

Record rapeseed

Record world rapeseed production is projected for 1985/86 by the West German oilseed weekly, *Oil World*. The fats and oils publication in late January estimated world rapeseed production would reach 19.5 million metric tons (MT), up from 16.9 million MT produced during 1984/85. It attributed the increase to increased acreage and excellent yields.

Even though India's harvesting wasn't to begin until February, *Oil World* predicted the Indian rapeseed crop would show an increase, helping India reduce dependence on vegetable oil imports.

In China, rapeseed production was projected to have reached 5.6 million MT, recovering from the approximately 4.2 million MT produced the previous year and approaching the record 1982/83 crop of 5.66 million MT. According to *Oil World*, Chinese rapeseed crushings have been above those of the past two years. Most of China's rapeseed production is consumed domestically.

In Europe, rapeseed production was estimated at a record 3.66 million MT, versus 3.54 million MT produced the previous season. Contributing to the increase were a 7.5% increase in area harvested and high yields. European processing, meanwhile, is projected to expand by approximately 6%, to a record 3.8 million MT between July 1985 and June 1986. Rapeseed production in Canada is set at 2% above last season and 950,000 MT above the most recent five-year average. Canadian oil exporters, however, face a weak world demand, largely due to competition from palm oil and from lower Indian rapeseed oil import needs.

Oil World predicted world rapeseed crushings would increase by 7%, to 16.75 million MT, with most of the increase occurring in China and India. It forecast modest processing gains for the European Economic Community and Eastern Europe, with processing to be stagnant in Canada and to decline in Japan. For a look at rapeseed oil production trends, see Table 1.

In other parts of the world,

production included a 11% increase in Eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R. Most of this was due to a good Polish crop, with production there more than doubling from 1983/84, to 1.1 million MT. Also, Australia showed a record production of 82,000 MT, compared to 29,000 MT the previous year.

Oil World predicted 1986 rapeseed crop prospects for France to be down due to drought conditions that interfered with rapeseed plantings in the fall.

Palm oil rises

Palm oil production is expected to rise by a record 1.1 million metric tons (MT), to 7.6 million MT, between October 1985 and September 1986, *Oil World* has forecast (see Table 2).

Malaysia remains the leader, with production expected to reach 4.65 million MT. Indonesia, meanwhile, is expected to have production reach 1.28 million MT.

In January, palm oil had become

TABLE 1

World Rapeseed Oil Production Trends (in 1,000 metric tons)

| Country | 1981/82 | 1983/84 | 1984/85 | 1985/86 ^a |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| Western Europe | 1019 | 1241 | 1634 | 1696 |
| Canada | 369 | 460 | 518 | 518 |
| China | 1468 | 1569 | 1556 | 1798 |
| India | 661 | 743 | 861 | 979 |
| Eastern Europe | 419 | 518 | 609 | 631 |
| Pakistan | 63 | 58 | 57 | 57 |
| Japan ^b | 490 | 511 | 578 | 551 |
| All others | 115 | 107 | 120 | 140 |

Source: *Oil World*, Jan. 17, 1986.

^aForecast.

^bIncludes some mustardseed oil.

TABLE 2

World Palm Oil Production Trends (in 1,000 metric tons)

| Country | 1981/82 | 1983/84 | 1985/86 ^a |
|------------------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| Malaysia | 3352 | 3325 | 4651 |
| Indonesia | 822 | 1011 | 1281 |
| Nigeria | 350 | 257 | 269 |
| Ivory Coast | 158 | 163 | 195 |
| Papua New Guinea | 70 | 113 | 150 |
| Thailand | 45 | 74 | 132 |
| Columbia | 85 | 115 | 128 |
| China | 82 | 95 | 100 |
| Ecuador | 52 | 70 | 92 |
| Cameroon | 74 | 79 | 87 |
| Zaire | 87 | 76 | 86 |
| Ghana | 14 | 28 | 44 |
| Brazil | 17 | 20 | 40 |
| Honduras | 10 | 13 | 26 |
| All others | 451 | 466 | 523 |

Source: *Oil World*, Jan. 24, 1986.

^aForecast.

the lowest-priced oil on the market, lower even than fish oil and tallow. *Oil World* predicted low prices for palm oil will continue, stimulating further demand for the oil.

Kenyan oilseeds

In an effort to reduce vegetable oil imports, the government of Kenya is sponsoring two programs to promote sunflower, rapeseed and sesame production, according to a report from USDA agricultural observers there.

In late 1985, Oil Crop Development Ltd. (OCD) was formed with the backing of the International Finance Corp., the Commonwealth Development Corp. and East African Industries (EAI), a jointly owned Kenyan-Unilever company, the report said. The OCD will provide technical assistance and extension services for farmers. Once crops are harvested, OCD is supposed to arrange for the buying, transportation and processing of the oilseeds. Later the oil is to be sold to EAI.

