

Methods development update

The Uniform Methods Committee (UMC) held its second meeting of the year on Nov. 25, 1985, in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of this meeting was to review the status of methods under revision, consider action on proposed methods and discuss other pertinent business.

Highlights of technical committee activities which have been completed are: the flash point method for quaternary ammonium chlorides has been revised, requiring the use of a closed cup tester; four aflatoxin methods have been rewritten into AOCS format; Evaluation of Test Methods (collaborative study protocols, a new addition to Section M) and a revised version of the Writing and Approval of Methods (Part IV of M2-65) were submitted to the UMC for approval; a TLC/colorimetric method for phospholipids (IUPAC method) and

antioxidants by HPLC (AOAC method) also were submitted to the UMC for approval as a recommended practice.

Proposed Action on Other Methods

Proposed action on new methods was as follows:

- A rapid nephelometric procedure for phospholipids in oils, developed by Roger Sinram, A.E. Staley, will be submitted to the UMC for approval as a Recommended Practice.
- Ray Coleman (UCI) will be chairman of a committee to evaluate methods for the bleaching of oils and the evaluation of bleaching clays. Interested collaborators and committee members should contact either Ray Coleman or the AOCS technical director as soon as possible. A committee meeting is planned for Hawaii.

- There is a recognized need to find an alternative to the AOM for predicting the oxidative stability of oils. A committee chairman, committee members, collaborators and methods are needed. Please contact the AOCS technical director.
- Near IR methods need to be established, with a priority on protein determination. Interested participants should contact the AOCS technical director.
- A committee and methodology need to be selected to develop a quality control procedure for hexane used in oilseed extraction. Anyone interested should contact the AOCS technical director.

The next meeting of the UMC will be held during the AOCS national meeting in Hawaii.

Dave Berner
AOCS Technical Director

Publications

Book Reviews

Neurobiology: Molecular Biological Approaches to Understanding Neuronal Function and Development, edited by Paul O'Lague (Alan R. Liss Inc., 41 E. 11th St., New York, NY 10003, 1985, 192 pp., \$68).

This volume is the proceedings of a UCLA Symposium on Molecular and Cellular Biology held in April 1984. The papers are representative of the many topics discussed at the meeting and several of them have been published previously in the *Journal of Cellular Biochemistry*. The volume is divided into four sections. The first consists of four papers on cell adhesion and intercellular and cell-virus interactions. The next four chapters deal with cytoskeletal architecture. The third section has articles on neuropeptides and growth factors. These chapters give insight into the use of modern biological techniques, such

as synthetic oligonucleotide probes and DNA sequencing in brain chemistry. The final section deals with intracellular messengers and ion channels. The author, editor and publisher are to be congratulated for getting this volume into print in such a reasonable time after the meeting. The volume is useful to those interested in new approaches to the study of the nervous system.

Patricia V. Johnston

Review of Biological Research in Aging, Volume 2, edited by Morton Rothstein (Alan R. Liss Inc., 41 E. 11th St., New York, NY 10003, 1985, 561 pp., \$96).

This second volume of a continuing series reviewing biological research in aging covers the literature through the first few months of 1984. The volume is divided into eight sections, the longest of which is the first, dealing with theories, evolution and genetics of aging. The

first chapter is a review of recent biological research on theories of aging. The next four chapters describe aging in protozoa, fungi, the hermaphrodite, *Caenorhabditis elegans* and insects. Chapters follow on the evolution of aging and genetic aspects of aging in the mouse and the human. The final chapter is a review of genetic diversification and the clonality of senescence. Section II contains two articles on the immunology of aging. The first deals with B-lymphocyte function in aging and the second with age-related changes in cell-mediated immunity. The neurobiology of aging is covered in Section III, which has a chapter on the neurochemistry of aging (1982-1984), morphological aspects of central nervous system aging and model systems in electrophysiological aging research. Age-related changes in hormone secretion and action, reproductive aging in the female, and receptors and

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associated membrane events in aging are covered in the section on endocrinology and aging. Section V is a review of recent cellular aging research and Section VI deals with metabolism. This latter section includes articles on macromolecular methylation during aging, aging and gene expression, age-related changes in enzyme levels and enzyme properties, recent advances in dietary restriction and aging, and biological clocks and aging. The last two sections are on aging and drug disposition and mathematical modeling in aging research. The quality of articles is high. Of particular interest to readers of *JAOCS* are articles on drug metabolism, the liver and free radicals, lipid peroxides and lipid oxidation and transport. Lipofuscin is covered in the neurobiology section and aspects of lipoprotein metabolism in the article on dietary restriction and aging. If the editor and associate editor can keep future volumes as up-to-date as this, the series should prove very useful.

