

• *Fats and Oils Report*

Maldistribution of Record Soybean Supplies Creating Local Deficiencies

In the first 6 months of the 1966-67 season, the soybean complex has been severely hampered by the fact that the demand is smaller than expected. The lag in demand has been, in a sense, a blessing because the farmer's holding policy this season has prevented the consumers, exporters and processors, from building up a normal inventory. The best indication of a change in the producer selling attitudes came early in February when the movement in both Illinois and Iowa began to increase, although there was no increase in the price of soybeans. However, on January 1st, the stocks-in-all-positions report revealed that the proportion of the total stocks which were located at either processing plants or terminal elevators was at a record low level. Likewise, the percentage which was held at either the farm or country elevator level was at a record high level. Table I reveals the percentage of the total stocks-in-all-positions which were held in processing plants or terminal elevators during each of the past 10 years.

TABLE I

1967	17.3%	1962	23.6%
1966	21.5%	1961	36.9%
1965	36.4%	1960	32.2%
1964	27.6%	1959	30.0%
1963	28.0%	1958	26.9%

The percentage of total stocks at processing plants and terminal elevators on January 1st this year, were not only the smallest on record but the 21.5% on Jan. 1, 1966, were the third smallest behind only the 20% of Jan. 1, 1955. Up until the last few years most of our country's great grain surpluses were stored on farms and at country elevators and bin sites; with these spaces now empty, the incentive to store has been greater. However, the recent holding also confirms the fact that producers tend to hold on to their crops in a season following high prices; e.g., 1954, 1961, 1965 and 1966 were all years of very high prices. When the farmer holds on to his crop he must necessarily diminish normal pipeline inventories of those who act between the farmer and the final consumer; i.e., the processor and the exporter. If the processor and exporter are reluctant to offer either oil, meal or soybeans for sale because of a local inventory deficiency, they are likely to reduce consumption. The most striking example of a local deficiency may be at the Great Lakes ports when the Lakes reopen in April. Stocks of soybeans at the Great Lakes ports at the beginning of February were only 5,704,000 bushels compared to 15,843,000 bushels a year ago. In addition, the Census Bureau breakdown of exports by country implies that there is a strong possibility that there could be a fair or better demand for soybeans to go to Canada this spring. Table II reveals the monthly shipments to Canada during the past shipping season as well as the season before.

TABLE II
(Myn. bushels)

1966		1965
1,891	December	6,139
2,935	November	2,914
5,085	October	5,222
9,911	Oct.-Dec.	14,275
9,299	June-Sept.	12,969
19,210	June-Dec.	27,244
7,534	Apr.-May	5,790
26,734	Apr.-Dec.	33,034

Thus, shipments to Canada were more than 4 million bushels behind for this crop season and 8 million behind since last June. This suggests that a very small amount of soybeans went to Canada this fall for winter storage, and crushers' inventories may be very small this spring. However, it

also suggests that fewer soybeans went to Canada this season for trans-shipment to Europe. Canada currently uses only about 20 million bushels of her soybean imports for domestic crushings with the balance re-exported to Europe. One of the reasons for the smaller Canadian imports may be that crushers in that country anticipate processing about 1.5 million bushels more of their own rapeseed this season. Since a bushel of rapeseed yields 20 to 22 pounds of oil or about double the 10 to 11 pounds of oil yielded from a bushel of soybeans, the soybean import requirements could be 3 million bushels less than last season.

Nevertheless, with only modest inventories, it is hard to expect Canadian imports of much less than the 7,534,000 bushels shipped last April-May when the Lakes reopened. In addition there will be soybeans shipped to Japan and Europe again this spring and with only 5,410,000 bushels at Great Lakes ports on February 4th the cash markets at Great Lakes ports must improve relative to other parts of the country in order to satisfy requirements and alleviate the local deficiencies which have been created by this season's farmer holding policy.

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• *Detergent Short Course . . .*

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Schott, Lever Bros., "The Interaction of Clays and Non-ionic Detergents."

Session II. Soap and Detergent Additives

In the last three or four years, many new chemical additives have found their way into soap and detergent formulations. Some of these newer materials will be discussed and explored in depth. Two papers are scheduled on nitrilotriacetate (NTA). Eric Jungermann, Armour and Company, will review new developments in the area of "Soap Germicides," while Leo Murary, Nabisco-Colgate, will discuss "Perborate Activators." "Optical Brighteners, Their Chemistry and Their Application" will be the topic presented by Per Stensby, of Geigy Chemicals.

Session III. Washing of Treated and Synthetic Fabrics

As treated and synthetic fabrics have gained greater acceptance in the marketplace, the techniques of testing detergents in the presence of these materials has also changed.

"The Chemical Treatment of Cotton," will be discussed by Giuliana Tesoso, from J. P. Stevens, while a speaker from Dupont will review, "The Fundamentals of Washing Synthetic Fibers." R. T. Hunter, from Nabisco-Colgate, will discuss "Practical Washing of Synthetic Fabrics." Finally, "Radiotracer Studies in Fabric Washing" will be discussed by Ben Gordon, Shell Company.

Session IV. General

Several topics of general importance to the Soap and Detergent Industry will be discussed in the general session. Theodore Brenner, of the Soap and Detergent Association, will present a status report, "Biodegradation." An international note is being added by the presentation by Louis Spitz, Mazzoni, Italy, in his address, "Advances in Toilet Soap Manufacture." C. C. Krause, from Procter and Gamble, will summarize recent developments in the Toilet Bar Market. In addition, "Bench Scale Sulfonation" will be presented by T. Albin and M. Finger, Shell Chemical Company, and "Perfuming of Detergents" by R. Steltenkamp, Nabisco-Colgate.

Detailed Program in April Issue

A full program for the Short Course will be announced in the April issue of the Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society and registration forms will be mailed to members. For further information, address your inquiries to Dr. J. F. Gerecht, AOCS, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601.