
EDITORIAL

Analytical science seeks ever improving means of measuring the chemical composition, structure and morphology of natural and man-made substances, or entities (cells, complex materials) combined with the interpretation of the data obtained. It plays a key role in monitoring the quality and safety of our water, air, and food. Its impact is also felt in fundamental research and many industrial applications. Inorganic analysis, particularly metal analyses, generally fall into the category of spectrometry, including atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) with flame, electrothermal atomization, or the more advanced inductively coupled plasma with atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) or mass spectrometry (ICP-MS). Anion analysis can be conducted by other techniques such as colorimetry, ion-selective electrode (ISE), and ion chromatography (IC).

In this issue, we collect five articles focusing on inorganic analysis involving plants, food, and herbal medicine. Hongben Yang's team reviews the advances in the analysis methods of inorganic elements in foods. Xinzhou Yang and his colleagues lay the foundation for controlling the quality of the Vespa mandarinia Smith by systematically analyzing the inorganic elements of the Vespa mandarinia Smith in different producing areas and drawing the fingerprint map of inorganic elements.

We sincerely appreciate all authors publishing their valuable articles in our journal.

Managing editor

Dr. Yina Xu