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Foreword: Special TLC Issue

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Foreword: Special TLC Issue

This is the eighth special issue on thin layer chromatography (TLC) that we have guest edited by invitation of the Editor, Dr. Jack Cazes, beginning in 1999. The authors of the submitted papers are internationally recognized experts in the field of TLC, and their cooperation in completing this issue is greatly appreciated.

Research in the theory, techniques, instrumentation, and applications of TLC and high performance TLC (HPTLC) for separation, isolation, and qualitative and quantitative analysis of compounds of virtually all classes in a great variety of sample matrices continues to occur at a very high rate. This is confirmed by the papers cited in the latest biennial review of planar chromatography, written by Sherma and published in the June, *Fundamental Reviews* issue of the American Chemical Society journal, *Analytical Chemistry* (Volume 78, 2006, 3841–3852).

The papers in this issue report research in some of the most active and important areas of TLC. The following topics are included: study of the retention behavior and lipophilicity in adsorption and reversed phase systems of fungicides (Oros et al.) and antagonists of the 5-HT_{1A} serotonergic receptor (Kijkowska-Murak et al.); influence of silica gel activation temperature on the separation of steroids (Pyka et al.); automatic selection of mobile phases for silica gel TLC of piperidinones (Burdzhiev et al.); study of the separation and oscillatory changes and instability of drug enantiomers (two papers by Sajewicz et al.); TLC with bioautographic detection for the determination of flumequine residues in milk (Choma); preparative rotation chromatography of ecdysteroids (Kalasz et al.); rod TLC with flame ionization detection in the analysis of phospholipids (Indrasena et al.); TLC-densitometric determination of the components of a dermatological ointment (Krzek et al.); HPTLC identification of green tea and extract (Reich et al.); and analysis of biological samples [corrionoid compounds in a bacterium (Watanabe et al.), and carotenoid pigments (Arthur et al.) and neutral and polar lipids (White et al.) in estivating snails].

The special importance of two of the topics covered by papers in this issue is illustrated by the publication in 2006 of a new book on preparative layer chromatography edited by Kowalska and Sherma (Volume 95 in Cazes' Separation Science Series, published by CRC/Taylor and Francis), and a book

now in preparation and to be published in 2007 on chiral separations and analysis by TLC with the same editors and publisher. The growing significance of the thin layer chromatographic analysis of biological samples was documented in a recent review in this Journal by Sherma and Fried (Volume 28, 2005, pp. 2297–2314).

We will begin to solicit papers in the autumn of 2006 for the 2007 issue on TLC that we will guest edit for this Journal. We invite comments on our past special issues and this current one, as well as suggestions for topics and contributors for the next issue. We also encourage scientists to continue submitting papers on planar chromatography to Dr. Cazes for regular issues of this Journal, which is the leading outlet for international research on this subject among analytical chemistry and chromatography journals published in the United States.

Dr. Joseph Sherma,
Dr. Bernard Fried,
Lafayette College,
April, 2006