



# INDUSTRY NEWS

By David Meeker, APPI President

September 1, 2006

## CURRENT ASSOCIATION ISSUES

### **The New Rendering Book is Coming!**

*Essential Rendering* - All About The Animal By-Products Industry.

A description and order blank are attached.

Please send payments to:

National Renderers Association  
c/o Burke & Herbert Bank  
P.O. Box 604  
Alexandria, VA 22313-0604

Please send correspondence to:

National Renderers Association  
801 N. Fairfax Street Suite 205  
Alexandria, VA 22314

If you have questions, contact me at 703-683-2633 or email

[dmeeker@nationalrenderers.com](mailto:dmeeker@nationalrenderers.com)

Or contact Barbara Alexander at 703-683-0155 or [balexander@nationalrenderers.com](mailto:balexander@nationalrenderers.com)

The debut of the book will be at the NRA Annual Meeting in October—everyone registering for that meeting will receive one copy as part of registration. Orders will be filled shortly after that. In the United States and Canada, books will cost \$30, including shipping, and boxes of 20 books will be \$400 (a 33% discount).

We would like to get an idea of how many we should have printed—especially from those of you who may order large numbers of books. If you plan to order multiple copies of the book, please use the attached form and order them now, so we are sure to print enough copies.

### **National Cattlemen's Food Safety Committee**

I was recently appointed to NCBA's Beef Industry Food Safety Council Advisory Panel.

## **Secretary's Advisory Committee on Foreign Animal and Poultry Disease**

I was also recently appointed to the USDA Secretary's Advisory Committee on Foreign Animal and Poultry Disease (SACFAPD).

## **CAST Fact Sheets on Carcass Disposal**

I was also recently appointed to a Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) committee which will write disposal guidelines for cattle mortalities. These reports are usually very thorough and well done. They distribute them on Capitol Hill and to interested parties. Ross Hamilton was appointed to another committee working in concert to write disposal guidelines for swine mortalities.

## **National Carcass Disposal Symposium, December 2006**

Symposium title: "Connecting Carcass Disposal Research, Regulations, and Response"

Time, place: December 5-7, 2006, University of Maryland

Symposium committee: 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. The symposium and subsequent conference proceedings will stimulate future research and influence public policy concerning animal mortality disposal. Animal disposal is a major concern for livestock and poultry operators, and policy makers. This symposium will highlight current research, current and emerging disposal methodology and public policy issues concerning carcass disposal.

## **Electronic Encyclopedia of Agriculture**

Ross Hamilton and I agreed to co-author an article, "Animal By-Products: Impact of BSE on their Use" for publication in an online update to the Encyclopedia of Animal Science (EAS). The *Encyclopedia of Animal Science* is a comprehensive and concise overview of the broad field of animal science. It is intended to be a ready source of current information covering a broad spectrum of topics related to the biology, production, and uses of animals and their products in a complex, diverse, and rapidly changing world.

## **APPI Code of Practice**

The following 13 plants have been certified:

Anamax Green Bay, WI

Cargill, Beardstown, IL

Darling-National LLC Berlin, WI

Hormel Foods Austin, MN

John Morrell & Company, Sioux Falls, SD

Smithfield Foods, Tar Heel Division Tar Heel, NC

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Clarksville Protein Clarksville, AR

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Harmony, NC

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Robards, KY

Tyson Foods, Inc., Specialty Products Division, Sequin Protein Plant Sequin, TX

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Texarkana, AR

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Scranton, AR

Tyson Foods, Inc., River Valley Animal Foods, Temperanceville Plant

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **Gary Weber Leaving NCBA**

Gary Weber is leaving the National Cattlemen's Beef Association after 12 years in their Washington office. He will be the Chief Operation Officer of Harrison Ethanol, LLC in Ohio which will produce ethanol, feed 20,000 beef cattle annually and milk 2,000 dairy cattle.

### **APHIS Releases AI Plan**

USDA/APHIS, has developed a national response plan for y responding should highly pathogenic avian influenza occur in the United States. The document is a summary and abstract of the detailed (1,100 page) National Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Response Plan and has been posted to APHIS' website:  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot\\_issues/avian\\_influenza/avian\\_influenza\\_summary.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/avian_influenza/avian_influenza_summary.shtml)

The plan was developed in cooperation with the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The plan is intended to complement regional, State, and industry plans that are written to be more specific to local issues and needs. APHIS says States should continue to develop plans that are specific to their poultry industry and requirements.

USDA has also developed a comprehensive Communications Emergency Response Plan that is described in brief in section IV of the Response Plan. The full plan will be shared with Federal, State, and industry entities in order to coordinate media and public response to any possible HPAI H5N1 detection. Included in the plan are key messages addressing public concerns regarding AI that will be delivered by all involved entities. The plan also includes provisions to hold daily media briefings to keep the public informed of ongoing activities.

APHIS posted the original Response Plan in April 2006 but has since revised the document to capture comments they received on the original version. Further updates may be made as needed.

### **AI Study Doubts Pandemic Likely**

The Wall Street Journal reported an article in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science* reported a study which showed it may be more difficult for the high pathogenic virus to spark a pandemic than originally feared. Scientists at U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention conducted studies in a ferret model to examine the contribution of human internal protein genes or other molecular changes to the efficient transmission of influenza viruses among humans. The model using modified H3N2 virus exhibited efficient replication but inefficient transmission, whereas H5N1 reassortant viruses with four or six human virus internal protein genes exhibited reduced replication and no transmission. These findings indicate that H5N1 viruses may require further adaptation than a simple genetic recombination to acquire the trait essential to cause a pandemic. The article is available here:

<http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/abstract/103/32/12121?maxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=H5N1&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&resourcetype=HWCIT>

## **European Parliament in Favor of Easing MBM ban**

The European Parliament met in France earlier this summer and announced that the restrictions on using of meat and bone meal (MBM) in animal feed can be relaxed. They will consider allowing pigs, poultry, and cattle to be fed MBM as long as no species is fed MBM from it's own kind. There were also pleas for relaxing export restrictions.