

IASC Update

IASC Members' Technical Expertise, Product Samples Needed to Create Strong *Aloe vera* Compliance Monograph

May 15, 2009 – The International Aloe Science Council (IASC) calls on industry to provide the technical expertise and samples the American Herbal Pharmacopoeia (AHP) requires to complete an IASC-commissioned *Aloe vera* monograph focusing on identity and quality.

The goal of the AHP Compliance Monograph is two-fold: (1) to develop multiple methods of identification and characterization of authenticated *Aloe vera* and (2) to develop standards of purity with an appropriate analytical method (HPLC) for detecting anthraquinone aloin down to 10 parts per million (ppm) in raw material and a variety of finished product.

As announced in the IASC Update of March 18, 2009, members' special assessment fee is financing the work of AHP – as well as a risk assessment and characterization analysis of the NTP sample – to address significant concerns the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) holds in relation to commercial *Aloe vera* products based on a currently unpublished two-year National Toxicology Program (NTP) study on *Aloe Vera* (See the February 2009 Inside Aloe Online for more information).

"Industry offers knowledge and expertise that cannot be found anywhere else," said Executive Director Devon Powell. "As companies with a commercial interest in aloe and in the development of this monograph, I encourage all members to contribute data, technical expertise and resources to this process."

AHP seeks the following:

- Copies of published or non-proprietary data pertaining to quality control and testing of aloe raw material or products
- Samples from various growers for the purpose of macroscopic, organoleptic, microscopic and chemical characterization

- Any existing macroscopic and microscopic characterizations such as might exist as company specifications
- Finished product samples to determine if the analytical method is appropriate for obtaining the desired analytical quantization
- Independent and company experts for the review process regarding aloe botany, chemistry, commercial processing, and standards of purity.
- Photographs of Aloe vera in its various forms including: different varieties; flowering; fruiting; close-up of various plant parts; photographs of commercial fields; drying processing; extraction equipment if appropriate

To contribute to the development of the monograph or learn more about the process, contact Devon Powell.

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