countries, regardless of intended use, according to the National Cottonseed Products Association (NCPA) Aug. 19, 1987, newsletter.

In a letter to NCPA, William F. Helms, deputy administrator for plant production and quarantine, noted that such a ban was being considered due to diseases in cottonseed in other countries. "We believe that all cottonseed importations must be prohibited because of the risks presented by these exotic diseases to the production of U.S. cotton and cottonseed,"

Helms wrote. For more information, contact the NCPA office, P.O. Box 12023, Memphis, TN 38112, USA.

Meanwhile, scientists at USDA's Southern Regional Research Center (SRRC) are collecting samples of U.S. cottonseed meal to develop a rapid, economical analytical method using near infrared technology to determine protein, fat, moisture and other components of meal. All oil mills handling cottonseed have been asked to send half-pound samples of new crop meal to SRRC's laboratory.

Inside AOCS

Turning ideas into meeting sessions

Is there a topic you would like to hear discussed during technical sessions at future AOCS annual meetings?

Here are a few guidelines on how to turn that idea into a technical session:

1) Check with the AOCS National Program Planning Committee or the technical program chairman for the appropriate meeting to obtain approval to organize a session.

2) If your idea is accepted, begin recruiting speakers. Explain your idea and the topic you'd expect each speaker to address. Let speakers know when and where the meeting is to be held and that they are expected to pay their own expenses. Do not promise any financial aid or waiver of registration fees. The meeting's general chairman and technical program chairman are the only persons authorized to waive registration fees or to promise any financial aid.

3) As soon as possible, send a list of topics and speakers, with full mailing addresses, to the technical program chairman and the AOCS meetings manager.

4) Make sure all your speakers submit abstracts before the deadline. Usually the deadline for submitting abstracts for an AOCS annual meeting is Nov. 1 of the previous year. If an abstract is not submitted, a paper cannot be approved for presentation. Make sure all your speakers understand that they must fill out a meeting registration form and mail it to AOCS. If speakers don't, they will not have a name badge and their names will not appear on the registration list.

5) Sometime before the meeting, obtain biographical information from your speakers to use in introducing them; arrange some way for them to notify you if they will be unable to participate.

6) At the meeting, you'll be asked to attend an orientation briefing for session chairmen. This is your chance to ask questions and to find out about any last-minute changes in arrangements. You may also be given some announcements to read at your session.

If you're not sure who the technical program chairman is for the next meeting or who is chairman of the National Program Planning Committee, call or write the AOCS Meeting Manager's office at AOCS headquarters. Someone there can provide the information.

NORCAL meeting

Featured speaker at the NORCAL meeting held in late August was Gary Nelson (seated at bottom right in photo) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Western Regional Human Nutrition Research Center in San Francisco. Nelson spoke on the possible role and significance of omega-3 fatty acids in human nutrition and health.

Lunch appropriately featured chilled poached salmon. The meeting, held at the Clarion Hotel in Napa Valley, was preceded by a tasting of several of Napa's fine white wines. Following lunch, participants toured the Trefethen vineyards and winery.

Shown with Nelson are his wife (seated at left), section president Penny Wells (standing at left) and section treasurer Bob Faulkner.

Section creates student award

The Northeast Section of AOCS has created the Hans Kaunitz Student Award to encourage studies relating to fats and oils and detergents technology.