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Happy Holidays from AFDO

We would like to wish all of our members a happy and safe holiday season. Please note that the AFDO office will be closed on 12/24 and 12/25, reopening on 12/26. We will also be closed on 12/31 and 1/1, reopening on 1/2, 2019.

Farm Bill Includes Provisions Allowing FDA to Regulate Products With Cannabis

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 was signed into law. Among other things, this new law changes certain federal authorities relating to the production and marketing of hemp, defined as cannabis (*Cannabis sativa L.*), and derivatives of cannabis with extremely low (less than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis) concentrations of the psychoactive compound delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). These changes include removing hemp from the Controlled Substances Act, which means that it will no longer be an illegal substance under federal law. [Read more....](#)

Conversations with AFDO

Conversations with AFDO released a new podcast on December 16, 2018.

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method called PTV, uses policy, training and verification as the benchmarks for holding food operators accountable for keep food safe.

Go to afdoaudio.podbean.com or download the Podbean app to view or listen to the app:

[Apple App Store](#)

[Google Play Store](#)



Keep Holiday Baking Traditions Safe!

The holiday season is upon us and people are baking more than ever right now! Many consumers don't know that [eating raw batter or raw dough is risky](#) to their family's health — especially for children! Raw flour and raw eggs may contain harmful bacteria that can cause [foodborne illness](#).

Help get the word out! Share these graphics with your social networks! We've also drafted text below, to cut and paste. You can help reach thousands of parents with these important tips on how they can [keep holiday traditions and stay safe](#). And, check out these [holiday recipes](#) with food safety steps!

Nominate a Worthy Candidate for an AFDO Award

AFDO's awards are presented annually at the Annual Educational Conference during the Wiley Award banquet. The awards are administered by the Awards Committee Chair, with subcommittees for the Wiley and Associate Member that are chaired by the immediate past recipient.

scholarship awards to \$2500 beginning with the 2019 awards. Each is awarded annually to qualified undergraduate students in their third year of study.

Here's a list of each AFDO Award:

[Achievement](#)

[Industry Associate Member](#)

[Elliot O. Grosvenor](#)

[Scholarship](#)

NIST Food Safety Workshop, April 16-18, 2019, Gaithersburg, MD

The Chemical Sciences Division at NIST has extensive experience in preparation and characterization of reference materials, and providing measurement support through quality assurance programs for food nutrition, to support US industry in meeting labeling requirements. Leveraging this expertise as well as strong relationships with stakeholders in the food industry, CSD is poised to be a leader in providing metrology solutions to address food safety challenges. Food safety is a broad topic, ranging from heavy metals, toxins, and residue contamination resulting from growth conditions to allergens, bacteria, or other contamination occurring during processing and/or packaging. Food safety can also extend to authenticity, fraud, and adulteration, or even to potential spoilage. As nearly a \$1 trillion contribution to the US GDP, the US food supply represents a huge economic asset, that must be protected. This workshop will bring experts from the food industry, government, academia, and support organizations (e.g., trade and standards organizations, instrument manufacturers) together with metrology experts to discuss challenges and possible solutions facing laboratories charged with ensuring the safety of the US food supply.

MAJOR OUTPUT

A white paper summarizing needs and possible measurement science solutions in these areas of food safety. The planning committee will develop a series of questions to be answered during the workshop and design the sessions to elicit answers to those questions. After the workshop, the planning committee will work with other major contributors to prepare and publish the white paper.

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FDA News



FDA Issues Uniform Compliance Date, Technical Amendments on Nutrition and Supplement Facts Labeling Rules

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced today that January 1, 2022, will be the uniform compliance date for final food labeling regulations that are issued in calendar years 2019 and 2020. All food products subject to the January 1, 2022, uniform compliance date must comply with the appropriate labeling regulations when initially introduced into interstate commerce on or after January 1, 2022. This action does not change existing requirements for compliance dates contained in final rules published before January 1, 2019.

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Other Training Opportunities



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Foreign Supplier Verification Programs

Preventive Controls for Human Foods Course (PCQI)

[Course Information](#)[Course Schedule](#)

Foreign Supplier Verification Programs Course (FSVP)

[Course Information](#)[Course Schedule](#)

EAS Consulting Group Training

[Dietary Supplement Good Manufacturing Practices \(GMP\) Compliance Seminar](#)

April 2-3, 2019

Philadelphia, PA

[EAS One-Day Dietary Supplement GMP Refresher Training Series](#)

[February 5, 2019](#)

[Riverside, CA](#)

[May 7, 2019](#)

[Denton, TX](#)

[August 13, 2019](#)

[Andover, MA](#)

[November 12, 2019](#)

[Long Island, NY](#)

[Laws and Regulations Committee Updates](#)

Laws and Regulations Committee Update

A collection of current food, drug, device, and consumer product regulatory issues and news

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