A Guideline to Growing Your Quality Laboratory

An Instrument Guide for purchasing lab equipment and expanding your quality program by using the official ASBC Methods of Analysis, 14th Edition of the American Society of Brewing Chemists (ASBC). A subscription to the ASBC Methods of Analysis is free with your ASBC membership.

Volume produced (bbls x 1000) per year	<1	1-15	15-30	30-60	60-90	90+	ASBC Method of Analysis title and number				
General											
Thermometer							Temperature control				
Packaged Beer Archive Shelving							Shelf stability testing				
Refrigerator / Cooler							Sample storage, reagent storage				
Waterbath							Attemperate samples and media, organoleptic diacetyl testing				
Lab Informatics System							Advanced process control software				
Raw Materials and Packaging											
Crimp Gauge*							Crimp Determination Test-Crowns (Bottle Closures-6)				
Torque Meter*							Removal Torque Procedures for Crown (Bottle Closures-5B)				
Double-seam Gauges*							Can double-seam inspection				
Double-seam Cross-section Imager*							Can double-seam inspection				
Analytical Balance or Top-Loading Scale							Total Contents of Bottles & Cans By Calculation from Measured Net Weight (Fills-1), Grist (Malt-15), media and reagent preparation				
Grist Sieves							Malt Modification by Friability (Malt-12), Grist by Standard Sieve (Malt-15A), Grist by Manual Sieve (Malt-15B)				
Sieve Shaker							Grist by Standard Sieve (Malt-15A)				
Friability Meter							Malt Modification by Friability (Malt-12)				
Drying Oven							Moisture (Brewers' Grains-3 & Malt-3), Preparation of Sample (Brewers' Grains-2), Total Contents of Bottles & Cans (Fills-1)				
Mash Bath							High-Dried, Caramel, and Black Malts (Malt-9), Soluble Extract (Brewers' Grains-5), Extract (Malt-4)				
Universal Lab Disk Mill							Preparation of Sample (Brewers' Grains-2), High-Dried, Caramel, and Black Malts (Malt-9), Extract (Malt-4)				
*packa	age testing	equipmen	t is recom	mended to	be purch	hased with	n associated packaging equipment				
Chemistry											
Hydrometer							Apparent Extract (Beer-3), Apparent Extract by Hydrometer (Wort-4), Extract (Wort-3), Soluble Extract (Brewers' Grains-5), Total Contents of Bottles & Cans By Calculation from Measured Net Weight (Fills-1), Yeast Fermentable Extract (Wort-5)				
pH Meter							Beer pH (Beer-9), pH of Water Suspension (Filter Aids-2), Total Acidity (Beer-8), Wort pH (Wort-8)				
CO ₂ Meter							Dissolved Carbon Dioxide (Beer-13)				
Low-Range Oxygen Meter (ppb)							Dissolved Oxygen for brite/packaged beer (Beer-34)				
Digital Density Meter							Extract (Wort-3), Malt Extract (Malt-4), Real Extract (Beer-5), Soluble Extract (Brewers' Grains-5), Specific Gravity by Digital Density Meter (Beer-2B), Total Contents of Bottles & Cans By Calculation from Measured Net Weight (Fills-1)				
Distillation Equipment						Note	Alcohol (Beer-4A), Diacetyl (Beer-25B) <i>Note</i> : Recommend Gas Chromatograph for Diacetyl above 90K bbls/yr				
Alcohol Meter							Alcohol (Beer-4)				
UV-Vis Spectrophotometer							Beer Bitterness (Beer-23), Beer Color (Beer-10), Diacetyl (Beer-25B), FAN (Wort-12), Iron (Beer-18A, C), Total Polyphenols (Beer-35), Wort Color (Wort-4), Alpha and Beta Acids in Hops (Hops-6), Hop Storage Index (Hops-12), Thiobarbituric Acid Index (Wort-21)				

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Chemistry (continued)											
Centrifuge							Beer Bitterness (Beer-23), Color (Beer-10), Yeast Solids % by Spin-down (Yeast-5B)				
Shaker Table and/or Wrist Shaker							Beer Bitterness (Beer-23), Diacetyl (Beer-25B), Beer Decarbonation by Rotary Shaker (Beer-1D), Headspace equilibration for Total Package Oxygen				
Fumehood							Chemical preparation (various analytical methods)				
Titration Burette							Total Acidity (Beer-8)				
Turbidimeter or Haze Meter							Physical Stability (Beer-27)				
Gas Chromatograph							Alcohol Determined by GC (Beer-4D), Diacetyl (Beer-25F), Lower Boiling Volatiles in Beer or Ale (Beer-29)				
Foam Meter							Foam Collapse Rate-Sigma Value (Beer-22)				
High-Range Oxygen Meter (ppm)							Dissolved Oxygen for wort				
				Micr	obiolo	gy					
Microscope							Dead Yeast Cell Stain (Yeast-3A), Differential Staining (Microbiological Control-3), Microscopic Yeast Cell Counting (Yeast-4), Presence of Bacteria (Yeast-2B), Yeast Morphology (Yeast-2A), Yeast Viability by Slide Culture (Yeast-6)				
Hemocytometer							Dead Yeast Cell Stain (Yeast-3A, Microscopic Yeast Cell Counting (Yeast-4)				
ATP Luminometer							Swab Surface Hygiene Using ATP Bioluminescence (Microbiological Control-1)				
Autoclave or Pressure Cooker							Sterilization, Culture Media (Microbiological Control-4 & 5)				
Incubator with CO ₂ Packs, or Anaerobic Incubator							Anaerobic growth conditions, (Microbiological Control-5)				
Vacuum Apparatus							Yeast Fermentable Extract (Beer-16, Wort-5), Detection of Microorganisms by Membrane Filtration (Microbiological Control-2C)				
Stir plate / Hot Plate							Microbiological media preparation, sample homogenization, beer degassing, chemical preparation				
Laminar Flow Hood							Sterile environment for microbiological applications				
Thermocycler & PCR-related equipment							Real-time PCR for spoiler identification				
Sensory											
Quality Assurance Analysis							True-to-brand testing				
Sensory Training							Sensory webinar series, Flavor Terminology and Reference Standards (Sensory-12), Flavor Standard Spiking Calculator (Tools)				
Descriptive Analysis							Descriptive Analysis (Sensory-10)				
Difference Testing							Choice of Method (Sensory-3), Paired Comparison Test (Sensory-6), Triangular Test (Sensory-7), Duo-Trio Test (Sensory-8)				
Threshold Sensory							Threshold of Added Substances—Ascending Method of Limits Test (Sensory-9)				
Dedicated Tasting Area							Test Room, Equipment, Conduct of Test (Sensory Analysis-2)				
Other Useful Tools Located Online in the ASBC Methods of Analysis											
Standards and other useful calculators, lab basics instructional videos, training presentations, fishbones and identification guides for all types of troubleshooting.											
Getting Started-Suggested Reading Visit asbcnet.org											
Brewing Microbiology, Third Edition - F. G. Priest and Iain Campbell Control Charting Guidelines for Quality Control in the ASBC Methods of Analysis Hops: The Practical Guide to Aroma, Bitterness, and the Culture of Hops - Stan Hieronymus Malt: A Practical Guide from Field to Brewhouse - John Mallett Water: A Comprehensive Guide for Brewers - John Palmer and Colin Kaminski Yeast: The Practical Guide to Beer Fermentation - Chris White											



