

from Washington



The USDA estimates that U.S. farmers will harvest more acres of soybeans this fall than of corn, the first time that has happened. Soybeans passed wheat in total harvested acreage a year ago as well as now, if the USDA estimate proves correct. The estimate, made in mid-July, was that farmers would harvest 70.6 million acres of soybeans compared to 69.5 million to 70 million acres of corn.

The Work Group on Risk Assessment of the Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group (IRLG) has published a report on the "Scientific Bases for Identification of Potential Carcinogens and Estimation of Risks," outlining the current scientific concepts and methods used to identify possible chemical carcinogens. A copy of the report is in the Federal Register, Friday, July 6, 1979, p. 39858. Written comments should be submitted by Sept. 30, 1979, to IRLG, Room 500, 1111 18th St. NW, Washington, DC 20207.

The EPA is calling for information in its health effects assessment of the chlorinated hydrocarbons trichloroethylene, methyl chloroform, methylene chloride and freon-113. Papers should be submitted before Aug. 20 and should be in published or symposium form. Further information: Mark M. Greenberg, Environmental Criteria and Assessment Office (MD-52), EPA, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, or see the Federal Register, Thursday, July 5, 1979, p. 39303.

The National Cancer Institute has concluded that butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) is not carcinogenic for F344 rats or B6C3F1 mice. BHT was tested for safety in its applications as food additive, preservative and stabilizer in pesticides, lubricants, lipsticks and other products. A report is available from: Office of Cancer Communications, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20205. More information is in the Federal Register, Friday, July 20, 1979, p. 42782.

The Agricultural Marketing Service has made a final ruling revising fees for cotton classing, standards and inspection sampling, and for certification of cottonseed and related services. The revision reflects rising costs since the adjustment of feed on July 1, 1976 and omits certain obsolete processing tests. The ruling is outlined in the Federal Register, Wednesday, July 11, 1979, p. 40491, or a copy may be obtained from Mr. Julius Jerome Boyd, Marketing Services Branch, Cotton Division, AMS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250 (tele: 202-447-7857).

The EPA has issued a notice describing under what conditions pesticide registrants who fail to report risk/benefit information about their pesticide will not be prosecuted. The conditions are listed in the Federal Register, Thursday, July 12, 1979, p. 40716-40722, or contact J.J. Neyland III, Office of Enforcement (EN-342), EPA, 401 M St. SW, Rm. 3632, Washington, DC 20460 (tele: 202-755-0630).

The Commodity Credit Corporation has issued a final rule setting loan and purchase rates, premiums and discounts for the 1979 peanut crop quota and surpluses. CCC says the program is intended to stabilize market prices. For further information, telephone Dalton Ustyunik at 202-447-6761, or see the Federal Register, Monday, July 9, 1979, p. 40053.

The EPA has issued a reminder that written comments on a specific chemical substance should be submitted no later than 30 days before the end of the stated review period. The comment should identify the substance by PMN number and should be addressed to the Document Control Officer (TS-793), Office of Toxic Substances, EPA, 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460. Further details are in the Federal Register, Monday, July 16, 1979, p. 41330.

The EPA may propose a rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requiring manufacturers of selected chemicals to submit information on volume, uses and exposures for those substances. The EPA will use this data in selecting high-risk chemicals for future regulatory attack. Comments: Document Control Officer, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Toxic Substances (TS-793), 401 M St. S.W., Washington, DC 20460. More information is in the Federal Register, Wednesday, June 27, 1979, pp. 37517-37518.

The International Trade Commission will investigate casein's impact on the domestic dairy industry in compliance with a House Ways and Means Committee resolution. The study will include demand-utilization trends and import figures. A public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. (e.d.t.) on Oct. 4, 1979 at the Commission's Hearing Room. Requests for attendance should be received by Sept. 28 at the US International Trade Commission Building, 701 E St. N.W., Washington, DC 20436. Details: The Federal Register, Wednesday, June 27, 1979, p. 37566.

The United States International Trade Commission will adjust tariff concessions according to the data it collects on certain imported benzenoid chemicals. A preliminary list will be issued for public comment around Sept. 25. For details, contact Mr. D.F. McCarthy, Office of Industries, United States International Trade Commission, 701 E St. N.W., Washington, DC 20436, or see the Federal Register, Thursday, July 5, 1979, p. 39315.

The United States Department of Energy has made final "Standby Conservation Plan No. 2, Emergency Building Temperature Restrictions" to place temporary limits on temperature settings in commercial, industrial and other nonresidential buildings during times of emergency energy conservation. The restrictions include temperature of 65 F for heating, 78 F for air conditioning and 105 F for hot water used in personal hygiene. For information, contact Henry G. Bartholomew, Office of Buildings and Community Systems, Office of Conservation and Solar Applications, Department of Energy, 20 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Room 2221C, Washington, DC 20585, or see the Federal Register, Thursday, July 5, 1979, pp. 39354-39369.

The Department of Energy (DOE) has proposed three reporting forms for collecting data on industrial energy efficiency and use of energy-saving recycled materials. The proposals follow the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and are under the Industrial Energy Conservation Program. Written comments should be sent by Sept. 17, 1979, to Margaret Sibley, Docket No. CAS-RM-79-302, Office of Conservation and Solar Applications, U.S. Department of Energy, Room 2221C, 20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20585. For further information, see the Federal Register, Tuesday, July 17, 1979, p. 41652.

The EPA has begun implementing the regulation which requires the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) administrator to provide the secretary of the USDA with guidelines stating which information is necessary to support the registration of a pesticide. Non-target plants and microorganisms are the topics under consideration. More information is in the Federal Register, Tuesday, July 24, 1979, p. 43322.

