

ASTA CHECK SAMPLE PROGRAM



www.astaspice.org

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

THE PROGRAM

The American Spice Trade Association will provide to its members and to other interested parties a cost effective means for the comparison and the evaluation of their capabilities with regard to both precision and accuracy. The program will maintain commitment to continuous evaluation of necessary and appropriate methods to meet the needs of its membership.



The purpose of the ASTA Check Sample Program is to strengthen laboratory credibility and promote high levels of accuracy within and among laboratories using standard analytical test methods for spices and herbs. The methods, such as ASTA's Official Analytical Methods, provide a uniform way to measure results within and among laboratories.

The ASTA Check Sample Program is designed to evaluate spice laboratories for a common range of analyses and spices that are significant to the spice trade. The program allows individual laboratories to evaluate their performance and set goals for improvement and consistency in analyses.

For 2021 participating labs can select from the following options:

Red Pepper Chemistry - HPLC Heat, ASTA Color, Water Activity

Black Pepper Chemistry - Volatile Oil, Moisture, Piperine, Water Activity

Oregano Chemistry - Total Ash, Acid Insoluble Ash, Moisture, Volatile Oil, Water

ASTA check samples are prepared from materials donated by member companies. In order to ensure homogeneity of the samples, all samples are prepared from a single batch for each round of testing.

The ASTA program is administered on a quarterly basis with each laboratory receiving samples, instructions, and data reporting forms with each shipment. All of the studies are open for 30 days. Participants are encouraged to enter their data via a secure on-line data entry website. Online data entry is confirmed through automated emails or laboratories can print confirmations directly from the web site.

The ASTA Check Sample Program is open to both ASTA members and non-members worldwide. As an ASTA program, the usage of ASTA methods is required. Please refer to the ASTA Web site at www.astaspice.org.

Please return by February 10, 2021

Please include ERA account number if you are a returning registrant of the program.

Program Fee (4 shipments) *(Please check the samples you wish to receive)*

Red Pepper Chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$480
Black Pepper Chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$480
Oregano Chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$480
Quality Control Chemistry Samples	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$480

Additional Samples

Red pepper chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$250
Black pepper chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$250
Oregano chemistry	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Member \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> ASTA Non-Member \$250

Annual shipping and handling fee *(Please check one)*

Note: Shipping fees apply for ONE set of each. Each additional set requires a separate shipping fee. International participants are responsible for all applicable duties, taxes and customs clearance. Please select your shipping preference of Federal Express or DHL.

____ Shipping Fee ---- United States \$165	Program Fee	\$ _____
Shipping Fee ---- International – Select one:	Shipping and Handling Fees	\$ _____
____ Federal Express \$525 ____ DHL \$650	Total	\$ _____

(Please Print – **All Fields Required**)

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address (No P.O. Box address) _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

For your protection, ASTA will no longer accept credit card payments by mail. If paying by credit card, please go online to www.astaspice.org to use ASTA's secure online payment. For check payment, please make check payable to American Spice Trade Association and mail your payment to: *American Spice Trade Association 1101 17th Street N.W., Ste. 700 Washington, DC 20036 USA*

For questions, call (202) 331-2460 or email us at info@astaspice.org

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ERA is a premier provider of Proficiency Testing (PT) products and Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) to thousands of laboratories around the world and across multiple industries. Acquired by Waters Corporation in 2006, our in-depth knowledge of international accreditation and regulatory bodies enables us to expertly guide customers through the analytical challenges they face. Whether you are a commercial, research or government laboratory, small business or a multi-national corporation, you can count on ERA's experience, products and services to simplify compliance and ensure quality.

