

Harmful Food Additive and Contaminant Analysis by HPLC

Technical Note

High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) is a suitable technique for analysis of harmful food additives and contaminants. COSMOSIL ODS and special columns offer improved separation for a large variety of these substances.

(1) Aflatoxins





(2) 2- and 4-methylimidazole (2-MI and 4-MI)



Aflatoxins are naturally occurring mycotoxins. They can colonize and contaminate grains before harvesting or during storage. Aflatoxins are

Column:	HILIC		1
Column size:	4.6mmI.D250mm		
Mobile phase:	Acetonitrile/ 50mmol/l Acetate = 90/10	Ammonium	
Flow rate:	1.0 ml/min		
Temperature:	30°C		
Detection:	UV220nm		
Sample:	1; 4-Methylimidazole 2; 2-Methylimidazole		2
Inj.Vol.:	1.0µ1		

2- and 4-methylimidazole (2-MI and 4-MI) are by-products formed during the manufacturing of caramel coloring used in popular soft drinks and foods. These two chemicals are selected by the National Cancer Institute for a long-term study because of the high potential for human exposure. The gas chromatography and reversed-phase HPLC columns with ion-pairing reagent have been traditionally used, but COSMOSIL HILIC offers complete separation of 2- and 4-methylimidazole without ion-pairing reagent.



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(min) 15

AP-0307

(3) Melamines

After recent melamine contamination in pet food and dairy products, determination of melamine has become a high priority. COSMOSIL HILIC offers excellent separation of melamine and cyanuric acid. They form a crystalline complex that is more toxic than either one alone.

• Melamines

<u>COSM(</u>	OSIL Applic	cation Dat	<u>ta</u>			COSM	OSIL Appli	ication Da
Column: Column size: Mobile phase: Flow rate: Temperature:	HILIC 4.6mmLD-250mm Acetonitrile/10mmol/1 Ammonium Acetate = 70/30 1.0 ml/min 30°C			Flow rate:	HILIC 4.6mmI.D250mm Acetonitrile/ 10mmol/1 Phosphate buffer(pH7.0) = 50/50 1.0 ml/min 30°C			
Detection:	UV225nm		2			Temperature: Detection:	UV210nm	
Sample:	1; Melamine 2; Ammeline 3; Cyanuric Acid 4; Ammelide	$(0.1 \ \mu \ g) \\ (0.075 \ \mu \ g) \\ (0.75 \ \mu \ g) \\ (0.05 \ \mu \ g) \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ 0 \\ \hline $	3	4 15 (min) SQUE, INC AP-1076		Sample:	1; Oxamic Acid 2; Oxalic Acid	(0.2 μ g) (1.0 μ g)

Oxalic Acids

(4) DEHP (Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate)

A few years ago, news reported that DEHP (Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate),a plasticizer, has contaminated the food supply. If taken into the human body in large amounts, DEHP can cause cancer in addition to the risk of liver function damages. COSMOSIL 2.5C₁₈-MS-II produces an equivalent chromatogram compared with a competitor's 1.7µm column. 2.5C₁₈-MS-II has longer retention time. More importantly, 2.5C₁₈-MS-II operates about 1/3 the pressure of competitor's 1.7µm column, putting it within the range of conventional HPLC equipment.



COSMOSIL 2.5 π NAP enables separation of DBP(Dibutyl Phthalate)(Sample 1) and BBP (Butyl Benzyl Phtharate)(Sample 2) that are difficult to separate with C₁₈ columns.



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