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THE SUBMINIATURE TIMES

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Supporting 110, 16mm, 9.5mm, 8mm, 4mm, 1mm, Microdot, & Electronic Still Photography.



STILL SEARCHING FOR FINE GRAIN? TRY EMULSION 1461.

The photo above was taken to illustrate the fine grain and long tonal scale of Kodak 1461 a low contrast black and white negative copying film.

You won't find 1461 in any of the consumer products catalogs. Kodak Imagelink HQ Microfilm 1461 Catalog #822-3232 is in the Microfilm - Technical Services listings.

What makes 1461 of special interest to subminiature enthusiasts is that it is finer than Tech Pan, and doesn't have to be cut down from 35mm. It is supplied in unsprocketed 100ft x 16mm rolls.

Compared to Recordak, an older ultra fine grain process film, 1461 is much more manageable. The low contrast panchromatic response is a welcome relief.

Low contrast in a copying film is still high compared to Tri-X, but 1461 responds so well to basic contrast control techniques (pre-fog, diluted developers, etc.) it will remind you of the old Agfa IFF at ISO 25. For copying use ISO 100.

1461 has a very well behaved anti-halo backing. Use a developer that takes less than five minutes and you'll see some dark traces that wipe clean with a single swab. Beyond five minutes, the backing dissolves and you'll never know it was there.

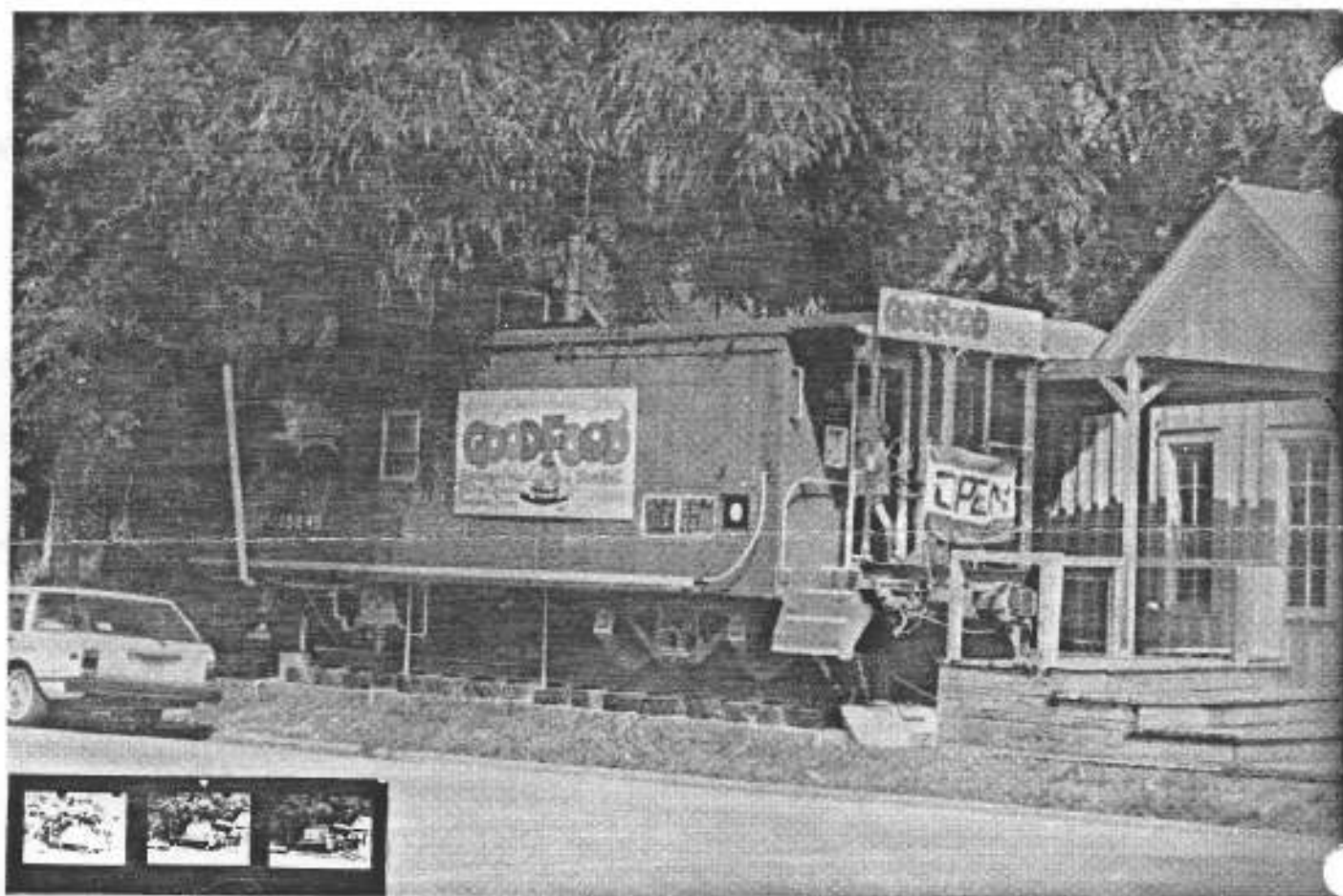
The ester base requires scissors. You can't just pinch off a short strip with your fingers as you would with older 16mm films.

