
Industry News

Crushings decline

National Soybean Processors Association members were operating at only 69% of capacity for the first eight months of 1981, compared to 80% during the same period in 1980.

The NSPA, whose members represent 90 to 95% of the total crushing capacity in the U.S., reported total crushings of 643 million bushels of soybeans through August 1981, with a capacity for 936 million bushels. For the first eight months of 1980, NSPA members reported processing 738 million bushels, with a total capacity of about 918 million bushels. There were signs in mid-November, however, that crushing levels had begun to rise.

Oil yield the first eight months of 1981 was 11.14%, above the first eight months of 1980 when the yield was 10.82%. Meal yield in 1981 was 47.5%, compared to 1980's 47.7%.

During the 10 years ending with 1980, NSPA members' total crushing capacity rose from about 857,000,000 bushels annually in 1971 to about 1,385,000,000 bushels in 1980. Actual crush rose from 708,051,000 to 1,107,000,000 bushels. USDA figures estimated total 1980 soybean crushing capacity (NSPA members, and crushers who are not NSPA members) at 1,425,000,000 bushels. □

De Smet annual report

Extraction De Smet of Antwerp, Belgium, has reported it sold 15 solvent extraction plants during the year ending October 1981, as well as 24 vegetable and animal oil deodorizing plants.

Altogether, De Smet says, it received 95 contracts in 34 different nations, with 33 contracts in the Western Hemisphere, 39 in Europe and Africa, and 23 in Asia and Oceania. The contracts covered such items as supplies, services and plants for the fats and oils industries, wool scouring, beet and sugar cane diffusion, starch and corn processing, as well as handling and storage systems. □

Sun oil plant underway

A new 1,500 tons per day sunflower oil plant at Enderlin, North Dakota, is scheduled to begin operations in October 1982.

The plant is being constructed by National Sun Industries Inc. H.L.S. Ltd. of Israel received the order for the

plant. Equipment is being provided by several subcontractors including Buhler Bros., Berico Industries, C.P.M. and others, an H.L.S. news release said. □

Surfactant market study offered

An industrial market survey on cationic and amphoteric surfactants is being offered by Hewin International Inc. of Amsterdam, providing alternative scenarios for the industry through the year 2000.

The report is approximately 850 pages; cost is \$2,000. One basic assumption of the report is that surfactants from natural fats and oils sources have become more economically attractive recently as costs for petroleum-derived materials have risen at a faster rate. The report includes projections on prices for natural fats and oils and petrochemicals.

Hewin's mailing address is Van Leyenberghlaan 259, PO Box 7813, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. □

Chemical industry plans to go metric

According to the U.S. Metric Board, a chemical industry advisory panel has submitted industry-wide plans that call for voluntary conversion to the metric system. One of the first two to present final plans for consideration by the Board, the chemical industry targets 1984 as the date that industrial chemicals will be shipped and billed in metric units. Consumer packages are not included in this set of recommendations.

The American Oil Chemists' Society Official Methods now incorporate metric measurements, and metrics are being added to other methods as they are revised. □

**This publication
is available in microform.**

University Microfilms International

300 North Zeeb Road 30-32 Mortimer Street
Dept. P.R. Dept. P.R.
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48106 London W1N 7RA
U.S.A. England