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Report on Standard Solutions

By JOHN R. WEATHERWAX (Food and Drug Administration, 1521 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90015)

Last year the previous General Referee recommended continued study on Arsenous Oxide, Potassium Bromide-Bromate, and Iodine, and on Silver Nitrate and Thiocyanates. Both Associate Referees had previously resigned. After review of previous work on these topics, it was decided that further work was not warranted and no new Associate Referees were appointed. This year the General Referee recommends discontinuation of these topics.

The General Referee is in process of reviewing

and evaluating this chapter with a view toward expanded coverage. Selected recommendations will be made to the Association at a later date.

Recommendations

The recommendations of the Referee are those given in the report of Subcommittee A; see *This Journal* 52, 324 (1969).

This report of the General Referee was presented at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, Oct. 14-17, 1968, at Washington, D.C.

Report on Tobacco

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Two collaborative studies were conducted during the past year in cooperation with the Analytical Methods Committee of the Tobacco Chemists Research Conference. One was a continuation of a study on the determination of glycerine and propylene glycol in tobacco and the other was the first collaborative study of a method for water-soluble nitrates in tobacco.

Each of the 11 laboratories participating in the humectant study analyzed eight tobacco samples plus two solutions containing known amounts of glycerine and propylene glycol. The statistical design and analysis followed Youden's recommendations for collaborative studies. The results show that the method is not satisfactory in its present form and that the extraction or GLC procedure or both will have to be revised. The Referee concurs with the Associate Referee's recommendation that the study be continued.

The spectrophotometric procedure for water-soluble nitrates in tobacco was used by 14 laboratories to analyze 10 tobacco samples. Statistical analysis of the data from sample pairs, as recommended by Youden, showed that there was a significant systematic error in the data from four of the five pairs. The Referee concurs with the Associate Referee's recommendation that the study be continued.

The topics of Moisture and of Potassium should be discontinued.

Recommendations

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