

## Green cookies due to terpenoid presence

# Compounds may help cotton resist disease

By KURT ABRAHAM  
Battalion Reporter

Joe Six-pack wanted to show friends that his cooking ability extended beyond thawing frozen TV dinners, so he baked a batch of chocolate-chip cookies — only to have them turn a strange green color in the process.

Despite his experience with the cookies, Joe is not necessarily a failure as a cook. According to Dr. John Halloin, it's possible that even the best of bakers will run into an occasional batch of green cookies. He said it all has to do with two chemical compounds that find their way into flour, and into cotton seed.

Halloin conducts research for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cotton Pathology Laboratory, located on the west campus of Texas A&M University. One of his latest studies involved the compounds

known as terpenoid aldehydes and tannins.

"When present in cotton seed, the two compounds may be helpful in stopping the growth of fungi," said Halloin. "But when they find their way into baking ingredients, such as flour, the end-product will have greenish tint to it, as in the green cookies."

Terpenoid aldehydes, better known to plant physiologists as gossypol, and tannin are considered antimicrobial compounds, Halloin said. This means they are capable of either killing microbes or keeping them from growing. Microbes are minute organisms most often associated with various bacteria forms, including fungi.

"Because of the nature of these compounds, we were looking for a link between their presence in cot-

ton seed and the resistance of the seed to disease such as fungi," Halloin said. "But the results are not totally conclusive, because gossypol is not always present."

Gossypol is only found in the glandless type of cotton seed if there has been genetic contamination, said Halloin. Genetic contamination involves the altering of the basic

chemical chains that form the compound. However, gossypol is almost always found in glandular cotton, added Halloin.

## Stanford to spend \$40 million on atomic structure research lab

More than \$40 million will be invested during the next two years to construct research facilities to serve a field so new only a handful of scientists now realize its potential, says a California chemist.

David Shirley, speaking at Texas A&M University Monday night as the Annual Welch Foundation Lecturer, briefed his audience on syn-

chrotron radiation, a physical chemistry process that allows scientists to take the atomic structure apart and study electron correlations by using electron spectroscopy.

A feature of synchrotron radiation is the holding of charged electrons in large circular structures called electronic storage rings.

Construction bids up to \$40 million have been let to beef up existing storage ring facilities at Stanford University and to construct new ones in Wisconsin and at the troubled Brookhaven, N.Y. site.

Shirley, former chairman of chemistry at the University of

California at Berkeley, now is associate director and head of the materials and molecular research division of the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory there.

Shirley said it had several distinct advantages over more conventional electron diffraction methods, including the fact it is nondestructive and is atom specific.

The Robert A. Welch Foundation of Houston, which is helping fund Shirley's project and which sponsored Monday's lecture, is among the 25 largest research foundations in the world, funding over \$90 million worth of projects which have resulted in 8,000 published articles.

## what's up

Wednesday

MSC ARTS COMMITTEE: "Paul Christensen: The Man, Poet," a poetry reading, will be at 8 p.m. in the Basement Coffeehouse. Admission is free. There will be a reception of coffee following the reading.

BASEMENT COFFEEHOUSE: "Morning" will appear in concert 9 p.m. Tickets are \$2 at the door. There are 200 tickets available.

CASINO GIRLS: All females selected to be casino girls for Casino should pick up their material from 6-8 p.m. in the RHA, Room 216, MSC. The materials cost \$2.

WOMEN IN COMMUNICATIONS: Jackie Salley will speak "Opportunities in Advertising" at 6 p.m. in Room 002, McDonald Building. Applications for membership will be available.

T STAR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: Frazier will speak on an international space launch facility 7 p.m. in Room 206, MSC.

TAMU SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB: Will meet at 8 p.m. in 510, Rudder Tower.

TEXAS STUDENT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: Will meet 8 p.m. in Room 701, Rudder Tower.

CLASS OF '82: Will meet at 7:45 p.m. in Room 137, MSC.

MSC HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE FASHION SHOW: Will be held at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Fashions are from Savannah.

HILLEL CLUB: Rabbi Borovitz from Austin will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Foundation Building, 800 Jersey St.

