



INDUSTRY NEWS

By David Meeker, APPI President

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CURRENT ASSOCIATION ISSUES

Check out the New NRA Website!

NRA has re-vamped the website at <http://www.renderers.org/>. We intended to update the site, give it a new look, and make it as useful and user-friendly as possible.

Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) Meeting

It was a typically amiable meeting with long stretches of esoteric regulatory bantering over fine details of feed law and state regulatory activities. However, a few significant things happened at the August 1-4 meeting in Grand Rapids, MI:

1. AAFCO Feed Manufacturing Committee accepted the draft of Model Good Manufacturing Practices Regulations for Feed and Feed Ingredients submitted by a sub-committee on which NRA participated. If accepted by AAFCO Model Bill Committee at the January, 2008 meeting, these GMP recommendations will become part of the AAFCO “Official Publication” in 2009, and could eventually be adopted by all states.
2. The AAFCO Ingredient Definitions Committee did not discuss definitions of animal products this time, but will in the future. There is a continuous effort to make definitions accurately reflect products as they are marketed.
3. The AAFCO TSE Committee will be merged with the Environmental Issues Committee to form a new AAFCO Feed Contaminant Committee

Essential Rendering Makes the Internet “Big Time”

Wikipedia is the biggest multilingual free-content encyclopedia on the Internet with more than 7 million articles in over 200 languages. The new rendering industry book, *Essential Rendering* (Published by NRA with assistance from FPRF and APPI is nearly one year old already), is now listed as a reference in Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rendering_%28food_processing%29

Rendering Code of Practice

Check out the list maintained on the APPI website: <http://www.animalprotein.org/> We are very proud of these leading companies—make sure you get listed

REGULATION

EPA Proposes Stronger Ozone Standards

EPA is proposing to strengthen the nation's air quality standards for ground-level ozone, revising the standards for the first time since 1997. Agriculture production and processing produces VOCs (including methane and ethanol) and NO_x that would be regulated through monitoring and possibly via controls. Stringent control measures would be implemented that could curtail production activities, restrict pesticide applications, designate/limit pesticide application times, eliminate pesticide availability, restrict animal agricultural feeding operations (emissions from animal waste handling and storage), prescribe costly control measures for animal agriculture, and prescribe costly control measures for certain food and agricultural processing industries (including scaling factors for VOC measurements).

Industry Talking Points:

- In 1997, EPA set a NAAQS for ground-level ozone of 0.08 parts per million (ppm) to protect public health with an adequate margin of safety.
 - EPA estimated the cost to the nation to be more than \$100 billion.
- On June 20, 2007, EPA proposed to tighten the ozone NAAQS yet again, to a level within the range of 0.070-0.075 ppm to “reflect new scientific evidence about ozone and its effects on people and public welfare.”
- Business favors retention of the 1997 NAAQS.
 - The existing NAAQS protects public health.
 - Air quality is improving, even though states have not even implemented plans to meet the 1997 NAAQS:
 - According to EPA, between 1970 and 2006, total emissions of the six principal air pollutants dropped by 54 percent; this process will continue, with emissions from power plants cut in half by 2015 and emissions from cars and trucks being reduced by more than 70 percent by 2030.
 - States have spent two years developing plans to meet the 1997 NAAQS and are now just finalizing these plans. They should have the opportunity to implement these plans and meet the current NAAQS before it is changed.
 - The cost of attaining the proposed NAAQS will be huge to the nation, including:
 - Billions of dollars in direct costs, with many new non-attainment areas where businesses will face increased costs to operate, permitting delays, and restrictions on new facilities and expansions;
 - Billions of dollars in indirect costs, including increased energy, fuel and equipment prices and transportation costs due to special requirements for vehicles and fuels sold in the areas, and for commercial and consumer products; and,
 - Continued loss of jobs to China/India, which do not have such stringent standards.
- EPA is providing a 90-day comment period (to October 9, 2007), and plans to issue a final decision by March 2008.

