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Areas of Expertise: Food safety & quality control

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2011-Present Professor, Jiangnan University, PRC

2006-2007 Visiting Scholar, ENSIA, France

2003-2011 Associate Professor, Jiangnan University, PRC

1995-2003 Engineering, Jiangnan University, PRC

1998-2002 PhD Candidate, Jiangnan University, PRC

1992-1995 Ms Candidate, Wuxi University of Light Industry, PRC

1987-1991 Undergraduate Student, Wuxi Institute of Light Industry, PRC

### Research of Special Interest

Over the years, for the current impact on the basic research on food processing safety and critical control technology, Prof. Yao devotes to developing technologies to detect food safety with low-cost and high-throughput; relating to food packaging pollutants, banned food additives, food additives and other substances, Prof. Yao committed herself to building surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) detection technology, meanwhile, Prof. Yao dedicated her life to studying linkage detection technologies to combine multiple indicators such as sample pretreatment, detection methods, equipment, components and reagents with food safety. Besides, Prof. Yao studies the food safety control technologies combining biological control methods with chemical prevention and control methods which are based on food processing technologies which can applied to reduce the harm to human body resulted from biotoxin and food packaging pollutants. Furthermore, the current development of food safety SERS detection technologies are at the top of the world, and the biological toxin control techniques are characterized with Chinese tradition, obviously.

For her outstanding achievements, Prof. Yao was awarded several times: 1) one the 2nd prize for the Science and Technology Progress; 2) three the 2nd provincial prizes; 3) two the 3rd provincial prizes and 11 invention patents (one for U.S. Patent). Prof. Yao has published more than 160 articles (SCI 60) in the international journals; completed presiding over 7 the national Science and technology support programs, 2 in research and 3 provincial projects, moreover, there were more than 10 scientific projects have achieved industrialization.

### Publications

#### \*Correspondence Author

- 1) Ying Zhang, Jie Kong, Fei Huang, Yunfei Xie, Yahui Guo, Yuliang Cheng, He Qian and Weirong Yao\*. Hexanal as a QS inhibitor of extracellular enzyme activity of *Erwinia carotovora* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and its application in vegetables. Food Chemistry, 2018, 255: 1-7.