Perhaps you should avoid telling your local Kodak Sales Rep that you want 1461 for general picture taking. In your best interest they'll spend good time trying to convince you that it can't be done. This is a 'technical' film. You'll get the same well intentioned message every time you call.

If you don't have time for the lecture, contact Mike Shumard, Sales Representative, John Lane Micrographics, 2303 Smith Street, Suite 301, Houston, TX. 77006. (713) 951-0774. Mike has taken the time to look at samples of subminiature photography, and can supply you with 1461 at \$6.00 per 100ft roll. No shipping charge. No lecture.



Camera: Minolta MG F8 @ 1/100.



Read contact strips from left to right. ISO 100, 200, 400.

MY DEVELOPER IS BETTER THAN YOURS.

The challenger this month for the title of 'Best Developer' was submitted in a postcard from Mr. Bob Ealey of New York, NY. Shooting portraits of his family with a Minolta 16P, Bob spools his own 16mm Plus-X (Eastman 7276 Reversal), rates it Category II (ISO 200), and develops it in one-shot Microdol-X diluted 1:10!

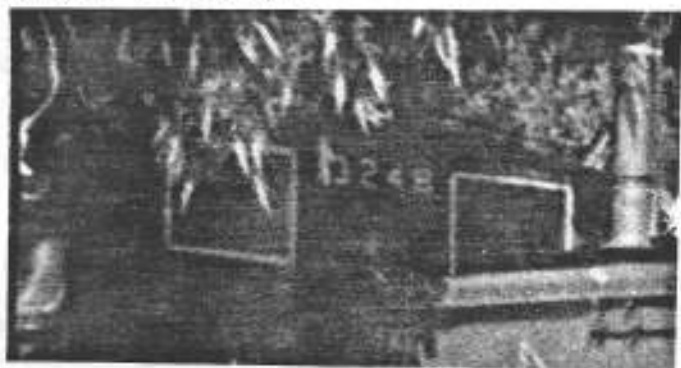
Years ago, I'd written off Microdol-X as being useless for subminiature photography. I distinctly remember pouring out a nearly full quart just for the brown bottle. The loss of image sharpness was unacceptable for my needs at the time.

Bob made a specific point of the dilution, because Kodak recommends nothing thinner than 1:3 for Microdol-X. A 1:10 dilution without a fog suppressant is way off the spec' sheets. This immediately sparked my curiosity.

Diluting black and white film developers improves acutance or image sharpness. Would the higher dilution make Microdol-X a winner? Following Bob's instructions I

spooled up some 7276 (officially rated at Daylight ISO 40, Tungsten ISO 50) and made eighteen exposures in my Mamiya-16, bracketing in three step groups from 100 to 400.

In the darkroom, I cut the roll in the middle, developed the first half in Agfa Rodinal diluted 1:100 (30 mins @ 75°F, 5 secs. per 30 agitation), and the second half in Microdol-X diluted 1:10. Bob recommended 40 mins. @ 75°F with 5 secs. per 30 intermittent agitation. I followed this to the letter.



MICRODOL-X



White dot indicates frame used for enlargement.

COMPARISON

1. I was very pleasantly surprised at the beautiful negatives produced with Microdol-X. They have a very smooth gradation, and the highlights have more detail than the Rodinal negatives.

2. Yes, Microdol-X is more available than Agfa Rodinal. That's two points, Bob.

3. The grain is finer, but the Rodinal print is sharper. There are times when we want one attribute over the other. You like portraits, I like landscapes. This one is a toss-up.



