

Program receives AID funding

A major interdisciplinary research program involving recovery of protein for food from coconuts has received two-year funding of \$338,186 from the Agency for International Development.

Dr. Karl F. Mattil, director of food products research for the Texas Engineering Experiment Station and project coordinator, said the grant was made to the Texas Engineering Experiment

Station and the College of Agriculture through the Texas A&M Research Foundation.

Mattil indicated the broad program would include simultaneous research of engineers, biochemists, and physical chemists, with most of the work being conducted at the Oilseed Products Research Center on campus.

The ultimate objective is to create new foods and new industry for the coconut-producing

countries of the world, which have low per capita income and marginal to deficient protein intake in the diet, Mattil said.

He pointed out that present practices of the coconut industry in these countries do not realize the full potential and economic benefit, with as much as one-half of the nutrients being discarded in the waste from grinding, squeezing, and drying processes.

Three recovery processes will be further developed and evaluated as to their technological and economic feasibility in the research. Protein products from coconuts will be tested as components in beverages, infant foods, simulated meats, pastas, and baked products and as stabilizers for emulsion type meats such as frankfurters, bolognas, and canned meats.

Second-semester summer enrollment totals a record 5,482 students, announced Registrar Robert A. Lacey.

Lacey said current registration represents a nine-percent increase over the same period last year.

Main campus enrollment is 5,142. An additional 182 students are participating in the Texas Maritime Academy's European cruise and 57 were studying at the Marine Laboratory in Galveston.

The Texas A&M Adjunct at Junction has enrollment of 101.

The Entomology Department has a new scientist whose specialty is the study and control of peanut insects.

He is Dr. J. W. Smith, Jr., a native Mississippian and the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Smith of Port Gibson. Announcement of Smith's appointment was made by Dr. H. O. Kunkel, dean of the A&M College of Agriculture.

Kunkel said Smith will teach entomology, but most of his time will be spent studying peanut insects, particularly the cornstalk borer and the burrowing bug. Information is inadequate on the population levels of the stalk borer and burrowing bug.

The entomologist will investigate life histories and migration habits of the two insects and try various pesticides and biological control methods, the dean said.

Smith will spend much time in the state's peanut regions, as well as South Texas.

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