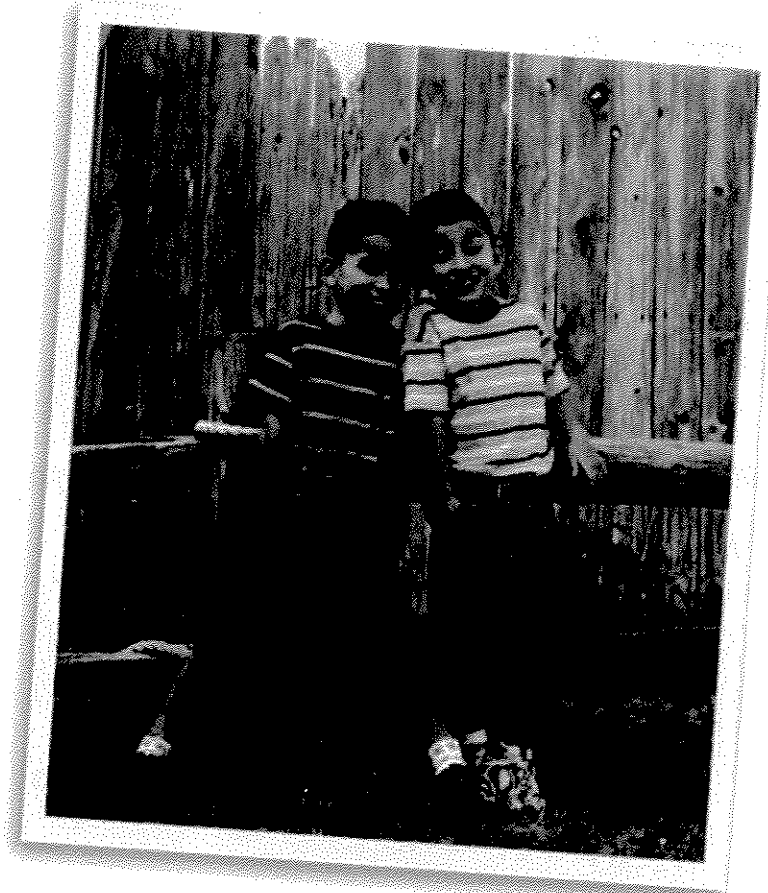


June is Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month



Javier and Miguel Bermeo; diagnosed with MG as infants.

Know MG...

Learn more about myasthenia gravis—a neuromuscular disease that can strike anyone ... at any age.

Typical Symptoms:

- Weakness and fatigue
- Drooping eyelids
- Difficulty walking, talking, swallowing or breathing

No MG...

Striving for a world without MG.

M G
F A
MYASTHENIA GRAVIS
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.
1821 University Ave W, Ste S256
St. Paul, MN 55104-2897

For more information, call 1-800-541-5454
or visit www.myasthenia.org

Circle #90 on Info Card

Insulation

Sustainable, energy saving solutions

Soy Can Insulate Buildings From Poor Performance

by the United Soybean Board

The soybean industry has been proactive at finding solutions involving soybeans for industrial uses, and that work is paying off. In the case of soy-based spray foam insulation, it is not only environmentally friendly, but outperforms more conventional methods of insulation as well.

“The soybean checkoff supports ideas for new and innovative uses of soybeans,” says Todd Allen, chair of the United Soybean Board’s (USB) New Uses Committee and a soybean farmer from West Memphis, Ark. “U.S. soybean farmers are committed to supporting research and development of soy products to drive demand for our soybeans.”

Soy-based spray foam insulation is applied as a liquid and expands 100 times in size to seal wall surfaces. It contains none of the formaldehyde found in most fiberglass batting insulation, and is class 1 fire-rated. As a

result, soy-foam insulation contributes to better indoor air quality in buildings. In fact, some families have switched to soy-foam insulation to help with children’s health conditions. Consumers who realize the safety and security of a healthy alternative to fiberglass insulation are now demanding soy-based foam insulation to protect their businesses and homes from the elements while enhancing their living environments.

There are other advantages. Soy insulation is not affected by time or moisture, will not settle, and is completely resistant to mold and mildew, which is a serious problem to many homeowners. Toxic mold growth behind homeowners’ walls has been a major health concern. And mold contributes to rot, which degrades a structure’s integrity.

How can soy-foam insulation help prevent toxic mold? Biobased Systems, a manufacturer of soy-based spray foam insulation, notes that soy-based spray foam forms a seamless airtight thermal seal and does not allow air to penetrate past the surfaces on which it is applied. By comparison, fiberglass batts must be cut around electrical wire and duct outlets, leaving openings that air can penetrate.

If the performance benefits aren’t enough to convince someone of the advantages of soy insulation, consider that it is less expensive than traditional spray-foam insulations. With prices of petroleum products still on the rise, the price gap between soy-based insulation and other insulation could widen. Successes like soy-foam insula-

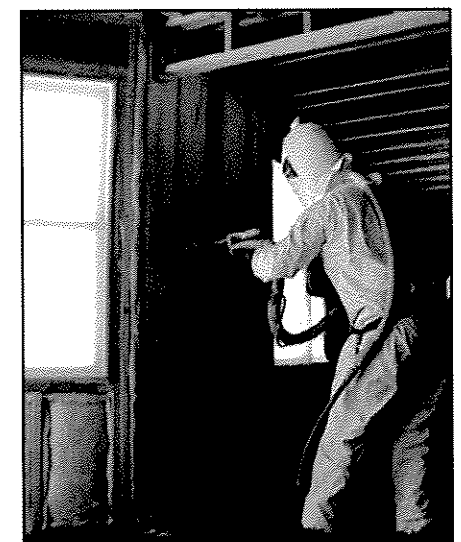
tion could lead to other soy products replacing some current petroleum-based products.

“Over 90 million bushels of soybeans are projected to be used for industrial uses, such as soy-foam insulation, in 2006,” says Allen. “That’s why the soybean checkoff is so committed to working with industry to develop new uses.” Since 1999, the soybean checkoff has worked with companies to advance soy-based plastics and other soy products. One example of this success is creating a unique soy polyol, called Soyol.

Soy-based polyurethane plastics are created when a special type of salt called isocyanate is combined with a soybean oil-based polyol, creating a chemical reaction. Depending on the application, various mixtures of soy-based polyols can cause plastics to become rigid or flexible.

Soy-based spray foam insulation proves that products which are good for the environment are good for the user and their pocketbook as well. The soybean industry will continue to work with formulators to develop additional products that utilize soy and reduce dependency on petroleum products.

You can find additional information on soy-based technology and learn about other soy building materials by checking out the Soy Products Guide at www.unitedsoybean.org/newuses.



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