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Macromolecular Chemistry, Volume 3, edited by A. D. Jenkins and J. F. Kennedy, Royal Society of Chemistry (Heyden & Son Inc., 247 S. 41st St., Philadelphia, PA 19104, 1985, 472 pp., \$175).

If you wish to review the literature on current macromolecular chemistry research published between January 1981 and December 1982, this book is highly recommended. It is the third in a series of volumes. The editors and reporters have selected as many areas as possible to adequately represent a wide cross-section of research and application in macromolecular chemistry and technology. It is a very useful and easily read account. After the editors' introduction, the contents are divided into 18 chapters ranging from the various types of polymerizations to natural polymers, inorganic polymers, characterization, microstructure, engineering and technology. Also covered are reactions on polymers, degradation, biomedical and computer applica-

tions. Selected topics in photochemistry of polymers include photoconductivity, the types of resists and energy transfer. Because the author index lists nearly 7,500 names, this book constitutes a reference work of large proportion, although its dimensions are small. Only one chapter is longer than 25 pages and each chapter is succinctly written so that one may rapidly scan the subject material. As would be expected, there is no subject index; however, the contents section is quite adequate. Literature references are given on each page to facilitate quick referral. This reviewer found the chapter on Reactions in Macromolecular Systems of special interest. Topics covered include the crown ethers, cyclophanes, template polymerization, polymers as supports and protecting groups, micelles, phase-transfer catalysis and ionophores. This volume should find readers and purchasers among chemists in such specific fields as engineering, medicine, polymer characterization, chromatography and, of course, polymerization.

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New Books

Oil Palms and Other Oilseeds of the Amazon, by Celestino Pesce, Reference Publications Inc., 218 St. Clair River Dr., Box 344, Algonac, MI 48001, 1985, 199 pp., \$24.95.

Bailey's Industrial Oil and Fat Products, Vol. 3, edited by Thomas H. Applewhite, John Wiley & Sons, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10158, 1985, 353 pp., \$55.

Bibliography on Preparative Scale HPLC, Varex Corp., Information Center, 12221 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20852, 1985, 34 pp., \$10.

Modern Cell Biology, Vol. 4, Birgit H. Satir, series editor, Alan R. Liss Inc., 41 East 11th St., New York, NY 10003, 1985, 242 pp., \$36.

From AVI Publishing Co., 250 Post

Road E., PO Box 831, Westport, CT 06881:

Chemical Changes in Food During Processing, edited by Thomas P. Richardson and John W. Finley, 1985, 531 pp., \$55.

Spices, Condiments and Seasonings, by Kenneth T. Farrell, 1985, 415 pp., \$55.

Advances in Laboratory Automation—Robotics 1985, edited by Janet R. Strimaitis and Gerald L. Hawk, International Symposium on Laboratory Robotics 1985, Zymark Corp., Zymark Center, Hopkinton, MA 01748, 1985, \$45.

Cosmetic Analysis, Selective Methods and Techniques, edited by P. Boré, Marcel Dekker Inc., 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1985, 552 pp., \$85 US and Canada, \$102 elsewhere.

Digestibility and Amino Acid Availability in Cereals and Oilseeds, edited by John W. Finley and Daniel T. Hopkins, American Association of Cereal Chemists, 3340 Pilot Knob Rd., St. Paul, MN 55121, 1985, \$46 AACC members, \$58 nonmembers.

APPC Yearbook

Copies of the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) *Statistical Yearbook 1984* are available from the APCC Secretariat, PO Box 343, Jakarta, Indonesia. Price is US \$30 for orders from Asia and the Pacific Region, and US \$40 for orders from the U.S. and Europe. The 250-page edition includes data on world production and exports.

PROCEEDINGS

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