The second venture to boost edible oil availability was the establishment of Ufuta Limited, a commercial company owned by Kenya National Mills. This program calls for an increase in the amount of sesame grown and processed.

The combined programs are designed to help bring domestic production up to 80,000-85,000 metric tons (MT) of oil per year by 1995 while imports will hover around 85,000-90,000 MT. Kenya now consumes 110,000-115,000 MT tons of imported fats and oils and 25,000-30,000 MT of domestic oil.

Unilever buying

Unilever and Anderson Clayton have announced they have reached a definitive agreement for Unilever to purchase all of Anderson Clayton & Co.'s shareholdings in Anderson Clayton S.A. in Brazil and Anderson Clayton & Co. S.A. in Mexico for US \$112.5 million. The agreement is

expected to be completed during the first half of 1986. Book value of Anderson Clayton's shares in these operations as of June 30, 1985 was approximately \$88.6 million.

Anderson Clayton has been the majority stockholder in both the Mexican and Brazilian operations, which include vegetable oilseed crushing facilities, a vegetable oil refinery, gins and edible food processing plants. The oil extracted at the processing plants has been used at the other facilities to produce margarine, vegetable shortening, mayonnaise, salad oil and peanut butter. The Brazilian operations have processed and exported cottonseed and soybean products.

Soviet purchase

The Soviet Union had purchased 1,077,800 metric tons of U.S. soybeans by early February, according to USDA. Bringing the purchases over the one-million-MT mark was a 150,000-MT sale announced by USDA on February 5.

According to the February 10 issue of the American Soybean Association newsletter "Soybean Update," analysts predict the Soviets could buy up to 1.5 million MT of soybeans from the U.S. during the year.

Oil competition

Competition from other vegetable oils has caused soybean oil's share of the U.S. market to drop, the American Soybean Association (ASA) says.

In the February 10 issue of its "Soybean Update" newsletter, ASA pointed out that cheaper prices and growing supplies of competing oilseeds have cut into U.S. consumption of soybean oil. Figures show soybean oil's share of the U.S. fats and oils market in October-November of 1985 declined to 61%, compared to 67% during the same period in 1985 and 65% for the entire 1984/85 year.

Tallow quotas

The European Economic Community (EEC) has restricted imports of U.S. beef tallow for inedible uses, effective Feb. 15. Taking the action in retaliation against a U.S. decision to limit imports of European semi-finished steel, the EEC set a 20% quota against beef tallow imports for industrial applications. While Spain and Portugal are now part of the EEC, the quotas do not apply to their imports of U.S. tallow.

According to Dean Specht, president of the National Renderers Association (NRA), this limits U.S. inedible tallow exports to the EEC to 93,625 metric tons (MT) from Feb. 15 to the end of the year. The quota for 1987 would be 107,000 MT. This, Specht said, is based on an EEC calculation that the U.S. exported 111,000 MT to it during 1985. USDA, however, estimates 155,000 MT were exported to the EEC during 1985, based on 151,063 MT exported from January through November.

The EEC is a principal export market for U.S. tallow, Specht said, adding that 1985 was an extremely poor year on which to base a quota for the industry. In 1984, the U.S. tallow industry exported 140,000 MT to the EEC, while in 1983 and 1982, it exported 225,000 MT and 350,000 MT, respectively. "We were estimating that the EEC tallow market would have grown to 200,000 MT in 1986," Specht said.

If the quotas stay in place, Specht estimates the industry will lose a market for an additional 90,000-100,000 MT. "This is very harmful to U.S. tallow producers, to meat packers and independent renderers, who can ill-afford such damage," Specht said.

He said the NRA hopes tallow users in Europe, such as those in the fat-in-feed industry and in soap making, will object strongly enough to have the EEC commission reconsider its action.

"Snow germ"

A lipoprotein present in the bacterium *Pseudomonas syringae*

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may make it possible for ski resorts to turn a profit even when it won't snow.

Advanced Genetic Sciences, an Oakland, California, biotechnology company, marketed the bacteria this past winter under the name Snowmax, and according to a report in the *Chicago Tribune*, resort owners from New England to California see it as a boon. The 10-oz packages of concentrated yellow powder sell for \$65, and early estimates indicate the bacteria could net Advanced Genetic Sciences \$2 million this year.

What makes the bacteria profitable for both the company and ski resorts is the presence of a lipoprotein found at the end of each bacterium. The hydrophilic lipoprotein acts as a nucleator much like silver iodine crystals act in cloud seeding. The company says that when Snowmax is combined with water in a snowmaking machine, snow will form at temperatures higher than normal.

