

FROM THE EDITORS

Approximately 250 attendees met at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn to discuss advances in the analysis of food/nutrient data and in dietary assessment methodology. The conference was organized into five sessions, over two and one-half days. The first morning session was devoted to presentations on national and international nutrient data banks. Topics included reports from USDA's Nutrient Data Research Branch, international sources of nutrient composition data, updates on INFOODS and EUROFOODS activities, and the results of a survey on guidelines for nutrient data banks. The afternoon session was oriented to new and prospective users, with discussions of computer issues, nutrient data bank features, and evaluating nutrient data banks.

The second day began with a session on nutrient composition issues. Problems and methods in applying nutrient composition data to current health issues were discussed, with emphasis on vitamin A and dietary fiber. A presentation of nutrient interaction issues followed, and the session was concluded with two reports from USDA's Nutrient Composition Lab. The afternoon session was devoted to small discussion groups, covering nutrient data bank applications (academic education, public awareness, clinical, food service, and industry/marketing) and issues (non-nutrient data and procedures for imputing values).

The theme for the final morning session was dietary assessment methodology. Topics included approaches to the nutritional assessment of population data, the variability of food intakes, dietary assessment of immigrant/refugee children, NHANES III plans, USDA food frequency methodology, the design of the NCI survey diet questionnaire, and the use of a shortened nutrient data bank to analyze national survey data.

The Eleventh Nutrient Databank Conference will be held at the University of Georgia on June 29 - July 2, 1986. For more information, contact: Dr. Wanda Grogan
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