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# From Washington

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## **USDA price supports proposed for sunflower**

The USDA in mid-September asked for comments on a proposal to establish a price support program for 1980 crop sunflower seed that would set a support level of \$6, \$7 or \$8 per hundred weight. The precise figure is to be determined after analysis of comments on the proposal. In the proposal, USDA says total sunflower seed supply for the 1979-80 marketing year has been 80 million cwt; domestic crush totaled 12.1 million cwt and exports 39.7 million cwt. For the 1980-81 crop year, USDA estimated a domestic crush of 16 million cwt, exports of 44.1 million cwt and ending stocks of 9.3 million cwt. Details: *Federal Register*, Monday, Sept. 15, 1980, p. 60914.

## **Tolerance established for insecticide in peanuts**

Maximal tolerance levels for residues of the insecticide cyano(3-phenoxyphenyl)methyl-4-chloro- $\alpha$ -(1-methylethyl) benzeneacetate have been established in or on peanuts at 0.02 ppm and peanut hulls at 0.1 ppm. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1980, p. 58121.

## **U.S. soy crush totals 1.12 billion bushels**

U.S. soybean crushings for the 1979/80 marketing year that ended Sept. 1, 1980, totaled 1.12 billion bushels (30.5 million metric tons), according to the USDA's *Soybean Stocks Report* issued Sept. 22, 1980.

Total disappearance for the marketing year was 2.08 billion bushels. Exports totaled about 873 million bushels and seed about 67 million bushels, the report said.

The ending stocks of soybeans was about 359 million bushels (9.7 million metric tons), more than double the ending stocks of 1978/79. With a smaller harvest expected this fall, most observers expect usage during 1980/81 will cut deeply into those stocks before the 1981 harvest.

## **USDA lowers world oilseed forecast**

In its mid-September bulletin on 1980/81 crop estimates, the U.S. Department of Agriculture lowered its forecast of world oilseed production to 164.2 million metric tons from the August projection of 166.8 million metric tons. The change reflects an anticipated drop in U.S. soybean and cottonseed harvest because of hot, dry weather in mid-summer that affected portions of the United States. Other areas for which oilseed production totals were decreased included Eastern Europe, the USSR and Argentina; areas showing minor increases included Canada, Western Europe and Pakistan. Anticipated production (in million metric tons) by commodity are: soybeans, 83.39; cottonseed, 24.98; peanuts, 18.68; sunflower seed, 14.11; and rapeseed 10.36. Production in 1979/80 for those crops was estimated at: soybeans, 94.00; cottonseed, 25.61; peanuts, 18.28; sunflower seed, 15.29; and rapeseed, 10.42. No shortage of oilseed is expected during the current marketing year as the 1979/80 record crop provided a plentiful carryover, but market analysts are now beginning to consider the balance between supply and demand for the first half of 1981 when South American crops will be harvested.