RODINAL

From there on it was downhill for Microdol-X. Rodinal did its best work at ISO 400. Microdol-X was one full stop slower. And I'm not put off by long developing times, but 40 minutes is ten minutes more for the emulsion to get soft, swell up, and absorb lint. (Sound familiar?)

Nonetheless, you win the free bottle of developer this month, Bob. Your choice was Microdol-X. Enjoy.

ALSO Chromogenic developer fans can save stamps until someone tells us where to buy chromogenic 16mm film. Not everyone will get the same results cutting down 35mm film in the dark; especially our novices who haven't quite worked out how to produce scratch free negatives. Availability is important. Our monthly challenge is on-going and the prize is a quart of your favorite developer. Let's hear from you.

Category I	Under ISO 100	Rodinal 1:200
Category II	100 to 1000	Rodinal 1:100
Category III	Over ISO 1000	Category Open

"I TRIED IT, IT WORKS.."

After grain, grimy negatives are a subminiature photographer's second biggest problem. Our readers in the Washington, D.C. area have been praising a little portable water treatment device - a series of concentric plastic cups with a treated charcoal filter, that produces water with absolutely no sediment or bacteria.

I tried it. I ordered a Portable Water Treatment Unit, and immediately discovered other features of this almost pocket size device. There's nothing to hook up! You barely need instructions. Take it out of the box, align two of the four cups, pour water in one end, pure water comes out the other end at about 14 oz. per minute. My first gallon took 8 minutes 52 seconds.

One-shot developers made with water from the filter don't have air bells. I wiped my negatives with a new sponge dipped in this ultra pure water, and found that I didn't need Photo Flo either. No sludge, no water marks. My negatives dried pristine for the first time in ages.

The charcoal is guaranteed for 5000 gallons (that's not a misprint). At \$49 per unit that's under a penny a gallon. I know a good thing when I see it, and I wish I'd listened a year ago when I first heard about it. I'm buying another one to keep in my suitcase.

The Portable Water Treatment Unit and charcoal refills are available by mail from Ms. Adele R. Moore, 7355 Springleigh way, Alexandria, VA. 22310-3623

MAMIYA-16 HELPLINE Continued

The official line of support for the Mamiya-16 closed down years ago because Mamiya no longer has parts for the camera. The last knowledgeable Subminiature Maven at Mamiya is: Mark Kaganowitz, Mamiya America Corp., 8 Westchester Plaza, Elmsford, NY. 10523 (514) 347-3300.

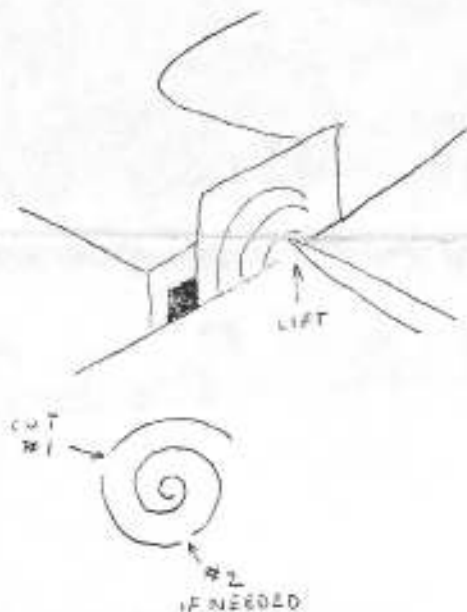
For the few cassettes still in circulation, Mark will probably refer you to: Seth Moore, Microtec Industries, P.O. Box 9424, San Diego, CA. 92109. (619) 272-8820. (Lots of Minox and Minolta film, nothing new for the Mamiya-16 as of 8/15/91).

Or:

Wall Street Camera, 82 Wall St., NYC, NY. 10005, (212) 344-011. (Last price for the double cassette \$15. February '91). Space permitting, we'll continue to share bits of information that you may find helpful.

THOSE DARNED SCRATCHES.

Mamiya-16 owners with cassettes, usually stop taking pictures from the sheer frustration of dealing with scratched film. Film flatness at the image plane is important, but that pressure plate is notoriously aggressive. Here's a solution that gets you back into action in ten minutes.



Using a strong pointed object such as a circle drawing compass, slowly raise the pressure plate. The pressure plate spring will come up with it.