The Commodity Credit Corporation has issued the final ruling for determining adjustment and purchase rates for peanuts different from the national average, \$420 per ton. This rule applies to 1979 crop farm-stored peanuts in an effort to support prices. For more information, contact Harold Jamison, Price Support and Loan Division, ASCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20013, or see the Federal Register, Wednesday, July 25, 1979, pp. 43457-43458.

The EPA has extended the comment period for two proposals, the Health Effects Test Standards for Toxic Substances Control Act Test Rules (Chronic Effects Test Standards), and the Good Laboratory Practice Standards for Health Effects from August 7 to October 16, 1979. (See July 1979 JAOCS.) Public meetings on these proposals will be as previously scheduled, Oct. 15 and 16 in Chicago. Written comments should be sent to Document Control Officer, Office of Toxic Substances (TS-799), EPA, 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460. More information is in the Federal Register, Thursday, July 26, 1979, p. 44054.

The pesticide product Goal 2E Herbicide has been classified by the EPA for general use in preemergence control of certain grasses and broadleaf weeds. A list of data references used to support registration is available from Product Manager's Office (PM-25), Room E-359, Registration Division (TS-767), Office of Pesticide Programs, EPA, 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460; or information is in the Federal Register, Tuesday, July 3, 1979, p. 39025.

The EPA has taken action to cancel unconditionally the registration of pesticides containing endrin following an investigation into the toxic and teratogenic effects of the chemical. Exceptions to this cancellation may be requested for the control of army cutworm, pale western cutworm and grasshoppers on cotton and other small grain crops. Contact: William S. Cox, Project Manager, Special Pesticide Review Division, Office of Pesticide Programs (TS-791), EPA, 401 M Street SW, Washington, DC 20460. Additional information is in the Federal Register, Wednesday, July 25, 1979, p. 43632.

Velsicol Chemical Company will cancel 13 of 15 herbicide registrations under petitions to cancel filed by the Dow Chemical Company. The two herbicide registrations Velsicol will maintain are Vegetrol A-4D and Vegetrol LV-4D. For information, contact the Hearing Clerk (A-110), United States Environmental Protection Agency, Room 3708, 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460, or see the Federal Register, Monday, July 9, 1979, p. 40132.

Pesticides containing dibromochloropropane (DBCP) may be suspended from use by the EPA because of possible "imminent hazard" to humans. DBCP-containing pesticides are used on various commercial crops, including cotton and soybean. The EPA may suspend any pesticide on an interim basis, until further information is available. Details are in the Federal Register, Tuesday, July 24, 1979, pp. 43335-43341. ●

Executive Committee holds mid-year meeting

Increased financial support for AOCS honored students, use of Continuing Education Units, and society financial investments were considered by the AOCS Executive Committee during its mid-year meeting in Champaign. ●

The Committee approved a proposal to increase financial aid to AOCS Honored Students attending the annual meeting. In the past, such students received airfare plus a flat \$75 to help pay expenses. Under the new plan, the students will receive airfare, plus \$15 per day meal expenses, plus hotel accommodations arranged through the headquarters office, not to exceed \$35 a day.

The committee heard a report from Education Committee Chairman E.G. Perkins suggesting AOCS join the Council on Continuing Education Units and award such credit to members participating in appropriate programs. The Executive Committee asked Perkins to continue his investigation of the topic and to report later. While some certifiable professions require such credits, most AOCS members at present do not, the committee felt. Using such credits, however, might attract more participation by professionals who do benefit by receiving the CEU credits.

In a structural change, the Executive Committee approved a proposal from AOCS Treasurer Tom Smouse that the finance committee's present investments subcommittee be replaced by a separate, full investment committee composed of the Society President, Treasurer and three other Governing Board members or alternates.

Smouse noted that investment is basically a different concern than budgeting, which is the finance committee's area. The new committee will report directly to the Governing Board. The Executive Committee also approved Smouse's proposal that finance committee members be appointed for one-year renewable terms, instead of the present three-year appointments.

In other actions, the Executive Committee:

- Received a final report on the World Conference on Vegetable Food Proteins from local chairman Kees Meerhoek and voted to express official "heart-felt thanks" to Dr. and Mrs. Meerhoek for their efforts.

- Approved a budget for 1980 showing total income of \$747,200 and expenses of \$714,000. The budget shows an increase of 13% in income from the 1979 budget and an increase of expenses slightly more than 2% from the 1979 budget. Most of the increase represents increased dues income, including that portion of dues allocated to subscriptions, and subscription income.

- Discussed holding a world conference on fatty chemicals during 1983, after hearing a report from AOCS President N.O.V. Sonntag on the industrial fatty acids short course held this past June.

- Asked Executive Director James Lyon to provide estimates on the cost of staff pension plant alternatives.

- Urged the proceedings of a 1980 soaps and detergents short course be published as a unit in JAOCS.

- Received a letter of ISF Executive Secretary Reinhard Marcuse asking for AOCS participation in nomination of candidates for ISF's Kaufmann Memorial Lecture Award.

Min at Ohio State

Dr. David B. Min has joined The Ohio State University Department of Food Science and Nutrition as Assistant Professor, Food Science. Dr. Min received his B.S. degree from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, his M.S. degree from the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, and his Ph.D. degree from Rutgers University. He has six years of industrial experience as a Senior Flavor Chemist with John Stuart Research Laboratories, Quaker Oats Company, Barrington, Illinois, and more recently, as Principal Scientist, Flavor Research, Best Foods Research Center, CPC International, Union, New Jersey. At Ohio State, Dr. Min will teach courses in food analysis and food lipids and conduct research in flavor chemistry and edible fats and oils. ●