

Battalion photo by Jana Hazlett

Oilseed in dessert?

By KATHRYN GOFF
Oilseed proteins may soon replace some of the non-fat milk solids in the frozen dessert product known as "soft serve," says a campus food researcher. In fact, oilseed "soft serve" may be superior to the usual formula, sensory panel results show.

Dr. James T. Lawhon, an associate at the Food Protein Research and Development Center, said that because of an anticipated scarcity of non-fat milk solids, the center has been researching ways of substituting non-fat milk solids in soft serve with soy and glandless cottonseed proteins.

Lawhon said non-fat milk solids are becoming scarce because of increased use as an ingredient in ice cream, yogurts, cheeses and other dairy products. Researchers are experimenting with oilseed proteins as possibly cheaper replacements for non-fat milk solids, he said.

Researchers altered the old soft-serve ice cream formula with content of soy and of glandless cottonseed proteins, Lawhon said. Glandless cottonseed, he said, is a

non-pigmented and non-toxic type of cottonseed discovered 25 years ago.

The altered formulas were compared with the original formula, and tested in the laboratory for color, body, consistency, acidity and "overrun," — the percentage of fluid mix that will freeze to a solid mass. An eight-member sensory panel, composed of faculty members and students, judged the samples for color, texture, flavor, odor and overall quality, Lawhon said.

Cathy Payne said the sensory panel judged the five percent oilseed-replacement-level formula to be a superior formula to the original formula. Payne said the panel found levels of up to 20 percent glandless cottonseed protein replacement, and up to 40 percent soy protein replacement were acceptable, and weren't detectably different from the original formula. Beyond those levels Payne said, the sensory panel noticed differences in flavor and color.

Lawhon said, "Any manufacturer who can get the (cotton and soy)

products could replace the formula with these types of oilseed products. It could mean they could just have a cheaper product."

Experiments with cottonseed have been conducted on other dairy products, Payne said. Mellorine, which is an ice cream substitute made of vegetable fat, is an example. Payne said that oilseed replacement of milk solids can reach up to 100 percent in mellorine, but "it doesn't taste like the greatest thing in the world." Nevertheless, "you can do wonders with it with flavoring, like chocolate...the flavoring (of mellorine untouched) is not a true vanilla," Payne said.

According to a Food Protein R&D Center quarterly report, soft serve was selected as the model food for this project because the FDA is considering allowing protein substitutes to take the place of milk solids in frozen desserts. Soft serve sales have risen since the product's introduction in the late 1940s and equipment needed for research with soft serve is one-fifth cheaper than equipment needed for conventional ice cream.

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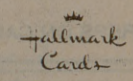
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Carnation station
Linda Neal, a member of Omega Phi Alpha, sells carnations for Valentine's Day in the Memorial Student Center. Profits from flower sales to fellow Aggies will be used by the women's service organization for projects.

Grad student gets \$5,000

Dow Chemical USA of Midland, Mich., has presented \$5,000 to support a Texas A&M student working for a master's degree in industrial hygiene. The grant was presented to the College of Engineering by R.L. "Roger" Daniel, manager of environmental health services at Dow's Freeport operation. The student will receive \$4,500 and the remainder will be used to finance research supplies, equipment and services.

Migrant farm issues featured

A panel program featuring discussion of migrant farm workers issues will be presented tonight by two Memorial Student Center committees.

The panel will consist of Jose Antonio Gomez, United Farmworkers leader; Antonio Orendain, Texas Farmworkers spokesman; Joaquin Avila, Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and

Senator Carlos Truan, Texas lawmaker of Corpus Christi.

The panel is set for 8 p.m. in 301 Rudder Tower. Texas A&M University students will be admitted free. For others, admittance will be 50 cents.

The program is sponsored by Great Issues and the Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture.

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THIS WEEK AT THE MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER

TUE 14	WED 15	THUR 16
Tuesday, Feb. 14 CAMAC: Status of the Migrant Farmworker; 301 Rudder 8 p.m. Recreation: Backgammon p.m. Recreation: Backgammon Club; 228 MSC 7:15 p.m., Disc Association; 350 MSC 7 p.m.	Wednesday, Feb. 15 SCONA: Opening Presentation; Rudder Theater 2:45 p.m. Address to the Conference — Congressman Olin E. Teague. Keynote Address — Mr. Dale Meyers, Department of Energy. Question and Answer Period. Open Round Table - Public invited. Recreation: Bridge; 212 MSC 7:15 p.m.	Thursday, Feb. 16 OPAS: Texas Opera Theater performing Robinson Crusoe; Rudder Auditorium 8:15 p.m. Cepheid: The Little Prince ; 701 Rudder 8 & 10 p.m. SCONA Conference
FRI 17	SAT 18	SUN 19
Friday, Feb. 17 SCONA: Future Energy Technologies; 201 MSC 8 p.m. Address on Private Sector; Rudder Theater 12:15 Aggie Cinema: The War Wagon ; Rudder 8 p.m. The Hellfighters ; Rudder 9:50 p.m. Mother, Jugs and Speed ; Rudder 12 p.m.	Saturday, Feb. 18 Aggie Cinema: The Green Berets ; Rudder 8 p.m. The Cowboys ; Rudder 10:30 p.m.	Sunday, Feb. 19 Aggie Cinema: The Alamo ; Rudder 8 p.m.