

From Washington

P&G asks GRAS status for edible, inedible glycerine

Procter & Gamble Company has asked FDA to affirm glycerine from all sources, not just edible, as Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS). Details: *Food Chemical News*, May 2, 1983, pp. 16-18.

How much fat is too much fat? USDA disagrees with NAS, HHS

Responding to the diet and cancer report released last year by the National Academy of Sciences, USDA and the Department of Health and Human Services disagreed over the fat consumption goal appropriate for the general population. Although HHS backed NAS' recommendation to lower fat intake from 40 to 30% of all calories consumed, USDA said 35% would be more realistic to allow for a diet meeting all recommended daily allowances. Details: *Food Chemical News*, May 30, 1983, pp. 14, 39-41. Meanwhile, the American Heart Association has recommended an average 10% reduction in cholesterol levels for children over age two. An AHA report in the June issue of *Circulation* said total fat intake should be about 30% of calories, with 10% or less from saturated fat, 10% from monounsaturated fat and less than 10% from polyunsaturated fat. Details: *Food Chemical News*, June 6, 1983, pp. 9-10.

Cottonseed processing firms to be exempt from dust rules

OSHA has proposed amending the 1978 cotton dust standard to exclude dust generated from cottonseed processing. However, a standard for cotton dust adopted by OSHA in 1971 will still apply to cotton waste processing. OSHA is seeking comments on economically feasible alternative methods to protect worker health in the cottonseed processing industry. Hearings on OSHA's proposed revisions of the cotton dust standard will be held Sept. 19, 1983 in Washington, D.C.; Sept. 27 in Dallas, Texas; and Oct. 4 in Columbia, South Carolina. The National Cottonseed Products Association is expected to comment favorably on the provisions affecting the cottonseed processing industry. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, June 10, 1983, pp. 26962-26984.

FAO/WHO panel to stick with present BHA recommendation

The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has endorsed its temporary Acceptable Daily Intake for butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) at 0-0.5 mg/kg of body weight until further studies become available. Japan, which previously postponed a ban on BHA pending the JECFA review, has further delayed the ban to await completion of an international study of BHA's possible carcinogenic effects. Meanwhile, the Codex Alimentarius Committee of Food Additives has temporarily endorsed BHA, BHT and TBHQ at 200 mg/kg individually or in combination in fat spreads and spreadable table fats. Details: *Food Chemical News*, May 2, 1983, p. 2; May 9, 1983, pp. 7-8; May 30, 1983, pp. 3-4, 21-22. *ASCH* (American Council on Science and Health) *News & Views* May/June 1983, pp. 5-6.

FTC officially abandons proposed food advertising regs

The Federal Trade Commission in May officially announced it had dropped its proposed trade rule on food advertising which would have regulated energy, fat, cholesterol and "natural food" claims. Instead, it said these areas would continue to be scrutinized by the commission on a case-by-case basis. Details: *Federal Register*, May 24, 1983, pp. 23270-23271; *Food Chemical News*, May 30, 1983, p. 2.