Cut a small portion of the spring. Then slowly put the spring and pressure plate back into the camera. This cures 95% of the cameras. If you still have a problem, raise the spring again, and cut a smaller piece. Keep in mind that if you take too much, the pressure plate may shift around in use, or fail to flatten films that have been curled up in the cassette for a long time.

Don't hesitate to get your camera to a professional repair shop for guaranteed results. Essex still gives FREE estimates on subminiatures. Essex Camera Service, 239 Paterson Ave. East Rutherford, NJ. 07073 (201) 933-7272.

Send us a stamped self addressed envelope if you'd like to be notified re: used cassettes as they become available. Doylejet, P.O. Box 60311, Houston, TX 77205.



LOOKING AT "LOOKIN' GOOD"

A 'grab shot' typical of the things most of us shoot to test process films in high contrast lighting. This is a straight print with no dodging or burning in. With work the white car and Lookin Good's admirer could easily be brought up to exhibition standards. Otherwise it's only good for a chuckle.

Camera: Minolta-16 EE II
 Lens: f2.8 25mm Rokkor
 Exposure: f5.6 @ 1/200
 Film: Kodak 1461 rated ISO 25
 Developer: Rodinal 1:200
 Enlarger: Omega B5
 Paper: Ilford MG Rapid
 Enlarger lens: f3.5 25mm Voss



THIS LITTLE 110 CAMERA

I saw the GENESIS II at the grocery check-out between the gum and the cash register. Obviously they put it in the right place because I gave up the last of my change for it. Had to have it. Camera, film, and batteries took the whole \$20 bill.

I loaded the camera in the car and headed off to take some pictures. Usually you'd go straight home with things like ice cream. Nope. I had a new camera. You can always buy ice cream.

Along about frame number 3 I decided to try the flash. It didn't work.

Disappointed, I drove back, receipt in hand, drinking ice cream from a corner of the leaking box.

The manager tried the flash (frame number 4). Seeing that it didn't work, and because it was his last camera, he offered me a full refund.

If I ever needed proof that I'm an incurable collector, it came when I decided to keep the GENESIS II.

Not only that, but I still haven't advanced the film to frame 5 for fear that something else will break.

I know I'll complete the roll one day.

CAMERA LITE	MINOX B	379.00	MINOX B	159.00	MINOX LX GOLD	G	1450.00
CANON 110 ED	MINOX B	59.00	MINOX B	139.00	MINOX LX PLATINUM	O CALL	
CRYSTAR 'HIT'	MINOX B	33.00	MINOX B	185.00	MINOX ML	R	285.00
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GEMFLEX	MINOX B 2ND	599.00	MINOX B 2ND	175.00	MINOX ML	O CALL	
GOLDEK 16	MINOX C	32.00	MINOX C	295.00	MINOX ML	R	225.00
J. PLAYER KGB CIG PACK	MINOX C	1500.00	MINOX C	209.00	MINOX PL	F	124.50
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MAMIYA 16 AUTO	MINOX EC	49.00	MINOX EC	239.00	PENTAX 110 A KIT	C	450.00
MEC 16	MINOX EC	189.00	MINOX EC	189.00	PENTAX 110 KIT	T	249.00
MEC 16	MINOX EC	99.00	MINOX EC	199.00	PENTAX KIT	C	279.00
MICRO 16	MINOX EL	189.00	MINOX EL	69.00	PENTAX LG KIT	I	499.00
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MINOX B	MINOX III S	495.00	MINOX III S	135.00	TESSINA	F CALL	
MINOX B	MINOX III S GOLD	299.00	MINOX III S GOLD	4500.00	TOYOCA 16	W	295.00
MINOX B	MINOX LX	249.50	MINOX LX	549.00	WHITTAKER 16	T	59.00
MINOX B	MINOX LX	199.00	MINOX LX	269.00	Y. ATARON BLACK	W	179.00
MINOX B	MINOX LX BLACK	190.00	MINOX LX BLACK	690.00	YASHICA 16	M	20.00
MINOX B	MINOX LX BLACK	179.00	MINOX LX BLACK	555.00			
MINOX B	MINOX LX GOLD	169.00	MINOX LX GOLD	O CALL			

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D BILL CAMERA'S

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718 462 2892

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212 924 3020

614 261 1264

516 933 9790

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516 596 6013

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