PHI THETA KAPPA: Will meet at 7 p.m. in Room 502, Rudder Tower.

TAMU STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY: Brothers, wildlife manager of the H.B. Zachry ranches in Texas, will speak at 7:30 p.m. in Room 501, Rudder Tower.

SAN ANTONIO HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 109, Military Science Building.

SMITH COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Willowick I Apartments party room. For more information call 845-6452.

TAMU ROADRUNNERS: Will meet in front of the C. Rollie White Coliseum at 6 p.m. for one, three, or five-mile runs.

TAMU POLO ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 8 p.m. on the second floor of the old Agriculture Building.

AGGIE CINEMA: "Going My Way," a nostalgic and heartwarming story of young Father O'Malley (Bing Crosby), who is sent to help out an older pastor at mortgage-ridden St. Dominic's parish, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Room 201, MSC.

Thursday

RESIDENT HALLS ASSOCIATION: A meeting will be held in HECC 204 at 7 p.m.

AGGIE PARENTS OF THE YEAR: Nominations for Aggie Parents of the Year are still being accepted. Nomination forms are available in Room 216, MSC, and are due by 5 p.m. March 19. The requirement is that the person nominating his parents is currently enrolled at Texas A&M.

CLASS OF '80: Will have a council meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 701, Rudder Tower.

TEXAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS: Fred Johnson will speak on "Continual Competence in Engineering" at 7:30 p.m. in Room 103, Zachary.

TAMU CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION: Will have a revitalization meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 305AB, Rudder Tower.

OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE: There will be a Canyon seminar at 7:30 p.m. in Room 401, Rudder Tower.

CIRCLE K: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room 502, Rudder Tower.

FRESHMAN AG SOCIETY: The dance and the end-of-year banquet will be discussed at 7 p.m. in Room 102, Zachary.

TAMU EMERGENCY CARE TEAM: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 510, Rudder Tower.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Paul Carter will speak on "Discipline Life As It Relates to Godliness" at 7 p.m. in Room 701, Rudder Tower.

TAMU FENCING CLUB: Will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 261, Rollie White Coliseum.

TENNIS TEAM: The women's team will play Texas here at 1:30 p.m. in the SWAIAW regional Championships today through Saturday.

CEPHEID VARIABLE: "House on Haunted Hill," a gothic-fashioned ghost story, will be shown at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in the Basement Coffeehouse. Admission is 50 cents. (PG)

Wednesday Night

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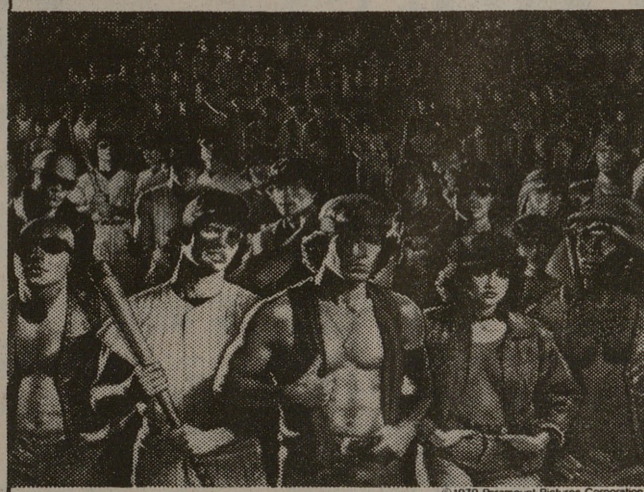
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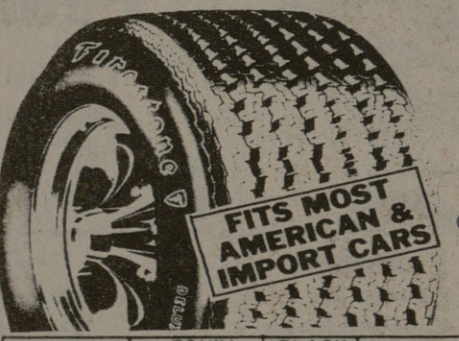
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