

WISHH

World Initiative for Soy in Human Health

Enhancing human well-being through soy

April 2001

Welcome to the first issue of the WISHH List. The goal of this electronic newsletter is to provide regular updates about the exciting activities underway through the WISHH Program. For additional information, visit the WISHH website at www.wishh.uiuc.edu

Additional Soy Products Ready for Humanitarian Assistance Programming

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has reviewed five value-added soy products and determined the specifications by which these products can now be purchased through government tender for U.S. humanitarian assistance programs. The USDA Farm Service Agency's review covers nutritional, pricing and other information on soy flour, soy protein concentrates, isolated soy protein, textured vegetable proteins and soy milk replacer. These products are positive additions for Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOS) and others to include in proposals to USDA. WISHH is also working to get the products included in the U.S. Agency for International Development's Commodity Reference Guide.

Soy flour provides a nutritional boost to breads, tortillas or in ground meat while **soy protein** concentrates can serve as a protein supplement and are excellent in baked goods. Uses for **soy protein isolates** range from nutritional beverages to soups, sauces and spreads. **Textured vegetable proteins** can be used to make vegetarian foods as well as salad toppings and meat analogs. **Soy milk replacers** can play a valuable role in feeding the many lactose-intolerant people in developing countries. For additional information on these products, check out the WISHH website www.wishh.uiuc.edu

PVOS and Others Invited to Illinois for Soy Workshop/Field Trip Will Feature New Ways to Enhance International Recipes with Soy

PVO and other international organization representatives are invited to a workshop to gain firsthand experience with soy in the product development kitchen, processing facility and farm. The American Soybean Association and United Soybean Board are sponsoring the field trip/workshop that will include presentations on how to enhance internationally preferred foods with soy. The program starts at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, April 25, and concludes at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, April 27. The workshop will start at the National Soybean Research Laboratory in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois and will include demonstrations with textured vegetable protein, soy protein concentrates, isolates, Soya Cow and more. Soybean researchers, farmers and other experts, including WISHH's HIV/AIDS nutrition consultant, will be available to answer questions. Participants will travel to a soybean farm as well as the Bunge/Lauhoef processing facility in Danville, Illinois. For additional information, contact Pradeep Khanna at p-khanna@uiuc.edu or call (217) 244-1706

What is WISHH

The American Soybean Association (ASA) and Qualified State Soybean Boards (QSSB) launched WISHH in 2000 to further the use of U.S. soy products in developing countries where rapidly growing populations of all income levels can benefit from soy in their diets. Current program areas include:

Expanded Humanitarian uses of Soybeans, Soybean Oil and Meal can result when the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Agency for International Development approve donation and concessional sales programs.

Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) use U.S. soy in international feeding and economic development programs around the globe, and WISHH can help them develop new and expanded soy activities.

United Nation's World Food Programme (WFP) could explore new roles for soy in WFP's many food aid programs. Soybean-enhanced products make up nearly 40 percent of the food purchases donated by USDA to the WFP that helped them serve 89 million people in 1999.

Global Food for Education Initiative (GFEI) is a new U.S. Department of Agriculture program where PVOs and WFP can include soy to help spread the school lunch concept to children in developing nations.

International HIV/AIDS initiative will work with the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, PVOS and others to use soy to deliver nutrition to HIV/AIDS patients and their families.

WISHH PROGRAM PROFILE—HIV/AIDS

The HIV/AIDS Initiative of the WISHH program seeks to discover the appropriate role for soy to support nutritional security and develop a viable process for a sustained infrastructure to meet the needs and goals of all involved. The HIV/AIDS Initiative will work to develop programs that are:

- **evidence-based** whenever possible to stand up to scientific scrutiny;
- **practical** to address political and economic constraints, and
- **responsible** to conform to social acceptability.

Over the next year, WISHH will conduct a literature review and needs assessment on topics and processes related to the HIV/AIDS Initiative goals. These activities and the related documents will serve as the basis for evidence-gathering activities on the role of soy in nutritional security and a template for practical program development that targets HIV-infected and affected populations.

Over the next five years, programs developed in cooperation with and through the direction of a variety of stakeholders will be field-tested. Activities and results will be monitored and evaluated as a routine and integral part of each proposed program. Adjustments will be made with field test results to provide further direction and to make programs responsive to changing needs. The impact on the use of soy in humanitarian efforts will be evaluated along with the impact of soy resource programs on the nutritional security, health, independence, and social well being of target populations.

The design and development of the WISHH program is meant to utilize and complement the current and planned efforts by a variety of agencies to address the continued impact of HIV disease worldwide. The successful implementation of programs developed through the Initiative should enhance current work in developing countries and enhance soy consumption by developing nations. As programs develop and become more independent, the WISHH HIV/AIDS Initiative will likely take on a consultant role as needed to support and sustain program growth.

April is Soyfoods Month

One out of every ten new foods going on U.S. supermarket shelves today contains soy. About one in three shoppers (30%) used soy products in 2000, up from 24% of shoppers in 1996, according to the HealthFocus, Inc. report, *Soyfoods Shopper 2001*. To locate more information about soy available in the United States, visit the Soyfoods Association website www.soyfoods.org

To be added to the WISHH List distribution list, email karen@kcegroup.com or call 1800-688-SOYA (7692)