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# From Washington

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## **Coconut price-fixing case resolved**

The U.S. Justice Department in late November filed a proposed settlement in its civil lawsuit against three coconut oil importers charged in February 1981 with conspiring to fix coconut oil prices. The settlement includes an agreement by the three firms that they will not attempt to fix prices or limit supplies, according to an article in the Nov. 30, 1981, *Wall Street Journal*. The firms originally cited were Crown Oil Corporation, Pan Pacific Commodities Inc. and Granex Corporation, all based in San Francisco.

## **CFTC approves sunflower trading**

The Commodities Futures Trading Commission has approved the trading of sunflower seed futures contracts on the Chicago Board of Trade. The contracts will call for future delivery of 100,000 pounds of No. 1 grade sunflower seeds in the Duluth, MN, and Superior, WI, areas. Trading is expected to begin sometime this month, when an expansion of the trading floor is completed.

## **AAAS seeks women's career information**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is planning to produce career guidance booklets aimed at young women, especially American Indians, blacks, Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans. Minority women scientists and others with information or anecdotal material are asked to contact Paula Quick Hall or Patricia Boulware, Careers Project, AAAS-OOS, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036 (202/467-5433).

## **Standard changed for inert ingredient**

In response to a petition filed by Rohm and Haas Co. of Philadelphia, the EPA has proposed that  $\alpha$ -[*p*-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenyl]- $\omega$ -hydroxypoly(oxyethylene), an inert ingredient used in surfactants and related products, include a lower range of 1-14 moles ethylene oxide in its production. The present range is 4-14 moles. Details: *Federal Register*, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1981, p. 60020.

## **Methoprene tolerance established**

The EPA has established a tolerance of 0.2 ppm for the insect growth regulator methoprene in or on peanuts. Tolerances also were established for residues in or on the fat, meat, or meat byproducts of cattle, hogs, goats, horses, poultry and sheep. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, Dec. 4, 1981, p. 59248.

## **Approval sought for D&C Yellow No. 5**

Colgate-Palmolive Co. has filed a petition with the FDA proposing to amend the color additive regulations to provide for the safe use of External D&C Yellow No. 5 as a color additive in drug and/or cosmetic toilet soaps. Details: *Federal Register*, Friday, Dec. 4, 1981, p. 59311.