



Pictured above is a vegetable bar made of carrots. The carrots are first sliced, then frozen, dried and compressed. Developed by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, vegetable bars will be on board when American astronauts link up with the Soviet Soyuz spacecraft in mid-July.

Vegetable bars latest TAES space project

When American astronauts link up with the Russian Soyuz craft in mid-July, among the space foods they will enjoy will be an assortment of vegetable bars.

Take a vegetable, freeze it, dry it, then compress it into a rectangular shape, and the result is a nourishing food that requires very little storage space and keeps without heat or refrigeration.

Vegetable bars are an innovation of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, which has been working for many years in developing compact, easily kept foods for NASA space programs. Such research has led to improved food processing and preservation techniques which have found their way into supermarkets. Freeze-dried strawberries, for example.

But the vegetable bars are the Experiment Station's latest space food effort, and Dr. E. E. Burns, food technologist, says they will probably become popular food items for the citizenry. Campers and hikers should find them especially handy.

So far, vegetables best adapted for barring are carrots, spinach, asparagus and green beans. Astronauts have found the offerings very tasty. Burns believes that the bars represent the "ultimate way to keep food." No heat, no chemicals and little if any mess. Just add a little water, and the compressed material quickly expands to its original size and shape. Not much is lost in texture and flavor.

Burns says astronauts need over 2,000 calories a day to supply their energy requirements in space. Vegetable bars will help do the job with-

out taking up much of the pantry. Another spin-off of space food research which eventually will benefit the public is development of the "re-usable pouch."

This is a flexible, laminated plastic and metal foil, sealed container. Again, it's a space saver, is durable

and easy to transport, and the food can be cooked while still in the package.

Burns said the pouch might someday take the place of the tin can, a step which could mean significant savings in energy and natural resources.

Chemists studying molecular structures

Research chemists are doing basic research at Texas A&M University which may lead to the development of new materials that have, for instance, high strength or are greatly resistant to corrosion and high temperatures.

Dr. Karl A. Gingerich heads a group that vaporizes a wide spectrum of materials to study the structure of molecules and the forces which hold atoms together.

"The knowledge of each is intimately linked with the other," Gingerich said. "What we are doing is developing empirical theories of bonding which should help to develop new materials with specific properties."

"Some of this research is connected into the need to develop alternate energy resources," he said. "By developing these empirical bonding theories for molecular metals and carbides we hope to understand more about the catalytic processes which would aid in the more efficient use of our present fuel resources."

"Another interesting sideline is that we are researching materials that may someday help make the fusion reactor a reality," Gingerich added. "We also hope that our basic research and the inroads we make will stimulate more work on the applied problems associated with bonding."

House speaker Clayton to talk to engineers

Bill Clayton, speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, will talk at Texas A&M University during a Friday luncheon highlighting the 39th Annual Meeting and Engineering Exhibition of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers here.

Clayton will speak at noon in room 226 of the Memorial Student Center and present the Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards. Friday night offers the annual banquet and installation of officers by Leslie C. Gates, president of the National Society of Professional Engineers. The President's Ball follows at the AggieLand Inn.

Throughout the conclave visits will include other departments and facilities including the Cyclotron, Nuclear Science Center, College of Veterinary Medicine, Zachry Engineering Center, and the horticulture greenhouses among others. There will also be programs for wives and children.

Degree filing deadline approaching

Texas A&M students expecting to graduate Aug. 15 must file degree applications by Friday, June 13.

The degree application is the student's responsibility. Undergraduate students who expect to complete degree requirements during the first summer term may file no later than the deadline.

Graduate and undergraduate students finishing studies the second term are encouraged to apply now.

Applications are taken in the Richard Coke Building, after the \$8 graduation fee is paid at the Fiscal Office. Undergraduates go from there to Room 7; graduate students to the office of the Graduate College, Room 209.

May rainfall approaches record amount

May rainfall made it the eighth wettest on the records and more than twice the monthly average.

The official total of 9.8 inches was recorded for the National Weather Service at Easterwood Airport by the FAA Flight Service Station.

State Climatologist John Griffiths noted that several points in Bryan and College Station had 12 to 13 inches. At the Oceanography-Meteorology Building on the Texas A&M campus, 9.6 inches was gauged.

He added that 10 inches in a month is not that unusual. Every month of the year except February and March had one or more 10-inch amounts.

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Name: Ney, Donald Philip
Degree: Ph.D. in Education (Educational Administration)
Dissertation: IMPLEMENTATION MODEL FOR A WEIGHTED PUPIL FINANCE PROGRAM FOR TEXAS.
Time: June 17, 1975 at 3:30 p.m.
Place: Room 302 in the Library
George W. Kunze
Dean of the Graduate College

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Student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Any student wishing to withhold any or all of this information should fill out, in person, the appropriate form, available to graduate students at the Graduate College and to undergraduate students at the Registrar's Office, no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 13, 1975.

Edwin H. Cooper, Dean Admissions and Records
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