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Officials served sampling of A&M cottonseed cuisine

Dignitaries got a chance to see what the meals of the future may be like while they were visiting TAMU.

State officials, TAMU board of directors, industry leaders and agricultural producers set down to a meal of cottonseed products. The meal was a kick-off of the annual budget meeting for the Advisory Council to the Natural Fibers and Food Protein Committee of Texas.

The committee reviews research projects and approves the research budget for the next year for TAMU, Texas Tech, University of Texas and Texas Women's University.

The large menu was put together by members of the Food Protein Research and Development Center at TAMU. All of the recipes contained 15 to 100 percent cottonseed or cottonseed protein products. Included were: Italian meatballs, meat loaf, broiled meat patties, onion flavored toasted cottonseeds, salads, rolls, cake, parfait and cookies. Apparently only the drinks escaped without a healthy dose of the high protein additions. One

dish, that resembled lasagna and called the "Aggieland Surprise", contained 100 percent textured cottonseed protein instead of meat.

Researchers working with the product have found that textured cottonseed adds to the total protein content of the food. It costs approximately one-fourth as much as ground beef and it also reduces the fat loss in a recipe by 10 percent, making it juicier and larger.



JUDY GREEN (right) and Eunice Bassler, food specialists for the TAMU Oilseed Products Division, show off creations they prepared of cottonseed or cottonseed protein products. Dishes on this dessert table include a chocolate parfait, carrot cake and lemon chip cookies.

Graduates to aid Dow in problems

TAMU graduate students are helping solve problems for Dow Chemical Company this summer.

Dow and Texas A&M University chemical engineers will cooperate on three research projects over the next year. During the summer, graduate students are working on these projects at the Dow Chemical Company in Freeport. The projects range from the improvement of methods for designing distillation columns to solutions of waste problems.

Dr. C. D. Holland will supervise the group involved in the design and analysis of conventional and complex distillation columns as well as processes containing any number of these columns. Results of field tests on existing columns will be used to improve the design equations in order that more economical designs may be realized in the future.

"We want to see what the columns are doing under certain conditions so that we can more accurately predict the separation of chemical compounds," Holland said.

The second project is concerned with rheology of polyethylene melts. The objective of this project is a comprehensive determination of all of the properties of molten polyethylenes which control the way they behave during processing, also how these properties depend upon the molecular structure of the polymers. A variety of different polyethylenes are being studied as well as blends of these polymers. The results will enable the prediction of such unique processing phenomena as die swell and melt fracture from a small amount of test data. Supervisor for the group is Dr. Ron Darby.

The final operation is proposed to continue research on alternatives to treating waste streams from plants at Dow. Biological and other processes for conversion of these streams will be examined. It's also proposed to provide assistance to Dow personnel in selecting procedures to cut down on losses caused by processes required to meet environmental objectives.

One researcher will obtain design data for the biodegradation of wastes at Dow. Another will design a pilot plant to obtain scale-up factors for biological conversions of wastes. The pilot plant will also be used to develop new and more productive biological processes. A third researcher will work with strains of algae which converts carbon dioxide to high energy carbon compounds at high rates. This will be done to evaluate the abilities to provide a cheap source of carbon needed for balance in biodegradation systems at Dow.

The final project will be supervised by Dr. D. T. Hanson.

Data center rush can be avoided

People planning to use the Data Processing Center may be in for crowded facilities and slow turnarounds at mid August. Chuck Adams, in charge of DPC user assistance, says the rush is caused by the ending of the fiscal year on Aug. 20.

Adams suggests that people try to use the computer between 8 to 10:30 in the morning

or 5 to 7 in the evening. "The secret to success," he said, "is to get research and development done now, get the program to the production state early, then run the tar out of it."

Adams expects the DPC to average about 2,800 jobs per day during the months of July and August, especially the last two weeks before the 20th.

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