

The International Magazine of Rendering

August 2022

# Render



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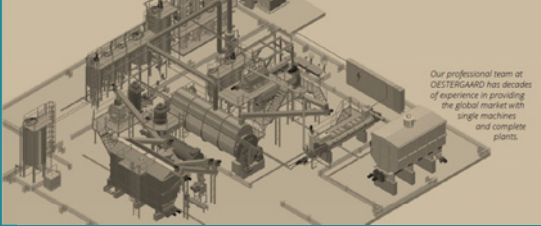
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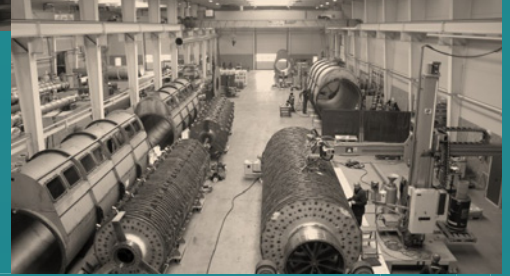
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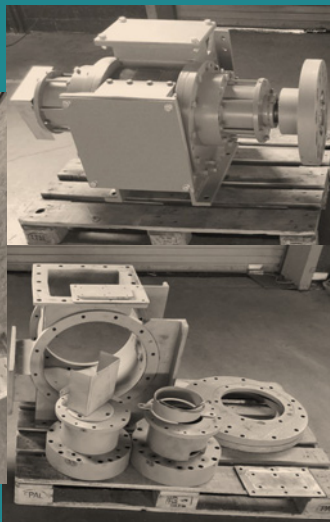
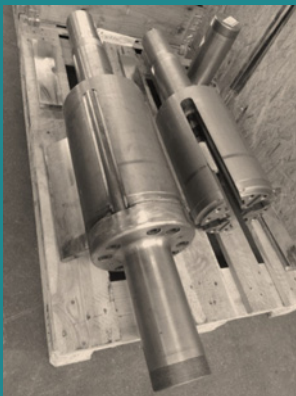
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## Renderitorial

**M**id-July is always hot and dry in Texas, the No. 1 state for cows and calves in the U.S. But this year, it's different – and not in a good way. As temperatures have soared over 100 degrees for weeks, with no relief in sight, there are miles-long traffic lines of pickups and trailers circled around the state's auction barns. Ranchers have no grass left in the middle of exceptional drought and either can't afford or find enough feed and hay to get by.

Oklahoma is no better. On July 11, the Oklahoma Mesonet weather system reported the driest 30 days in the state in the past 100 years – the previous record was set in the middle of the Dust Bowl. Nationwide, 72% of pasture and range conditions were rated fair to very poor for the week ending July 10.

This is not good news for the rendering industry either, considering cattle numbers were already expected to be on the downslope of the cattle cycle for the next couple of years. Once the factory (cow) is sold, it takes producers years to build back, if they even can. Smaller producers, who make up the bulk of the national herd, will face strong headwinds just to stay in business in a time of ever-increasing input costs, red-hot competition for leased land and suburban sprawl.

According to Derrell Peel, livestock economist with Oklahoma State University Extension, total cow slaughter is up 6.1% for the year so far, with decreased dairy cow slaughter partly offsetting the 14.6% increase in year-over-year beef cow slaughter. He expects that double-digit increase in beef cow slaughter to remain throughout the year. The longer liquidation continues, the more the cycle is drawn out and the longer cattle inventories will be lower.

USDA's July cattle inventory report showed the lowest number of beef cows since 2015 -- 30.4 million, down 2% from last year. There were also 3.5% fewer numbers of replacement heifers. The 2022 calf-crop is expected to be down, for the fourth year, by 2%. Renderers may be looking at tighter supplies and/or higher costs for an extended period before producers can rebuild the herd. **R**

Sharla Ishmael  
Editor/Publisher

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## Future of Tariffs Exposes Rift Within Biden Administration

**H**istorically high inflation – so far proving to be stubborn in the face of several Biden administration policy responses – has caused senior officials to revisit Trump-era tariffs on imports from China, which are now in their fourth year. The \$360 billion in tariffs, if reduced or removed, may help fight inflation and ease geopolitical tensions, according to officials including Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Jake Sullivan, national security adviser.

Not all within the administration share that view. In June, U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai told a Senate subcommittee on trade, “At USTR, we are responsible for the formulation of American trade policy and guiding the U.S. economy through challenges and opportunities that are presented today to set up the American economy for success in the future. The China tariffs are, in my view, a significant piece of leverage, and a trade negotiator never walks away from leverage.”