- 2) Ying Zhang, Jie Kong, Yunfei Xie, Yahui Guo, Yuliang Cheng, He Qian and Weirong Yao\*. Essential oil components inhibit biofilm formation in *Erwinia carotovora* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* via anti-quorum sensing activity. *LWT - Food Science and Technology*, 2018, 92: 133-139.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lwt.2018.02.027>
- 3) Ling Zhang , Guantian Li , Weirong Yao \*, Fan Zhu\*. Unit and internal chain profiles of maca amylopectin. *Food chemistry*, 2018, 242: 106-112. DOI: 10.1016/j.foodchem.2017.09.024.
- 4) Jian Ju, Xiaomiao Xu Yunfei Xie, Yahui Guo, Yuliang Cheng, He Qian, Weirong Yao\*. Inhibitory effects of cinnamon and clove essential oils on mold growth on baked foods. *Food Chemistry*, 2018, 240: 850-855.
- 5) Yunfei Xie, Qi Hu, Mengyao Zhao, Yuliang Cheng, Yahui Guo, He Qian and Weirong Yao\*. Simultaneous Determination of Erythromycin, Tetracycline, and Chloramphenicol Residue in Raw Milk by Molecularly Imprinted Polymer Mixed with Solid-Phase Extraction. *Food Analytical Methods*, 2018, 11(2): 374-381. DOI: 10.1007/s12161-017-1008-x.
- 6) Yuliang Cheng, Wenhan Kang, Yahui Guo, Chao Du, Yunfei Xie, Yi Chen, Weirong Yao, He Qia\*. Visual detection of Cu<sup>2+</sup> based on fluorescence quenching of green-synthesized gold nanoclusters using soy protein as template. *Food and Agricultural Immunology*, 2017, 28(5 ): 848-858.
- 7) Minping Wei, Heng Wu, Yahui Guo, Yunfei Xie, He Qian, Yi Chen and Weirong Yao\*. In vitro antimicroorganism activity and Detergency of *Sapindus mukorossi* Extract Based on Its Surfactivity. *Journal of the Taiwan Institute of Chemical Engineers*, 2017, 80:1-9. DOI:10.1016/j.jtice.2017.06.015
- 8) Yan Cui, Yuliang Cheng, Yahui Guo, Yunfei Xie, Weirong Yao, Weiguo Zhang, He Qian. Evaluating the hepatoprotective efficacy of Aloe vera polysaccharides against subchronic exposure of aflatoxins B1. *Journal of the Taiwan Institute of Chemical Engineers*, 2017, 76: 10-17.
- 9) Ling Zhang, Qunying Lei, Yuliang Cheng, Yunfei Xie, He Qian, Yahui Guo, Yi Chen, and Weirong Yao\*. Study on the Removal of Cadmium in Rice Using Microbial Fermentation Method. *Journal of Food Science*, 2017, 82 ( 6): 1467–1474. DOI: 10.1111/1750-3841.13734
- 10) Yunfei Xie, Mengyao Zhao, Qi Hu, Yuliang Cheng, Yahui Guo, He Qian and Weirong Yao\*. Selective detection of chloramphenicol in milk based on a molecularly imprinted polymer–surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopic nanosensor. *Journal of Raman Spectroscopy*, 2017, 48 ( 2): 204-210. DOI: 10.1002/jrs.5034
- 11) Ling Zhang , Guantian Li , Sunan Wang , Weirong Yao \*, Fan Zhu\*. Physicochemical properties of maca starch. *Food chemistry*, 2017, 218: 56-63.
- 12) Yahui Guo, Qingmin Chen, Yiting Qi, Yunfei Xie\*, He Qian, Weirong Yao\*, Renjun Pei. Label-free ratiometric DNA detection using two kinds of interaction-responsive emission dyes. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2017, 87: 320-324 . doi:10.1016/j.bios.2016.08.041
- 13) Yafang Guo, Yahui Guo, Yunfei Xie, Yuliang Cheng, He Qian, and Weirong Yao\*. Regeneration of tert-butylhydroquinone by tea polyphenols. *Food Research International*, 2017, 95: 1-8.
- 14) Ying Zhang, Yun-Fei Xie, Ya-Hui Guo, Yu-Liang Cheng, He Qian, Wei-Rong Yao\*. The mechanism about the resistant dextrin improving sensorial quality of rice wine and red wine. *Journal of Food Processing and Preservation*. 2017, 41(6): 1-10.
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- 19) Jie Kong, Yun-Fei, Xie, Ya-Hui Guo, Yu-Liang Cheng, He-Qian, Wei-Rong Yao\*. Biocontrol of postharvest fungal decay of tomatoes with a combination of thymol and salicylic acid screening from 11 natural agents. *LWT - Food Science and Technology*, 2016, 72: 215-222.
- 20) Wu Heng, Zhang Ling, Wang Na, Guo Youzhi, Weng Zhen, Sun Zhiyong, Xu Deping, Xie Yunfei, Yao Weirong\*. Extraction and fermentation-based purification of saponins from *Sapindus mukorossi* Gaertn. *Journal of Surfactants and Detergents*, 2015, 18(3): 429-438.
- 21) Lijun Ji, Yingying Sun, Yunfei Xie, Heya Wang, He Qian, Li Wang, Weirong Yao. Weirong Yao. Density functional theory and surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy studies on endocrine-disrupting chemical, dimethyl phthalate. *Vibrational Spectroscopy*, 2015, 79: 44-51. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.vibspec.2015.05.002>
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- 24) Wu Heng, Yao Weirong \*, Zhang Ling, Wang Na, Guo Youzhi, Weng Zhen, Sun Zhiyong, Xu Deping, Xie Yunfei. Analysis of the Bioactive Components of *Sapindus* saponins. *Industrial Crops and Products*, 2014, 61:422-429
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treatment on the physicochemical properties of African locust bean (*Parkia biglobosa*) starches. *Journal of Agricultural Science and Technology*, 2014, 16:331-342.

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- 51) Odilon Djakpo, Weirong Yao\*. *Rhus chinensis* and *Galla Chinensis* - folklore to modern evidence: review. *Phytotherapy Research*, 2010, 24(12):1739-1747. doi: 10.1002/ptr.3215.
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## Achievements and Honors