Websites of Interest for Pesticides

FDA uses the following website to determine current EPA pesticide tolerances:

http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=e04519c67bc8662ba88a21904de302be&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfr180_main_02.tpl

FDA established a few enforcement action levels for several old pesticides in the early 1990s. These pesticides often had been banned for use by the EPA, but which were still found at low levels on various food and feed commodities. These pesticides are typically organochlorine insecticides that are quite persistent in the environment. The website below goes to FDA

Compliance Policy Guide 575.100 and it should provide all the FDA pesticide action levels that are currently in place.

http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance_ref/cpg/cpgfod/cpg575-100.html

OTHER ISSUES

A New Book, *Animal Byproducts Utilisation through Semi-Moist Rendering*

This book is by Mahendra Kumar, from India, who has done many years of research on the topic in conditions much different than we have in the U.S. Mr. Mahendra Kumar is a long-time acquaintance of our own Dr. Don Franco, and was encouraged in this endeavor by Dr. Don. I reviewed the book (it is written in English) and believe it will be useful to those involved in animal agriculture in developing countries where byproducts and deadstock are often wasted, causing environmental burdens. Utilizing this technology could improve the economics of animal rearing as well as providing benefits to animal and human health. The technology is a simplified version of batch rendering that can be done with limited inputs and minimal infrastructure. Mr. Kumar also relates his experiences on site selection, odor and wastewater management, and ancillary enterprises that could enhance small scale rendering enterprises in developing countries. These ordering instructions are straight from the publishing company:

“To order the book, you want the books then please send us a Cheque of US\$ 28.00 in the name of DAYA PUBLISHING HOUSE, DELHI, then we will send you the books by Air Mail. or, You can send payment direct to our bank account i.e.

Our banker Syndicate Bank, Account No. 90611210000618, Tri Nagar Branch, Delhi - 110 035, India & Banker SWIFT no. is SYNBINBBA126.

Thanks,

ANIL MITTAL

DAYA PUBLISHING HOUSE”

UK Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak Linked to Vaccine Production Facility

The UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has issued a news release which notes: “the FMD strain found in Surrey is not one currently known to be recently found in animals. It is most similar to strains used in international diagnostic laboratories and in vaccine production, including at the Pirbright site shared by the Institute of Animal Health (IAH) and Merial Animal Health Ltd, a pharmaceutical company. The present indications are that this strain is a 01 BFS67 – like virus, isolated in the 1967 Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in Great Britain. This strain is present at the IAH and was used in a batch manufactured in July 2007 by the Merial facility. On a precautionary basis Merial has agreed to voluntarily halt vaccine production ...”

The August 4, 2007 UK DEFRA News Release is posted at

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2007/070804a.htm>

UK DEFRA Information about Food and Mouth Disease is posted at

www.defra.gov.uk/footandmouth

GAO says USDA Must Resolve Gaps in National Animal Identification System

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a study August 3 entitled “National Animal Identification System: USDA Needs to Resolve Several Key Implementation Issues to Achieve Rapid and Effective Disease Traceback.” GAO Report Number 07-592 is posted here:

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-592>

Renderers May Qualify for Small Business Research Grants

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) has posted a Request for Application (RFA):

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/sbir.cfm>. Of particular interest is dealing with carcasses following a Foreign Animal Disease outbreak please see page 52 of the RFA under other key information. Here you will see a request for proposals on carcass decontamination. The text

reads: “USDA/SBIR Animal Production and Protection Program is interested in receiving applications on carcass decontamination which could make the contaminated carcasses useful for value added processing.”

Background

8.3 Animal Production and Protection

The Animal Production and Protection topic area aims to develop technologies to generate new or improved high-quality products/processes and to promote the efficiency of agricultural production systems. These technologies will also enhance protection and safety of the Nation's agriculture and food supply. Program success will result in marketable technologies that reduce the number and severity of animal disease outbreaks and a decreased dependence on the widespread use of antibiotics. These program priorities will also contribute to the protection and enhancement of the Nation's natural resource base and environment by increasing productivity while minimizing the environmental consequences.

To meet these identified needs of agriculture, the program's long-term goals (10 years) include commercial adoption and sales of technologies aimed at improving animal productivity and improving the quality of animal products; new technologies that provide improved understanding of animal nutrition for improved efficiency, performance, health, and well being of animals and to optimize resource use while delivering environmental benefits; and new technologies that reduce adverse impacts and improve the management of animal diseases that represent a threat to animal production, biosecurity or public health.