

and nutraceuticals analysis, sensory evaluation, and gives rapid techniques for food microbiology and drinking water analysis.

This volume constitutes a reference for students, scientists, engineers and manufacturers of the food industry. If needed, the reader can look for more information in the references listed at the end of each chapter. This book written in a simple, yet accurate, style, can be understood by readers not familiar with the area. It provides them with a solid background about the way the methods work, about how and when they should be used. Introductory and concluding paragraphs are very informative and help getting an overall view of each topic. Thus, it would be beneficial to include them in all the chapters.

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Available online 19 October 2005

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doi:10.1016/j.carbpol.2005.06.006

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**Jan C.J. Bart, Additives in Polymers. Industrial Analysis and Applications, Wiley and Sons, Chichester, England 2005, (xv + 819pp., £180.00, ISBN 0-470-85062-0).**

Additives play a most important role in the successful use of commercial plastics, rubbers, adhesives and many other polymers. They make the extension of plastics properties possible, giving them e.g. durability, stiffness or thermal resistance. Several thousands of polymer additives are in use today, incorporated in products as diverse as antioxidants, fillers or lubricants. Innovation is a crucial element of the success of the polymer industry as the manufacture of increasingly sophisticated products is paralleled by the constant evolution of technologies and procedures.

Additives in polymers provides specialists with a comprehensive approach of the developments made in all the areas of polymer additives analysis in the last two decades. Throughout its 819 pages, the book critically discusses the latest instrumental techniques of sample preparation, extraction and analysis. It provides industrial engineers and scientists with monitoring, deformation and trouble shooting methods while defining their pitfalls and limits of application. Placing the emphasis on understanding the underlying principles rather than enumerating information, it gives chemical analysts a solid background in additives analysis.

The 10 chapters of the book can be read separately as well as in one block. The first two chapters give an introductory overview of analytical and deformation schemes. The subsequent chapters detail methods of polymer additives analysis mainly involving wet chemical routes, although

physical techniques are also discussed. The book particularly focuses on sample preparation and chromatography separation techniques, spectroscopic and mass spectrometric methods, multihyphenation, element analysis, and deformation of polymer/analysis dissolutions. The final chapter discusses trends in polymer and additive technology together with environmental and regulatory constraints, and the challenges that the industry will have to face in the future.

This book was designed to inspire a large audience of industrial and academic scientists as well as students interested in various branches of chemistry. This mine of information provides keys to understand problems and solve them in a more effective way. The size of the book gives an idea of how productive the area of polymer additive analysis is. Clear and well-illustrated, it also constitutes a comprehensive collection of recent publications, unavailable as such in any other book. No doubt it will become a reference for polymer specialists in the years to come.

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Available online 19 October 2005

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doi:10.1016/j.carbpol.2005.06.005

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**T. Brendler, J. Gruenwald and C. Jaenicke, editors. Herbal Remedies CD-ROM, Medpharm GmbH Scientific Publishers, Stuttgart Germany, 2003 (\$63.96, ISBN 3-8876-3102-1)**

Herbal Remedies CD-ROM contained more than 1100 plants. This CD-ROM providing information on: general description of the plant, Etymology of plant name, Botanical description, habitat, Toxicity, protection status, Botanical synonyms and related species, vernacular names, more than 1500 colour photographs, scientific names and synonyms, scientific names or synonyms with sub selection of a family or vernacular names with sub selection of a language can be searched for. This volume covers over 1200 drugs also, with information on: usage, dosage, modes of action, use restrictions, characteristics, substances, scientific synonyms, usage in foods, vernacular names, indications (according to ICD-10, German Commission E, homeopathy, and Indian, Chinese and folk medicine), Complete German Commission E Monographs, Quality and safety status, references (pharmacopoeias, specialist literature, other references).

For the use of the CD-ROM, it provides you with the possibility of downloading a program, with all the content of the CD-ROM. Inside the programme, it offers you five