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MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

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October 10, 1969

TO: Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Chemicals Committee

SUBJECT: Solvents Used in Extraction of Foods

Gentlemen:

A request for information on extraction solvents has just been received by Dr. Howard Spencer from the secretary of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives.

It is most important that this information be supplied by MCA member companies so that provision for the use of these solvents can be made in international food standards.

A tentative list of the solvents to be considered at the June 1970 meeting of the Expert Committee is attached. However, information on other solvents widely used is also desired.

It may be that, as a result of the October 1969 meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Additives, a more up to date list can be provided.

Information regarding the efficacy, specifications of identity and purity, and methods of analysis (particularly of the residues likely to occur in various foods) should be sent to Mr. R. K. Malik, Chief, Food Standards, Additives and Regulations Section, Nutrition Division, FAO, Rome, Italy.

The toxicological and other biological data should be sent to Dr. F. C. Lu, Chief, Food Additives Unit, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland.

Two reprints of all published articles, and references to published papers that you do not have are requested. Two copies of unpublished data are also

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requested with the understanding they may also be used and referred to by the Expert Committee.

The bulk of this information is needed by the end of November, 1969 for adequate consideration.

Sincerely yours,



M. M. Hoover, Secretary
Food, Drug, and Cosmetic
Chemicals Committee

MMH:sjg

Attachment

P.S.: It would be helpful if you will send a copy
of your letter of transmittal to this office.
Thank you.

Distribution "A"

TENTATIVE LIST OF SOLVENTS TO BE CONSIDERED AT
THE JUNE 1970 MEETING OF THE EXPERT COMMITTEE

Extraction Solvents

1. Hexane (including other petroleum fractions of similar boiling point, e.g. petroleum ethers)
2. / Acetone
3. Isopropanol (isopropyl alcohol)
4. / Methanol (methyl alcohol) ✓
5. / Dichloromethane (methylene chloride)
6. 1,2 Dichloroethene / (trichloroethylene) |

Carrier Solvents

Ethyl Alcohol (ethanol)
Ethyl acetate
Diethyl ether (solvent ether)
Glycerol
Glycerol monoacetate (monoacetin)
Glycerol diacetate (diacetin)
Glycerol triacetate (triacetin)
Isopropyl alcohol (isopropanol)
Propylene glycol

n-Propyl alcohol
Benzyl alcohol
Isopropylidene glycerol
Benzyl benzoate
Isopropyl myristate
Butyl acetate
Amyl acetate
Butane-1:3-diol
Diethyl tartrate