

International

Soviets set high goal

Soviet planners aim to increase per capita consumption of fats and oils from the 1981 level of 8.8 kilos to 13.2 kilos by 1985 and then to 14.5-15.5 kilos by 1990, according to a report from USDA observers based on an article in the Soviet fats and oils industry journal.

Such an increase would mean total consumption would rise from the estimated 2.3 million metric tons of 1980 to 3.8 million metric tons in 1985 and 4.5 to 4.7 million metric tons in 1990.

Oil World, the German fats and oils newsletter, said such a goal appears unrealistic.

Current Soviet oilseed crushing capacity was listed at approximately 12 million metric tons according to the report in *Maslo-Zhirovaya Promyshlennost*, but could be as much as 13 million metric tons (Table I). About half the capacity is for sunflowerseed, a fourth for cottonseed, less than 5% for soybeans and the rest for other oil-bearing materials. To achieve its goals, the Soviet Union would need to increase crushing capacity by about 3-3.5 million metric tons per year through 1985 as well as increase average acreage and yield for sunflower, soybeans, rapeseed and other crops.

The USDA report said there were approximately 111 oil-extraction factories in the Soviet Union, including nearly 70 solvent extraction and about 40 press facilities. Two decades previously there were about 100 press facilities, but no number for solvent extraction units was given.

One USDA observer noted that the current total capacity appears about adequate to handle current levels of domestic oilseed production and imports, which may be why the Soviets have been increasing imports of meal, protein feeds and vegetable oil since 1979.

Soviets eyeing rapeseed?

During the past two years, the Soviet Union has been

working to increase rapeseed production. USDA observers report a recent economic review of "Oil and Protein" notes that acreage has increased to 78,000 hectares (194,000 acres) in 1982 from 11,000 hectares in 1979. At the beginning of the 19th century, about 300,000 hectares were planted to rapeseed, the report said.

Procurement prices for rapeseed have been raised to 300 rubles a metric ton from 170 rubles, the report said. A 30% premium is paid for low-erucic and low-glucosinolate seed. Seed varieties meeting the criteria are being tested, the report said. Mechanizing for cultivation of rapeseed will be a major problem, the report added, with processing needs expected to require use of imported technology.

The question of whether consumers will accept rapeseed oil as a vegetable oil remains to be answered. The Soviets apparently believe Canadian and European success in producing rapeseed in similar climatic conditions makes it worth the increased production effort in the Soviet Union.

France 82/83 forecast

France's 1982/83 production of rapeseed is forecast at 1.2 million metric tons and of sunflowerseed at 589,000 metric tons by U.S. Department of Agriculture observers. Estimates of 1981/82 production were 990,000 metric tons of rapeseed and 397,000 metric tons of sunflowerseed.

Rapeseed domestic crush is expected to be about 670,000 metric tons of rapeseed in 1982/83, up slightly from the estimated 667,000 metric ton crush of the previous year. Because of European monetary policies, most of the increased production is expected to be exported, the USDA report said. Rapeseed exports for 1982/83 are forecast at 500,000 metric tons, compared to the previous season's 373,000 metric tons.

Similarly, sunflowerseed exports are forecast at 445,000 metric tons for 1982/83, compared to 241,000 tons in 1981/82. Domestic sunflowerseed seed crush is expected to decline to 185,000 tons from 207,000 tons.

TABLE I

USSR: Daily Processing Capacity of the Oilseed Enterprise Under the Ministry of Food Industry, in MT/day

	1971	1976	1979	1982	% Growth 1971-1982
Total capacity	32,435	37,145	39,788	43,250	133.3
By extraction	25,515	30,803	33,298	37,448	146.7
By press	6,920	6,342	6,490	5,802	83.8
By type of processed seed:					
Sunflower	17,855	20,211	21,036	21,018	117.7
Cottonseed	11,105	13,390	15,110	18,590	167.4
Soybean	1,604	1,700	1,740	1,740	106.1

Source: USDA Attache Report.

Uzzan to head ITERG

Aldo Uzzan has succeeded Jean-Pierre Wolff who retired as Director-General of the French Fats and Oils Institute (Institut Des Corps Gras—ITERG) in July 1982.

Uzzan began his career in fats and oils in 1959 at the Laboratories of the National Centre for Tunisian Olive Oil. He joined ITERG in 1956 as a research engineer and subsequently became head of information services, Secretary General, and, in 1975, Deputy Director General.

Uzzan is editor of the "Revue Francaise des Corps Gras", the institute's official newsletter, and general delegate of the Study Group for Vegetable Proteins, which he founded, along with the European Federation of Vegetable Proteins.

ITERG is a technical, industrial research center, concerned with original work in the field of fats and oils and lipids and their products. The institute's headquarters are in Paris; laboratories and experimental factories are at Pessac, Marseille and Talence.

People

Bob Allen retires



Former AOCS President Robert R. Allen (second from left) and his wife, Barbara, at his retirement party at Anderson Clayton's W.L. Clayton Research Center. Also pictured are Frederick F. Avery (left), president of Anderson Clayton Foods and Ronald D. Harris, vice president for technology and productivity at Anderson Clayton.

Former AOCS President R.R. (Bob) Allen formally retired in December 1982 as principal scientist at the W.L. Clayton Research Center of Anderson Clayton Foods in Sherman, Texas.

Dr. Allen, an expert in fats and oils hydrogenation, served as AOCS President in 1971. He had been with Anderson Clayton since 1956 and at the Clayton research center since its opening in 1967. He is continuing as a consultant one day each week at the center. He is a graduate of Kansas State University.

Babayan at Harvard



AOCS member Vigen K. Babayan, vice president of science and technology at Stokely-Can Camp Inc. in Indianapolis, Indiana, has retired, effective Dec. 31, 1982, after 18 years with the firm.

Dr. Babayan is known for his synthesis of medium-chain triglycerides, structured lipids and the polyglycerol esters. He has accepted an appointment at Harvard University School of Medicine where he will continue his lipid research.

His new address is the New England Deaconess Hospital, 194 Pilgrim Rd., Boston, Massachusetts 02215.

News briefs

UOP Process Division of Des Plaines, Illinois, consolidating the marketing efforts in its biological and food products group, has made the following appointments: Anatole (Bud) Crane, manager of product sales, primarily enzyme products;