
From Washington

EPA to find out cost of TSCA Section 5

The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking comments on the methodology to be used by a consulting firm to determine the economic impact of firms' having to provide premanufacture notifications on new chemical substances. The review would include data on the soap and detergent, surfactant, fatty acid, paint and other industries. The study is aimed at determining whether the new regulations affect introduction of new chemicals, R&D expenditures, profitability, production, growth, prices, trade and market structure. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, June 10, 1980, p. 39449.

FDA modifies rule on milkfat content

The Food and Drug Administration will permit milks, creams, milk products and cream products to contain declarations of milkfat or butterfat content without automatically triggering the need for full nutrition labeling. The FDA said such labeling is used by many buyers for identification purposes. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, June 3, 1980, p.37420.

U.S. fat consumption: 10-year report

Apparent annual domestic consumption of total food fats in the United States rose during the 1970s from about 126 pounds per person (1969) to 135 pounds per person (1979), according to an article in the USDA's *Fats and Oils Situation*.

Consumption of visible fats rose from 52 pounds per person in 1969 to 57.7 pounds per person in 1979. Visible fats include butter, lard, margarine, shortening and salad and cooking oils.

Consumption of invisible fats rose from 73.7 pounds per person in 1969 to 77.6 pounds in 1979. Invisible fats include dairy products (excluding butter), eggs, meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, peas, nuts, soya, cocoa, fruits, vegetables and grain products.

The gain in visible fat consumption was mainly in salad and cooking oils (*JAOCS*, 47:7, p.538A). Invisible fat gains were in the meat, poultry and fish categories.

The article also notes that while the amount of saturated fat available per capita per day was about 3% higher in 1979 than in 1969, disappearance of unsaturated fat was rising faster. The net result is that in 1969, about 37% of dietary fat was saturated, 40% monounsaturated and 13% polyunsaturated; in 1979, the comparable figures were 34%, 40% and 15%, respectively. The article was published in the May issue of *Fats and Oils Situation* (FOS-299).

Phenylenediamines added to priority list

The federal Interagency Testing Committee, created by the Toxic Substances Control Act, has added phenylenediamines to its list of chemicals for priority safety testing. The substances are used primarily in preparing dyes, in producing polyurethane foams and as chemical intermediates. The addition was contained in the ITC's sixth report to the EPA, published in the *Federal Register*, Wednesday, May 28, 1980, p.35987.