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# Industry News

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## Soybean growers reduce expectations

Top soybean growers are experiencing declining soybean yields and are projecting lower rates of increase for farm yields in the future, according to a survey by the National Soybean Crop Improvement Council.

Survey results, published in the October 1981 issue of *Soybean News*, reveal that although U.S. soybean acreage has been rising during the past 10 years, farmers' yield predictions have been shrinking. This year, farmers are predicting smaller yields for 1985 than they predicted five years ago for 1981.

This outlook may be due partially to reduced soybean yields experienced in all four survey regions in 1980. Growers in the Western, Southeast and Delta regions reported 23-36% declines in yields for soybeans from 1979 to 1980, whereas Midwestern growers reported a drop in yield of less than 1%. □

## Swift & Company makes lab facilities available

Swift & Company has announced that it will offer laboratory services at its new \$30 million Kansas City, Kansas, processed meats plant, on a fee basis, to other companies seeking chemical analysis, according to Richard L. Gregory, chief chemist, Swift & Co. □

## Sunflower contract okay expected

Futures trading in sunflower seed was expected to be approved by the end of November, a Chicago Board of Trade official said in late September. Larry Schmidt, marketing manager for agriculture futures, said approval by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission was expected for trading units of 10,000 pounds of sunflower seed with 40% oil, 10% moisture and 2% admixture. Delivery months would be October, November, January, March, May and July.

The Minneapolis exchange provided the initial futures trading in sunflower seed. Trading did not develop as rapidly as some had expected on that market. □

## National Sunflower Association formed

The North Dakota and South Dakota Sunflower Councils have announced formation of the National Sunflower Association (NSA), intended to become a national sunflower producers' association, with membership by non-

growers and related businesses also.

The new National Sunflower Association has become publisher of *Sunflower*, a magazine previously published by the Sunflower Association of America, which is expected to reduce its activities, according to a news release from the new group. Larry Kleingartner is executive director for the NSA; Don Lilleboe, executive secretary for the Sunflower Association of America, will continue as editor of *Sunflower*.

As a national producers' organization, the new NSA can work with the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service on foreign market development programs. It will coordinate research and market development work of the North and South Dakota state councils and provide an organization for sunflower producers outside the Dakotas.

Chairman of the new organization is Tom Porter, a producer from Cando, North Dakota. The group's first convention will be Jan. 6-7, 1982, in Bismarck, North Dakota. NSA's mailing address is PO Box 2533, Bismarck, ND 58505. □

## Willis Clark heads Food Protein Council

Willis S. Clark, general manager of Central Soya's Chemurgy Division in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has been elected chairman of the Food Protein Council, a trade association of soy protein manufacturers in the U.S.

Clark succeeds Kent Mittelberg of A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. New vice-chairman is Robert E. Sullenberger of Archer Daniels Midland, Decatur, Illinois. B. Marlo Dirks of Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati is a new member of the executive committee; continuing as an executive committee member is Ed Senska of Honeymead Products Co. in Mankato, Minnesota.

The council was one of the chief sponsors for the World Conference on Vegetable Food Proteins held during 1978 in Amsterdam. □

## New plant announced

Intercontinental Special Fats Sdn. Bhd. of Kuala Lumpur has announced plans to build a new plant to process palm oil into cocoa butter substitute. Engineering firm for construction of the new plant will be Lurgi Unwel und Chemotechnik GmbH of Frankfurt. □

## Biotechnology center opens

New England Nuclear's new Biotechnology Center for the development and manufacture of products for biotechnology research opened during October in Newton, Massachusetts. New England Nuclear offers a broad line of products for biotechnology research, including radioactive chemicals and enzymes. □



Harshaw Chemical Company has invested approximately \$1 million to expand its catalyst department's research and development center in Beachwood, Ohio. The new investment is for work on residuum oil hydrotreating catalysts. The work expanded the R&D center by about one-third, a Harshaw official said.

## De Smet announces new process

De Smet has announced what it describes as a new solvent extraction process to produce a palm oil fraction for use as a cocoa butter equivalent fat component.

The process involves cooling the oil to form triglyceride crystals in a scraped-wall cooler/crystallizer, followed by separation on a horizontal belt filter using an acetone washing solution.

Technical sales literature is available from Extraction de Smet S.A., Prins Boudewijnlaan 265, 2520 Edegem-Antwerp, Belgium. □

## Petrochemicals Co. acquires new line

Petrochemicals Co. Inc., a Chattem company headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, has reached agreement in principle for the acquisition of Hexcel Chemical Products' line of alkyl fatty amides produced and marketed by Hexcel's Fine Chemicals Group.

Petrochemicals Co. currently is completing construction of a manufacturing facility for these products at its Fort Worth location. □

## New fatty alcohol plant

Union Carbide Corp. and Henkel KGaA announced plans in late September for construction of a fatty alcohol plant, based on natural fats and oils, in the U.S. by Union Carbide.

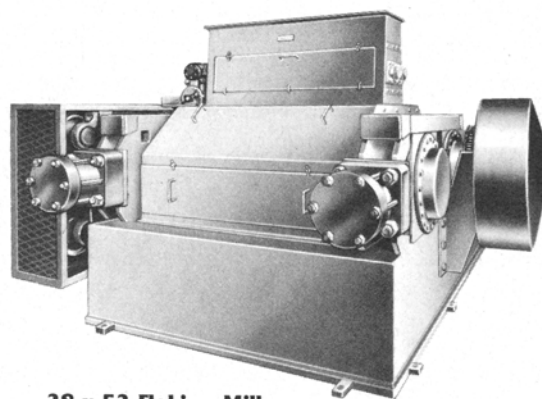
The facility is expected to be completed by 1984 and will use Henkel technology, according to announcements appearing in the trade media. Much of the plant's production will be used by Union Carbide to produce nonionic surfactants for its "Tergitol" products. □



## Big Capacity-Big Profit Roller Mills from Roskamp

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