5% level in chocolate) or as coating fats at higher levels of use that give improved viscosity characteristics, improved crystallisation rates, enhanced fat bloom resistance, cool-eating sensations and a host of other processing and consumer benefits. Great strides forward have been made in confectionery fat technology, both in methods of production, and in the understanding of how the triglyceride composition of the vegetable fat relates to the processing characteristics and consumer perception of chocolates and coatings. Undoubtedly further developments will continue to be made in the future ensuring that the vegetable fat which, in many cases, controls the functionality of chocolates and coatings, keeps pace with the demands of both the chocolate manufacturer and consumer.

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