



# INDUSTRY NEWS

By David Meeker, APPI President

**June 29, 2006**

## **CURRENT ASSOCIATION ISSUES**

### **2006 Institute for Continuing Education**

We had an excellent meeting in Moline, Illinois the past two days. 22 more renderers were trained on the Rendering Code of Practice. We also heard some interesting customer perspectives and had some good fellowship and discussions. Thanks to Dara John for handling all the meeting arrangements.

### **Carcass Disposal Roundtable July 6-7**

NRA is part of the Animal Ag Coalition which is holding a government/industry roundtable to discuss options and possible solutions to dead animal disposal. As part of this 1 1/2 day meeting, we have a panel of renderers to discuss the specifics of disposal, rendering industry perspectives on the impact of the proposed changes to the 1997 Feed Rule, the rendering industry role in proper dead animal disposal, and impacts of taking the rendering industry out of the dead animal pick-up business. The meeting is in Arlington, VA from 1 pm July 6 to noon on July 7. **AFIA is handling this meeting and they decided to open it to all interested parties.**

### **National Carcass Disposal Symposium December 5-7**

Connecting Carcass Disposal Research, Regulations, and Response, December 5-7, 2006. The symposium committee. The planning committee is comprised of members from Cornell Waste Management Institute, Iowa State Cooperative Extension, Maine Compost Team, National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense at Texas A&M, North Carolina Dept Agriculture, Penn State Cooperative Extension, USDA APHIS and ARS, U.S. EPA.

### **AFIA Feed Ingredient Institute**

I was honored to be invited to be one of the teachers at the American Feed Industry Association Feed Ingredient Institute in Chicago last week. The institute, held every two years, is designed mainly for employees of feed manufacturers to learn more about the

feed industry, basic nutrition, selecting quality ingredients and feed additives, mixing and processing feed, quality assurance, regulation, and other topics.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **Transmission of New Bovine Prion to Mice**

Researchers claim that an atypical prion from cattle has been transferred in mice. They say this evidence of a new bovine prion strain in cattle suggests that BSE is not the only transmissible prion disease in cattle and that the origin of atypical cases has not been determined. They suggest either the existence of alternative origins of BSE-like diseases in cattle or phenotypic changes of prions after infection with the BSE agent. They say analysis of molecular features of prion diseases in cattle show the situation is similar to that in humans, in which different subtypes of sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease agents are found. The article titled *Transmission of New Bovine Prion to Mice* can be found in the new issue of CDC's *Emerging Infectious Diseases* at this website: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol12no07/06-0107.htm>

### **Economic Impact of Bird Flu Hinges on Panic**

According to economists, the severity of a global economic slowdown caused by a bird flu pandemic, estimated to slash 1 to 12 percent off world output, largely depends on how people and governments react. Initial confirmation of a bird flu strain that easily transmits between people would have an immediate shock effect on the world economy both in supply -- absenteeism and reduced productivity -- and demand -- a drop in activity -- but the depth and duration of the shock depends on people's reaction. The story can be found here:

[http://today.reuters.com/stocks/QuoteCompanyNewsArticle.aspx?view=CN&storyID=2006-06-28T203623Z\\_01\\_N28374537\\_RTRIDST\\_0\\_BIRDFLU-ECONOMY.XML&rpc=66](http://today.reuters.com/stocks/QuoteCompanyNewsArticle.aspx?view=CN&storyID=2006-06-28T203623Z_01_N28374537_RTRIDST_0_BIRDFLU-ECONOMY.XML&rpc=66)

### **Canada Bans SRM from all Animal Feed and Fertilizer**

Canada recently announced the changes to their BSE feed rule by banning SRMs in all animal food and fertilizer. Their list of SRMs is long, and are listed in these notices:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/newcom/2006/20060626e.shtml>

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/feebet/rumin/enhrene.shtml>

### **FDA Responds to Canadian Rule with News Release**

FDA said they have been in communication with Canada, but will consider all 800 comments on the U.S. proposal before moving forward. The FDA release can be found here: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01397.html>