

Project No. 80-V7
(Continuation of Project No. 79-W6)

Cooperator:
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Project: Almond Diseases
Aflatoxin Monitoring Program

Objectives: (1) To continue the program of monitoring aflatoxins in the various almond products; (2) to continue participation in an aflatoxin analytical check program in cooperation with the USDA, FDA, DFA and various independent laboratories.

Part 1 - Aflatoxin Monitoring

Progress: The monitoring program, which has been continued since 1973, is intended to demonstrate the concern of the almond industry in policing itself and, more importantly, monitoring the trend of removing aflatoxins from edible products intended for human consumption. This monitoring program remains extremely important to: (1) demonstrate the industry's concern for removing aflatoxins; and (2) provide regulatory officials with the opportunity to direct their resources to more likely areas of food contamination.

Plans: The following aflatoxin tests will be conducted by the DFA on the 1980 almond crop:

1. 100 tests for aflatoxins - U. S. No. 1 Select S/R
2. 40 tests for aflatoxins - Manufacturing Stock
3. 20 tests for aflatoxins - Hulls
4. 10 tests for aflatoxins - Press Cake Meal

The DFA of California will continue to cooperate with the USDA and independent laboratories in carrying out a check program on aflatoxins in various products in order to insure the precision of these tests.

Almond Industry Participation

\$6,420



DFA OF CALIFORNIA AN ASSOCIATION OF DRIED FRUIT AND TREE NUT PROCESSORS

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80-V7

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Part 1 - Aflatoxin Monitoring

Progress: The monitoring program, which has been continued since 1973, is intended to demonstrate the concern of the almond industry in policing itself and, more importantly, monitoring the yearly trend of removing aflatoxins from edible products intended for human consumption. This monitoring program, as always, remains extremely important to: (1) demonstrate the industry's concern for maintaining a high quality product free of aflatoxins, and (2) to provide regulatory officials with the opportunity to direct their resources to more likely areas of food contamination.

The table included with this report shows the percentage of contaminated nuts in select grade, manufacturing grade and oil stock grade almond samples found in the survey from 1973 through 1979.

Almond hulls were added to the survey in 1977. Three out of the twenty samples studied in 1978 were found to be positive (9.1, 22.6, and 47.7 ppb). The hull samples studied in 1977 and 1979 were all negative (less than 5 ppb).

The DFA is currently conducting the 1980 survey. The following table gives the number of almond samples studied to date, along with the total number of almond samples to be studied this year.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Select Nuts	100	92	55
Mfg. Stock	40	37	20
Oil Stock	10	0	0
Hulls	20	2	2

All of the samples studied to date have been negative except for one select nut sample (2 ppb) and one manufacturing sample (9ppb). The remaining almond samples, except possibly the oil stock, are scheduled to be completed by the end of February. The oil stock samples will be completed as soon as they are available.

Part 2 - Check Sample Program

The Smalley Subcommittee aflatoxin check samples in corn meal, cottonseed meal, and peanut meal are currently being completed and the final results will not be available until late spring of 1980.

Discussion:

Since only about half of the samples in the 1980 survey have been completed to date, it is too early to draw any conclusions as to the results of this survey. However, the two contaminated samples found have levels well within the 20 ppb guideline.

Note: A follow-up report will be submitted upon completion of the 1980 survey.

	SELECT NUTS		MFG. STOCK		OIL STOCK		HULLS	
	<u># Contaminated</u> <u># Sampled</u>	%	<u># Contaminated</u> <u># Sampled</u>	%	<u># Contaminated</u> <u># Sampled</u>	%	<u># Contaminated</u> <u># Sampled</u>	%
1973	0/11	0	10/39	27	NS	NS	NS	NS
1974	0/34	0	8/62	13	13/22	60*	NS	NS
1975	NS	NS	13/100	13	11/11	100	NS	NS
1976	NS	NS	7/56	12	30/50	60*	NS	NS
1977	1/89	1	1/30	3	10/10	100	0/20	0
1978	5/100	5	2/41	4	10/10	100	3/20	15
1979	1/100	1	2/40	5	10/10	100	0/20	0

NS : No Samples Taken

* : Reject Nuts, Not Press Cake Meal