Berger honored

AOCS member K. G. Berger has been awarded the honorary Kesatria Mangku Negara title by the king of Malaysia. The award, given to Berger in a special investiture in October, is in recognition of his work at the Palm Oil Research Institute of Malaysia (PORIM). Berger has been with PORIM since 1978 and currently serves as special adviser to the director general at the institute. He is a founding member and former chairman of the Society of Chemical Industry, Oils and Fats Group.

Global initiatives?

The National Science Foundation's Division of International Programs has requested that the American Association for the Advancement of Science and its Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs (CAIP) assist in developing a list of potential topics for consideration as new global initiatives for the foundation. The American Oil Chemists' Society is a consortium member.

As a result of a meeting of a steering group which included consortium representatives, potential topics are being solicited from groups within the mainstream scientific and engineering community. Topics must meet three criteria: (a) be an important global problem; (b) have high potential scientific, technological or intellectual content; (c) involve the broadest possible range of disciplines.

The steering group seeks suggestions of potential global initiatives from individual scientists and engineers and from appropriate groups. Suggestions should include a title, a short description and the potential of the program to meet the established criteria. They should not be more than one page in length. Recommendations can be sent to Sandra M. Burns, Office of International Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20005.

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Pakistan allocation

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) offered \$30 million to the government of Pakistan in mid-January so that Pakistan could buy palm oil from IDB member countries during fiscal year 1985/86. Both Malaysia and Indonesia are members of IDB and have traditionally supplied oil to Pakistan. According to an unofficial U.S. Department of Agriculture report, the semi-official Ghee Corp. of Pakistan has already spent \$9.61 million for the purchase of 30,000 metric tons of palm oil.

News briefs



AOCS member **Donald M. Godell**, formerly project manager at Wurster & Sanger Inc., has been named company president. Godell, a graduate of Michigan Technological University, has a B.S. degree in chemical engineering and is licensed as a professional engineer by the State of Illinois. He has 17 years' experience in the oils and fats industry.



AOCS member **John J. Stanulonis** has been named general manager of the Clay Products/Fats and Oils Catalysts division of Harshaw/Filtrol Partnership. As such, he is responsible for managing sales, marketing, research and manufacturing activities within the division. Stanulonis had served as business manager of the division since Harshaw/Filtrol Partnership was formed in 1982. He also had served as national sales manager for that division.

Kristen W. McNutt has been named to the new position of vice-president of consumer and scientific affairs for Kraft Inc. She formerly was an associate director with the Good Housekeeping Institute in New York.

Oscar Davis has been named domestic market development manager for the **National Renderers Association Inc.**

Robert F. Ziegler has been appointed executive secretary of the **Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology**. Ziegler is editor of the *Journal of Coatings Technology*.

Perkin-Elmer Corp. and **Cetus Corp.** have formed a partnership to develop instrument systems and related reagents for use by industries engaged in biotechnology research and development. The partnership is called Perkin-Elmer Cetus Instruments.

AOCS member **George Marakas** has been named marketing manager in the Humko Chemical Division of Witco Corp.

Nalco Chemical Co. has formed a new group, Unisolv, to be responsible for marketing water treatment chemical programs to municipalities and the food processing, textile and container industries.

Donald F. Smith has been appointed president of GSX Corp., where he will head Genstar's waste services group. Smith has joined GSX after nearly 30 years with the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp. He most recently served as vice-president and general manager of Kaiser's Industrial Chemicals Group and as president of Kaiser's Harshaw/Filtrol Partnership.

Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. announced in January that it was undertaking a major restructuring to form a holding company and five operating subsidiaries. One of the five operating subsidiaries is the **Harshaw/Filtrol Partnership**.

Obituaries

JAMES D. MILLER

AOCS has been informed of the death of James D. Miller, an emeritus member who joined the society in 1953. Mr. Miller retired

from CPC International/Best Foods Research and Engineering Center, Union, New Jersey, in February 1984. He earned his B.A. degree from Columbia University, New York City, New York, in 1939, then went to work for Best Foods. He was granted emeritus member status by AOCS in 1984. Mr. Miller had resided in Hyde Park, Vermont, for the past year.

NICHOLAS F. DEGEORGE

AOCS member Nicholas F. DeGeorge, chief chemist at Hatco Chemical Co. of Fords, New Jersey, died Dec. 20, 1985. He had been with Hatco for 37 years. DeGeorge joined AOCS in 1971. He received his B.A. degree from Brooklyn College in 1943, then served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946. He worked for Glyco Products in the synthesis of esters before being hired by Hatco Chemical Co. His work included production of fatty acids and the synthesis of esters for lubricants and plasticizers and other specialty chemicals. He lived in Metuchen, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and a son, Frank.

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