
From Washington

Canadians seek approval for canola oil in U.S.

The Food and Drug Administration in August announced that the Research Branch of Agriculture Canada had petitioned for generally recognized as safe (GRAS) status for low erucic acid rapeseed oil as a food ingredient. The petition proposes that low erucic acid rapeseed oil and hydrogenated low erucic acid rapeseed oil be used as food ingredients similarly to other edible fats and oils. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, Aug. 13, 1982, p. 35342.

Decision awaited from Japan on use of BHA in food

The Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare is expected to meet within two months to determine whether Japan should impose its proposed ban of butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) in food products. Japan first announced it would ban BHA usage effective July 1, then delayed the deadline until March 1983 after officials from Great Britain, Canada, United States and Japan met in July. Among the issues considered are the use of antioxidants in general, not only BHA, and the role of oxidized fats in the diet. The risks associated with the consumption of BHA will be compared with the risks associated with oxidized fat consumption. Details: *Food Chemical News*, July 19, 1982, p. 2; July 26, 1982, p. 2; Aug. 9, 1982, p. 22; Aug. 16, 1982, pp. 50-51.

Consumer fats and oils prices show drop during 12-month period

According to a USDA press release July 23, although the consumer price index showed food prices rose 0.8% in June, fats and oils prices went unchanged. However, between June 1981 and June 1982, prices for fats and oils dropped 3.3%.

School lunch guidelines to permit more flexible use of soy protein

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service has proposed amending regulations for the National School Lunch Program, the Summer Food Service Program for Children and the Child Care Food Program to allow greater flexibility in using vegetable protein products. Vegetable protein products have been authorized since 1971 to satisfy part of the meat/meat alternate requirement in child nutrition programs. The proposal would not increase the amount of vegetable protein products substituted but would permit a wider choice, including new types of protein products developed since 1971. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, July 23, 1982, pp. 31881-31886.

USDA raises licence fees for cottonseed analysts

The USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service in July announced plans to increase cotton and cottonseed classification and grading fees for the second year in a row. Proposed cottonseed fees for the 1983 fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 1982, would be \$15 for a license to sample and certificate official samples (renewals to cost \$13); \$300 for a chemist's license to analyze and grade cottonseed (\$100 renewal fee); \$1.15 for a cottonseed grade certificate; and \$39 to review cottonseed grading. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, July 16, 1982, pp. 30995-30996.

FDA amends regulations for multiunit labeling

The Food and Drug Administration revised its rules on labeling for multi-unit packages so that margarine manufacturers do not need to print their name and business location on interior packaging. Exterior labels must comply with all requirements and interior labels must state the individual units are not intended for separate sale. The change was

requested by the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers. FDA made similar changes for other foods. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, July 27, 1982, p. 32419.

**FDA proposes GRAS status
for lecithin, carnauba**

The federal Food and Drug Administration has proposed issuing a Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) affirmation for lecithin used in food with no limitation other than current good manufacturing practice. The affirmation would include both bleached and unbleached lecithin. In addition, FDA is proposing affirming the GRAS status of carnauba wax as an anticaking agent, lubricant and release agent, and as a surface-finishing agent. Details: *Food Chemical News*, Monday, Aug. 9, 1982, pp. 26-31.

**FDA raises
aflatoxin action level
in beef, swine, poultry feed**

In a notice signed July 23, the Food and Drug Administration increased the action level for aflatoxin in cottonseed meal to be used in feeds for beef, swine and poultry from 20 parts per billion (ppb) to 300 ppb. FDA put no time limit on enforcing the new level. The notice did not change the 20 ppb aflatoxin level allowed in feeds for dairy cattle. Prompting the change was the severe aflatoxin contamination of the 1981 cotton crop in southwestern U.S. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, July 30, 1982, pp. 33007-33008.

