

# Letters to the Editor

## Guatemalan university offers fats, oils training

The following letter was received from Ing. Carlos E. Soza B., program coordinator at the University of San Carlos, Guatemala.

To expand upon the AOCS survey on fats and oils training published in the May 1980 *JAOCS*, we would like to inform you that at the University of San Carlos of Guatemala "Centro Universitario del Sur," located in the city of Escuintla, there is a program for teaching fats and oils technology that was begun in 1978.

We have a well-equipped laboratory for teaching purposes including a Lovibond tintometer, Spectra Photometer Cole Junior IIA, UD Protein Analyzer, Kjeldahl Protein Analyzer and a Sharples mini-centrifuge.

This is a technological, career-oriented program requiring three years' work including 2½ years in theoretical, laboratory courses, including trips to factories. In addition to the fats and oils program, we also are teaching the technology of processing sugar cane. At the end of the program, each student has to complete a four-month practical job either in a vegetable oil, essential oil or sugar cane factory. We call this program "supervised final practice."

All the technologically oriented studies are supported with courses in mathematics, chemistry, physics, unit (or basic) operations, mechanics, electricity, quality control procedures, etc.

Very truly yours,  
Ing. Carlos E. Soza B.  
Program Coordinator

## Book review quote completed

Sir:

Ref: *JAOCS* 1982, 59 (2), 108A Publications — Book Reviews, *Fats and Oils: Chemistry and Technology*, edited by R.J. Hamilton and A. Bhati.

Your reviewer has extracted a sentence correctly from p. 149 of the book under discussion, but has omitted to give the rest of the paragraph. The complete paragraph is as follows:

"When heated, the fatty acid chains of triglycerides will condense, polymerise and form ring structures producing carcinogenic compounds to a degree dependent on the degree of unsaturation in the starting oil. Although no evidence of significant quantities of such compounds resulting from oil deodorisation or physical refining has been found, the tendency in processing has been to minimise time spent at the highest temperature of the process and to restrict this temperature to about 250 C which is the temperature at which the carotenoid pigments can be decomposed and removed from the oil."

I do not believe that "most chemists in the oils and fats industry would take strong exception" to the statement in its entirety.

F.V.K. Young  
Liverpool, England

On the cover: Oil World's report in its June 18, 1982, issue on trends in fats and oils production forms the basis for the cover. The bars represent Oil World's data on production in 1972/73, 1981/82 and its estimates for 1991/92. Oil World expects total fats and oils world per capita demand to rise from the current 12.9 kilograms (28.4 pounds) to 14.9 kilos (32.8 pounds) while population rises about 1.5% per year. Palm, palm kernel, soybean, rapeseed and sunflower are expected to provide most of the additional fats and oils needed, according to Oil World's analysis. Total fats and oils production was about 41.4 million tons in 1972/73, 58.3 million tons in 1981/82, and estimated at 80 million tons for 1991/92.

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