Kaistha, R. Tadrus, and D. Wojtulewicz, *J. Pharm. Sci.*, 67 (8), IV (1978).

<sup>2</sup> To be published.

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