

expected. Beginning just three or four years ago, farmers in significant numbers began to realize that they could improve soybean production profitability appreciably by applying better cultural practices. Many are now achieving results 75 to 100% better than the national average. The number increases each year. So, maybe the 29 bushel per acre yield used above is too low, but there must be an allowance made for the fact that this year's larger soybean acreage will include an increase in double-cropping of soybeans following small grain harvest. This is because of increased wheat acreage in the central producing area. Those areas should not yield as well as full term acreage and could hold down the national average.

Demand is always the most difficult to predict. Some of the factors have been examined in this analysis. There is a usual pattern for demand to not expand so rapidly in the season following a large increase. The increase this season is about 10% for consumption of U.S. soybeans. That most likely cannot be maintained unless there are significant weather problems again in prominent oilseed areas of the world. A one percent deviation in demand represents approximately 20 million bushels. This can be very important in a season when supply and demand are in such delicate balance.

April 20, 1979

## from Washington



The U.S. International Trade Commission will hold hearings on June 26, 1979, in Washington on whether duties should be eliminated on imports of coconut oil and also on olive oil (rendered unfit for use as food). The commission also is seeking information as to whether directly competitive products were being produced in the United States as of Jan. 3, 1976. Requests to appear at the hearing should be directed by June 21 with the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 701 E. St. NW, Washington, DC 20436. Written statements submitted by July 13 will also be considered, the ITC notice said.

An FDA administrative law judge has ruled that both colored margarine and colored butter can be used in standardized bakery products. The decision was part of a wider ruling, but was one of the key issues involved. The FDA had proposed allowing butter with medium-high coloring, but allowing only uncolored margarine to be used in standardized products. The decision also upheld FDA's proposal to permit use of lecithin in egg bread manufacture.

FDA Commissioner Donald Kennedy plans to leave his FDA post to become provost and vice-president for academic affairs at Stanford University as of Aug. 1. Kennedy had planned to stay at FDA at least two more years, but felt the opportunity was too good to refuse, according to Food Chemicals News of April 23.

Food Chemical News reported in mid-April that an FDA proposal not to establish standards for virgin and refined olive oil and refined olive-residue oil drew comment from six firms, with five favoring a standard. The sixth firm, a California company, said that with only two firms producing refined olive oil in California, there wasn't a need for a standard. FDA's statement it would not propose a U.S. standard was included in a statement noting proposal

of olive oil standards by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The Canadian Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has said that it doesn't propose amending labeling regulations for fats and oils now, but it may do so later. Long-range proposals being considered, the unit said, are whether the term "fractionated" or "modified" should be permitted, or if both should be allowed to permit use of "fractionated" on foods for export and whether all oil or fat ingredients should be declared grouped together on the label. ●

## New Publications



*The 1978-79 Chemical New Product Directory*, 177 p., \$350; list of 800+ products introduced by 180 major chemical firms from Jan. 1, 1977, to Aug. 31, 1978; Marketing Development, 402 Border Road, Concord, MA 01742.

*1978 Part 20 Annual Book of ASTM Methods*, 836 p., \$25 plus shipping; 201 standards on paper, packaging, aerosols, and business copy products; ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.

*1979 Part 21 Annual Book of ASTM Methods*, 434 p., \$14 plus shipping; 92 standards on cellulose, flexible barrier materials, and leather.

*Survey of Gossypium hirsutum L. Germplasm Collections for Seed-Oil Percentage and Seed Characteristics*; 42 p., single copy free; USDA Agricultural Research Service, Southern Region, P.O. 53326, New Orleans, LA 70153.

*1978 Annual Report: AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility*, 46 p., \$2 (prepaid only); American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

### Lipoprotein meeting scheduled for September

"Structure of Lipoproteins" will be the topic of a three-day conference to be held Sept. 10-12, 1979, at the Barbizon Hotel in New York City under the sponsorship of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Cochairmen for the conference will be Angelo Scanu of the University of Chicago and Frank Landsberger of Rockefeller University. The conference will provide a critical analysis of progress to date in the field of plasma lipoprotein structure. A limited number of poster session presentations will be accepted. A 100-200 word summary of submitted poster presentations should be sent as quickly as possible to Conference Director, New York Academy of Sciences, 2 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021. Further information about the conference will be available from the same address. ●