

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Karl Weingartner

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
and Illinois State Museum's

Oral History of Illinois Agriculture project

Interview # AIS-V-L-2008-061

Karl E. Weingartner, a food technologist and Director of INTSOY for the National Soybean Research Center at the University of Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Illinois State Museum's *Oral History of Illinois Agriculture* project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: September 17, 2008 Location: National Soybean Research Center on
University of Illinois Campus

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History, ALPL

Technical Support (cameraman, etc): Mark Suszko, IL Information Service

Transcription by: Tape Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Rozanne Flatt, ALPL Volunteer

Total Pages: 22 Total Time: 61 min. + 15 min. = 1hr. 16 min / 1.27 hrs

Session 1: Walk and talk

Session 2: Walk and talk

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The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in
Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Karl Weingartner, *Oral History of IL Agriculture*, AIS-V-L-2008-061

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Karl E. Weingartner was born on December 12th, 1946 in New York City. Karl attended Clemson University in South Carolina and graduated in 1968 with a degree in food technology. After graduating, he served four years in the Peace Corp on the island of Fiji in the South Pacific. There he served as an agricultural extension advisor to local farmers. After returning to the states in 1973, he worked on an advanced degree in food technology at the University of Florida.

In 1975 Karl transferred to the University of Illinois, where he focused his research on soybeans. Following his graduation in 1981, he worked as a food technologist in Nigeria for the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, then returned to the University of Illinois in 1988 to work at the National Soybean Research Center, specifically at the International Soybean Program (INTSOY), where he now serves as its director.

During the bulk of the interview, Weingartner illustrated the various ways that soybeans are processed to be used for human consumption, animal consumption, or industrial use. Specifically, he discussed the basic components of the soybean, primarily oil, protein and fiber. He demonstrated how soymilk was made, as well as soy yogurt and tofu. He also demonstrated how soy oil was extracted from the beans, leaving soy meal as its by-product. He further discussed the de-gumming process, which removes sediments from the oil.

Subject Headings/Key Words: International Soybean Program (INTSOY); National Soybean Research Laboratory; soybean components; processing soybeans for soymilk; soy yogurt production; tofu production; soy oil production; de-gummed soy oil; soy meal

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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