

# From Washington

## **USDA may accept FDA-approved substances**

USDA has adopted a rule permitting the department to bypass formal rulemaking in approving new substances, expanded use of existing substances, or revised usage levels for additives which already have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration or are Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS). Details: *Food Chemical News*, July 18, 1983, p. 2.

## **Cotton, cottonseed grading fees may be increased by USDA**

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service in July announced plans to increase cotton and cottonseed classification and grading fees. Proposed cottonseed fees for the 1984 fiscal year that began Oct. 1, 1983, would be \$16 for a license to sample and certificate official samples (renewals to cost \$14); \$310 for a chemist's license to analyze and grade cottonseed (\$105 renewal fee); \$1.20 for a cottonseed grade certificate; and \$42 to review cottonseed grading. Details: *Federal Register*, Wednesday, July 6, 1983, pp. 31047-31049.

## **USDA seeks consensus on dietary fat recommendation**

Members of USDA's dietary guidelines advisory committee, meeting in July, voiced differing views over the 1980 USDA/Health and Human Services recommendation to avoid too much fat, saturated fat and cholesterol. As a result, a subcommittee chaired by David Kritchevsky of Wistar Institute will draft a new recommendation, to be presented at the next committee meeting Dec. 13-14. Other members chosen for the subcommittee were Dr. Robert Levy, vice-president for health science at Columbia University, and Dr. Robert Olson of the University of Pittsburgh. Details: *Food Chemical News*, July 25, 1983, pp. 37-38.

## **Cancer study available on allyl isovalerate**

The Health and Human Services' National Toxicology Program has made available carcinogenesis studies of allyl isovalerate, a synthetic fragrance and flavoring ingredient used in soaps, detergents, creams, perfumes, nonalcoholic beverages, ice cream, candy, baked goods, gelatins and puddings. Allyl isovalerate was administered in corn oil by gavage to rats and mice and, under conditions of the studies, caused increased incidences of hematopoietic system neoplasms. For free copies, write to NTP Public Information Office, M.D. B2-04, PO Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. Details: *Federal Register*, Monday, July 25, 1983, p. 33748.

## **USDA sets \$5.02 as support rate for soybeans**

USDA in August issued a preliminary loan and purchase rate of \$5.02 per bushel for 1983 crop soybeans, the minimum permitted by law and unchanged from 1982. Details: *Federal Register*, Thursday, Aug. 4, 1983, p. 35476.