**EPA approves tolerances
for profenofos in hulls**

The Environmental Protection Agency has established a feed additive regulation permitting residues of profenofos and its metabolites at 6.0 parts per million (ppm) in cottonseed hulls and 15.0 ppm in soapstock resulting from application of the insecticide to growing cotton crops. EPA also set a tolerance of 3.0 ppm for the combined residues of profenofos and its metabolites on cottonseed, and a tolerance of 0.05 ppm for the herbicide fluchloralin on sunflowerseeds. Details: *Federal Register*, Wednesday, July 14, 1982, pp. 30478-30479, 30486-30488.

**Pesticide diflubenzuron
tolerance set for soy**

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has approved the following tolerance levels for the insecticide diflubenzuron in or on soybeans, soybean hulls and soybean soapstock: soybean tolerance of 0.05 parts per million; soybean hulls, 0.05 ppm; and soybean soapstock, 0.1. Details: *Federal Register*, Wednesday, July 28, 1982, p. 32527, 32535.

**U.S. oilseed, products exports
rise to \$9.3 billion in 1981**

The U.S. exported over \$9.5 billion worth of oilseeds and oilseed products during 1981, a 2% increase over 1980, while dollar values of animal fats, oils and greases exported showed a 1% decline from the previous year.

According to USDA's Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report for the 1981 calendar year, the value of animal fats, oils and greases exported during 1981 totaled nearly \$759.7 million compared to nearly \$768.6 million in 1980. Export values for inedible tallow decreased from \$677.2 million exported in 1980 to \$644.9 million in 1981.

The \$9.555 billion worth of oilseeds and their products exported was 2% higher than the \$9.393 billion in 1980. Soybeans rose 5%, from nearly \$5.880 billion to \$6.186 billion, while the value of other oilseeds rose 19%, from \$871 million to \$1.035 billion. However, the value of soybean oil and cottonseed oil exported was \$673 million,

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down 26% from \$915 million exported in 1980. Oilcake and meal exports declined 4%, from nearly \$1.73 billion to \$1.66 billion.

Principal markets for animal fats, oils and greases were Egypt and The Netherlands; and The Netherlands, Japan and West Germany purchased the most oilseeds and oilseed products. The following is a more comprehensive look at leading markets for these U.S. exports:

Animal fats, oils and greases: 1) Egypt; 2) The Netherlands; 3) Mexico.

Inedible tallow: 1) Egypt; 2) The Netherlands; 3) U.S.S.R.

Oilseeds and products, particularly soybeans: 1) The Netherlands; 2) Japan; 3) West Germany.

Oilcake and meal, soybean oilcake and meal: 1) The Netherlands; 2) Italy; 3) West Germany.

Vegetable oils and waxes: 1) Venezuela; 2) Pakistan; 3) India.

Soybean oil: 1) Pakistan; 2) India; 3) Colombia.

Cottonseed oil: 1) Venezuela; 2) Egypt; 3) Japan.

Exports included approximately 1.5 million metric tons of animal fats, oils and greases; 21.8 million metric tons of soybeans; 1.7 million metric tons of sunflower seeds; 6.8 million metric tons of oilcake and meal; 1.6 million metric tons of vegetable oils and waxes; 1.4 million metric tons of inedible tallow; 68 thousand metric tons of lard; 149 thousand metric tons of peanuts not for oilstocks; and 22 thousand metric tons of safflower seeds.

Imports

Meanwhile, the U.S. imported more animal and vegetable fats and oils in 1981 than in the previous year.

Imported oilseeds and oilseed products totalled nearly 1.25 million metric tons, up from just over 831.5 thousand metric tons in 1980. 1981 figures included 41,000 metric tons of coconut meat, 40,000 metric tons of castor oil, 470,000 metric tons of coconut oil, 28,000 metric tons of olive oil, 122,000 tons of palm oil and 69,000 metric tons of palm kernel oil. It was the first year palm oil imports increased since they reached a peak of 436,000 metric tons in 1975.