

## CORRESPONDENCE

### Comments on Three Papers by Mohan Reddy and Narasinga Rao

I bring to your attention the use of gossypin in the first three articles in the March/April 1988 issue of the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* (Mohan Reddy and Narasinga Rao, 1988a-c). Its use is in conflict with gossypin [4*H*-1-benzopyran-4-one, 2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-8-( $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyloxy)-3,5,7-trihydroxy] and with gossypetrin and gossytrin (Seshadri, 1962). The well-known Indian natural product chemist, T. R. Seshadri, found this gossypetin 8-glucoside in *Gossypium indicum* in 1939 and gave it the trivial name gossypin.

There is an inherent danger in trivial names, but here is a case of a name for a compound whose chemical structure is known and an 11S protein; both are found in cotton plants. It must be corrected to avoid confusion.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Mohan Reddy, I.; Narasinga Rao, M. S. Method for the Isolation of Gossypin (11S Protein) and Congossypin (7S Protein) from Glanded Cottonseed. *J. Agric. Food Chem.* 1988a, 36, 237-240.  
Mohan Reddy, I.; Narasinga Rao, M. S. Physicochemical Prop-

erties of Gossypin (11S Protein) and Congossypin (7S Protein) of Glanded Cottonseed. *J. Agric. Food Chem.* 1988b, 36, 241-245.

Mohan Reddy, I.; Narasinga Rao, M. S. Interaction of Gossypol with Gossypin (11S Protein) and Congossypin (7S Protein) of Cottonseed and Glycinin (11S Protein) of Soybean. 1. Reaction Kinetics, Binding Stoichiometry, and Reversibility Studies. *J. Agric. Food Chem.* 1988c, 245-252.

Seshadri, T. R. Isolation of Flavonoid Compounds from Plant Materials. In *The Chemistry of Flavonoid Compounds*; Geissman, T. A., Ed.; Macmillan: New York, 1962; pp 8-12, 345.

**Bock G. Chan**

*Plant Protection Research Unit  
USDA/ARS/PWA/WRRC  
800 Buchanan Street  
Albany, California 94710*

Received for review June 10, 1988. Accepted August 24, 1988.

### Rebuttal on Three Papers by Mohan Reddy and Narasinga Rao

In reply to Dr. Chan's letter, we state the following:

1. We were not aware of the work of Dr. T. R. Seshadri and his colleagues although the contribution is from our countrymen. We are grateful to Dr. Chan for drawing our attention to it.

2. The practice of naming the major protein(s) of oilseeds on the basis of the botanical name of the plant from which it is obtained has been in vogue, ex. arachin from *Arachis hypogea*, glycinin from *Glycine max*, etc. On the basis of this practice, Prakash and Narasinga Rao (1986) suggested gossypin for the 11S protein of cotton seed (Gossypinin). In our papers, we have adopted the same nomenclature.

3. In view of the likely confusion, at the first mention of the name gossypin in our article, we should have written

gossypin (11S protein) and subsequently used the word gossypin.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Prakash, V.; Narasinga Rao, M. S. CRC Critical Reviews. *Biochemistry* 1986, 20, 265-363; cf. p 334.

**M. S. Narasinga Rao**

*Protein Technology Discipline  
Central Food Technological  
Research Institute  
Mysore 570 013, India*

Accepted August 24, 1988.