

24. SNIPPETS

In the pursuit of continuing education, the aim of *Snippets* is to alert members to the latest scientific news in the food arena. Each issue attempts to cover as wide a spectrum of interests as possible, including nutrition, cereals, dairy, meat, microbiology, food law, quality, management, food safety etc. and – especially - any newsworthy South African events and achievements.

In 1995, President Aubrey Parsons (an avid reader of scientific and trade literature) suggested that much of the information published deserved to be shared with the wider membership of SAAFoST. At first, Aubrey compiled a few issues using the physical as opposed to the electronic cut-and-paste technique. The resulting two pages were photocopied and distributed to Northern Branch members by post with notices of meetings.

In 1996 it was decided to go national. The first national issue (Vol.1, No.1) went out in May after being typed by Jan Davis of Leiner Davis Gelatine, photocopied, proofread by many and posted by Bernard Cole. Aubrey, being a busy person, slowly left the whole production to Bernard - text, typing, printing and posting (with the occasional article being provided by Aubrey). Eventually, as material became available on the internet and computers became more versatile, the difficulties were reduced and by about 2000 it was possible to produce a copy of *Snippets* every two months for distribution (mostly by e-mail). At the time of writing, Bernard (with some help from the Northern Branch) was still producing a copy every two months. The latest *Snippets*, including back numbers are always available on the website.