Channeling their inner Trump, those in the administration supportive of this leverage know it also carries political favor in several Midwestern and Rust Belt congressional districts up for grabs in the November midterm elections. China hawks on the right combined with union supporters on the left, make a pullback of tariffs politically dicey, leaving an unpopular president exposed to charges he’s going soft on China.

Even with the risk of political fallout, the administration appears headed for a modest, targeted reduction, which some have suggested will be on the order of \$10 billion in tariff cuts. Yellen has opened dialogue with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He about cutting tariffs she says have “served no strategic purpose.” The numbers may prove her right. This week, forecasts for another record trade deficit with China were released, showing how limited the tariff impact has been on reversing a decades-long trade deficit.

Meanwhile, China’s economy is still struggling for footing as it emerges from the latest round of COVID-19 lockdowns. The central government said in mid-July it was considering allowing

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**As Congress turns its attention to the food supply chain and considers policies to help the U.S. meet its climate goals, early and innovative leaders in GHG reduction must not be forgotten. Federal incentives to reduce food waste should not promote unfair market advantage or unequal competition for raw materials. Doing so would upend the rendering industry’s role in shrinking our food production footprint.**

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local governments to sell \$220 billion worth of bonds earlier than expected. The move comes sooner than anticipated and is a sign the world’s second-largest economy is still reeling from the pandemic.

## President’s Ag Trade Team Begins to Take Shape

After nearly two years and urging by several national food and agriculture organizations, President Joe Biden has nominated two experienced policy hands for key positions filling out the ag trade roles of both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and USTR. Alexis Taylor was nominated for USDA undersecretary of trade and foreign agricultural affairs, and Doug McKalip was slated to be the USTR chief agricultural negotiator.

Taylor currently serves as director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the state’s top ag official, and McKalip is serving as a senior advisor to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. Both Taylor and McKalip served with distinction during



the Obama administration. Taylor served as deputy undersecretary for farm and foreign agricultural services, overseeing FAS and its myriad trade development programs. McKalip served as senior policy adviser for rural affairs at the Domestic Policy Council during President Obama's second term.

Taylor is a native of Iowa and graduate of Iowa State University. McKalip is a native of rural, northwest Pennsylvania and a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and American University. While confirmation is expected for both, the timing remains unknown with the Senate agriculture committee having responsibility for Taylor's nomination and the Senate finance committee holding the cards for McKalip's approval. What awaits both nominees are frustrated lawmakers showing palpable concern with the direction of the administration's trade policy.

At a recent Senate hearing, one of the president's closest allies and fellow Delaware native, Sen. Chris Coons, a Democrat, noted market access isn't really on the table for the recent U.S.-Indo Pacific Economic Framework talks. Coons questioned USTR Ambassador Tai on the administration's goals for IPEF and how they are prioritizing negotiations to open foreign markets to U.S. producers.

Tai replied, "It is true that market access is not on the table with IPEF discussions. When we talk about market access in terms of trade terminology, we are speaking specifically about tariff liberalization and that is what's not on the table. However, it is about markets and how we work together – building relations, partnerships and confidence within our markets."

With no sign of Trade Promotion Authority being reauthorized, the ability to make meaningful market access gains through negotiated tariff reductions is almost nonexistent. For the administration's trade team, including the recent nominees, policy negotiations for the time being will focus on resolving trade policy irritants and nontariff barriers. Making the conditions right for full and unfettered movement of goods and services will be valuable. Dealing with flimsy trade barriers often erected by trading partners on an "emergency" basis will be even more important.

## NARA Leader Testifies Before Select House Committee on Upcycling

With pressure mounting from consumers and corporate shareholders alike, the spotlight on sustainability within the food and agricultural supply chain has never shined brighter. Growing recognition of agriculture as a key part of the climate change solution has finally begun to stick.

Renderers, as the original upcyclers, have long been ready for this conversation. Each year, North American renderers divert more than 56 billion pounds of meat and bone leftovers and 1.6 billion pounds of used cooking oil (UCO) from landfills. Proteins and fats that would otherwise be wasted are instead transformed into key ingredients for pet food, biofuels and a plethora of household and industrial products. This shifting value proposition is known as upcycling, and it's about time it caught on.

Kent Swisher, president and CEO of the North American Renderers Association, shared this message with members of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis on July 15. Joined by other representatives across the agricultural value chain,

Swisher reiterated rendering is an essential component of a sustainable food system. The act of upcycling reduces food waste and lowers – and even avoids – greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the agriculture sector.

