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Garrison licenses Wenger process

Wenger Manufacturing has announced that Garrison Products, Inc., has become a licensee of Wenger's Uni-Tex process to produce vegetable protein base meat analog.

Garrison's plant will be at 1471 Paddock Drive, Northbrook, IL, Wenger said. Wenger described Uni-Tex as a dense, untwisted, uniformly layered, meat analog made by extruding defatted, high protein vegetable flours such as defatted soy or peanut flours, concentrates, or grits. The analog, Wenger said, can be flavored, colored, and textured to resemble ham, beef, chicken, or seafoods. Garrison expected to have its product in market channels by June 15.

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EMI system selected by Palmex Industries

Palmex Industries, Sdn. Bhd., Penang, Malaysia, has purchased a palm oil physical refining system from EMI Corp., Des Plaines, IL. The system is designed to produce a deodorized edible product from crude palm oil without caustic refining, EMI said. The new system will be installed alongside an existing physical refining system at Prai Penang. ●

Cottonseed oil mills exemption lifted

The Labor Department has lifted a two-year-old directive that exempted cottonseed oil mills from cotton-dust safety inspections imposed on textile mills.

The exemption was lifted in late June. The exemption originally was permitted because of a report that studies were needed to determine safe levels of dust in the oil mills, the *Wall Street Journal* said in quoting a former Labor Department assistant secretary. Conditions in oil mills and textile mills were judged sufficiently different to merit the exemption at that time.

"Brown lung," a debilitating condition is the target of the safety inspections. Brown lung is believed to be caused by cotton dust, but the precise irritant has not been identified. Cottonseed industry officials say the linters removed from cottonseed in oil mills have never been shown to be a factor. Consumer activist groups have been pressing for enforcement of the complete standards to cottonseed oil mills.

The Labor Department said removing the exemption does not mean there will be special emphasis on inspecting cottonseed oil mills, but that henceforth they will be inspected as part of the department's routine workload. ●