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# From Washington

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## **Block wants to end peanut allotments**

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, John Block, told the National Peanut Council in April that he hopes to eliminate peanut acreage allotments and gradually phase out marketing quotas by 10% each year. The aim is to increase U.S. competitiveness in international markets. Presently, acreage allotments and marketing quotas are set for sales in the U.S. market. Block also proposes allowing domestic users to buy non-quota peanuts.

## **Grant program outlined for vegoil research**

The USDA's Science and Education Administration and the Department of Energy have announced a grant program for energy research that includes funds for work on use of vegetable oils as substitute diesel fuels. Proposals were to be submitted by May 22, 1981.

A total of \$411,000 is set aside for research on that specific topic, with scope ranging from determining the potential of such usage to potential genetic modifications and engine tests. In another part of the program, grants may be sought for work on fermentation, combustion, pyrolysis and gasification that includes work on new diesel fuels. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, April 7, 1981, p. 20972.

## **Petition filed on coconut milk emulsifiers**

Coconut Products Corporation of Hawaii has filed a petition (FAP OA3532) with the Food and Drug Administration seeking approval for use of sorbitan monostearate and polysorbate 60 as emulsifiers in coconut milk drink. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, March 20, 1981, p. 17885.

## **Monsanto seeks tolerances for two herbicides**

Monsanto Co. has submitted petitions to the federal Environmental Protection Agency proposing tolerances for two herbicides on raw oilseed commodities. Monsanto seeks a tolerance for a residue of 6 to 15 parts per million (ppm) in cottonseed for glyphosphate and a metabolite in cottonseed. Analysis is by gas chromatography (GC) with a phosphorous-specific photometric detector. The firm also seeks a tolerance of 0.02 ppm on sunflower seed, mustard seed, safflower seed, flax seed, and buckwheat seed for the herbicide S-2,3, 3-trichloroallyl diisopropylthiocarbamate. Detection is by GC with an electron capture detector. Petition control number is PF-218. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, March 17, 1981, p. 17130.

## **FDA extends listing of color additives**

The Food and Drug Administration on March 27 published extensions of time permitting continued use of several color additives as well as a proposal to provide approval for two cosmetic color additives, D&C Orange No. 10 and D&C Orange No. 11. D&C Green No. 6 was approved for external use only, pending a decision later this year whether to permanently approve or disapprove the additive. The full listing of the colors involved were published in the *Federal Register*, Friday, March 27, 1981, pp. 18951, 18954, 18994.

## **Lecithin approved for pesticides**

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has declared lecithin exempt from tolerance levels when used in pesticides as an inert, or occasionally active, ingredient. The regulation approves exemption on growing crops or raw agricultural commodities after harvest. The lecithin would be used as an emulsifier in accordance with Food Chemicals Codex specifications. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, March 24, 1981, p. 18315.

**Tolerance set for peanut herbicide**

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has approved a tolerance for the herbicide fluchoralin (N-(2-chloroethyl)-a,a,a-trifluoro-2,6-dinitro-N-propyl-p-toluidine) at 0.05 ppm on peanuts, peanut forage and peanut hay, and at 0.1 ppm in peanut hulls. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, March 27, 1981, p. 18978.

**Petitions filed on cottonseed pesticides**

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has received petitions from two companies relating to cottonseed and its products for two pesticides. ICI Americas Inc. has asked that tolerances be established for cypermethrin at 0.1 ppm in cottonseed, 0.2 ppm in cottonseed hulls and 1.0 ppm in cottonseed oil. U.S. Soil Inc. is seeking an exemption from tolerance levels in cottonseed for the insecticide methyl  $\alpha$ -eleostearate. Details: *Federal Register*, Wednesday, April 1, 1981, p. 19851.

**FDA to publish BHT rules soon**

The Food and Drug Administration has announced its plans to publish sometime during July an interim regulation on use of BHT, regulations for infant formula recall programs, and regulations on testing carcinogenicity of food and color additives. By October, FDA has said, it plans to publish regulations on infant formula quality control and a revision of the good manufacturing practices for the food industry. The timetables were published in FDA's semi-annual regulatory agenda published in the *Federal Register* on Thursday, April 30, 1981, p. 24446-7.

## 1980 U.S. exports of animal, vegetable fats and oils

	QUANTITY (metric tons)		VALUE (\$1,000)	
	1979	1980	1979	1980
<b>Animal fats, oils and greases</b>	1,342,546	1,571,327	739,891	768,569
Lard, other rendered pig fat	43,507	41,914	28,374	24,448
Tallow	1,232,872	1,450,678	667,880	697,742
Edible	22,181	39,037	13,154	20,528
Inedible	1,210,691	1,411,641	654,726	677,214
Other	66,167	78,735	46,636	46,379
<b>Oilseeds and products</b>			8,886,338	9,393,045
Oilcake and meal	6,442,204	7,427,061	1,478,084	1,726,810
Soybean oilcake and meal	6,086,715	7,023,787	1,416,457	1,654,063
Other	355,489	403,274	61,628	72,747
<b>Oilseeds</b>			6,191,674	6,399,793
Flaxseed	3,550	3,912	718	837
Soybeans	20,888,014	21,778,536	5,700,969	5,879,942
Sunflower seed	1,325,878	1,535,493	379,992	410,924
Safflower seed	49,152	14,711	14,516	4,909
Peanuts (shelled basis)	113,827	91,201	82,610	60,229
Other	36,480	198,664	12,869	42,951
<b>Veg. oils and waxes</b>	1,620,689	1,836,938	1,155,390	1,215,783
Corn oil	57,124	67,270	58,023	60,358
Cottonseed oil	287,130	356,277	192,878	226,493
Sunflower oil	30,048	158,109	19,703	93,764
Soybean oil	1,129,334	1,096,079	768,604	688,890
Peanut oil	4,871	18,102	4,509	14,762
Other	112,182	141,101	111,673	131,516
<b>Protein substances</b>	63,300	52,613	61,190	50,660

Source: USDA ESS: Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States, Jan/Feb 1981.

Note: yearly data based on calendar years.