

from Washington



The Food and Drug Administration has published Codex Alimentarius standards for cocoa butters and for virgin and refined olive oil and refined olive-residue oil. This was done as part of the routine consideration of Codex standards by the U.S. Expiration data for comments was in April, with further notices to follow if the preliminary comments indicate there is a need for a U.S. standard. If the U.S. does not adopt the Codex standards, products meeting the identity standards could be sold in the U.S. provided they complied with appropriate state and federal regulations. Details: Federal Register, Friday, Feb. 23, 1979, p. 10741.

To aid in the organization of the National Center for Toxicological Research, the FDA has reorganized part of its programs relating to the NCTR. The realignment for four former divisions into five new divisions was spelled out in the Federal Register of Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1979 p. 11273. A new Division of Chemistry is given responsibility for developing new or improved chemical methods for trace analysis of carcinogens, mutagens and other substances using sophisticated analytical techniques.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture was seeking nominations through April 2 of persons to serve on a Human Nutrition Advisory Committee to aid in developing policies and programs affecting adequate public nutrition. Details: Federal Register, Friday, March 2, 1979.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is seeking public comments on its preliminary water quality criteria for 27 of the 65 pollutants listed as toxic under the Clean Water Act. Comments are to be submitted by May 14. The public comments will be used in writing the enforceable standards. Details: Federal Register, Thursday, March 15, 1979.

EPA also is seeking comments before June 14, 1979; it has published some of the tests and methods it may use in the guidelines for premanufacture testing of new chemical substances. Details: Federal Register, Friday, March 16, p. 16240.

The Food and Drug Administration will accept comments until June 7, 1979 on its proposal for a monograph on over-the-counter topical antimicrobial products. The original compilation of the monograph began in 1974 and a tentative version was published this past January. FDA says it wants to give everybody a chance to have a say and to review some of the early test data used in compiling the monograph. Details: Federal Register, Friday, March 9, 1979, p. 13041. ●

Bladel joins FPRF staff

Bendt Bladel has been named director of project administration for the Fats and Proteins Research Foundation, Inc., of Des Plaines, IL. Dr. Werner Boehme is technical director of the foundation.

Bladel, formerly technical director for the National Confectioners Association, is a graduate of the University of Illinois and Loyola University. ●

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