As Congress turns its attention to the food supply chain and considers policies to help the U.S. meet its climate goals, early and innovative leaders in GHG reduction must not be forgotten. Federal incentives to reduce food waste should not promote unfair market advantage or unequal competition for raw materials. Doing so would upend the rendering industry's role in shrinking our food production footprint.

Internationally, upcycling has taken on increased visibility in trade policy discussions between the U.S. and leading trade partners. Recently, a U.S. trade mission to the U.K. led by Deputy Secretary Jewel Bronaugh focused on improving the image of U.S. food and farming in the U.K. by emphasizing agriculture's commitment to sustainability, animal welfare and food safety. As a result, the U.K. Secretary of State for Environment announced the U.K. would be joining a U.S.-led Sustainability Productivity Growth Coalition, which already includes membership from the broader EU.

The coalition launched in September 2021 as part of the U.N. Food Systems Summit and includes several companies and industry associations allied with rendering. **R**



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# NARA Members Receive Apology from APHIS During Washington Fly-in

**T**he North American Renderers Association has been outspoken about understaffing and operational problems at the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service that are hindering the agency's ability to conduct

inspections at U.S. processing facilities and process the paperwork required for companies to export animal products, including rendered material.

Several NARA member companies and staff met with key APHIS officials

June 23 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture headquarters in Washington, D.C., to explain how the situation negatively impacts trade and results in economic harm to the industry.

The one-hour meeting with APHIS Associate Administrator Dr. Jack Shere, and Assistant Deputy Administrator for Veterinary Services Dr. Alecia Naugle began with Dr. Naugle candidly issuing an apology to NARA and its members for the agency's delays and poor communication with industry.

Kevin Baker of Valley Proteins/Darling Ingredients, NARA's international market development committee chairman, explained to Shere and Naugle that "APHIS is an integral part of the supply chain and when inspections are delayed and export certificates lapse, it causes costly business consequences."

Naugle and Shere welcomed input from NARA members and gave a detailed account of the process improvement work that is already underway at APHIS. Dana Johnson Downing, NARA's vice president of international programs, is participating in monthly calls with APHIS to ensure the industry's needs are met.

Downing is also working with APHIS to establish a joint industry-APHIS working group to identify training needs, ways to improve communication, and provide greater transparency. The group will help identify areas for greater efficiency throughout the inspection and export certification process, as well as longer-term investments in technology that are needed to help the agency break down information silos and increase efficiency.

There has been invited to be a featured speaker at NARA's convention in October to provide an update on the agency's work on animal health, trade negotiations and operational improvement efforts. In his role as associate administrator, he concentrates on emergency preparedness and planning, as well as homeland and national security issues, with a special focus on the emerging African swine fever threat.



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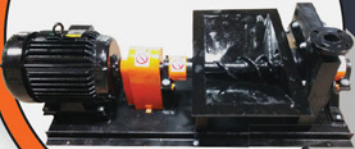
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By Bruce Ross, Ross Gordon  
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# European Renderers Face Big Challenges, Have Solutions

From left, Dr. Robert Figgenger, EFPPRA vice president; Dr. Martin Alm, EFPPRA technical director; and David Kaluzny, NARA representative  
Photo Credits: Harald Niemann, Servicegesellschaft Tierische Nebenprodukte mbH (German Animal By-products Association)



**A** huge success – that was the general agreement among the nearly 500 participants about the European Fat Processors and Renderers Association 2022 Congress, held in Vilamoura, Portugal, in late May. The congress took place after a two-year delay due to COVID-19, and while there was a palpable sense of relief and happiness among delegates at seeing each other face to face again, it was the venue, program and quality of speakers that made it memorable. The Portuguese renderers association, ETSA, should take much of the credit for this. I attended as the EU representative of the North American Renderers Association.

There was also an optimistic mood overall because in the two years since the Vilamoura congress should have taken place, changes in EU regulations – for example, allowing the use of pig processed animal protein (PAP) in poultry feed and poultry PAP in pig feed as well as insect meal in both feed types – are allowing EU renderers to expand their markets. Speakers on such opportunities in the organic fertilizers, insect, pet food and biofuels markets emphasized this.

As always, the congress was introduced by EFPPRA President Sjors Beerendonk and Technical Director Martin Alm. Naturally, they emphasized EFPPRA's successes in lobbying the EU authorities, but they stressed EFPPRA is not resting on its laurels. The organization is already pushing for further legislative changes, pointing out to the EU authorities the union's long-standing shortage of domestically produced feed proteins is now exacerbated by the conflict in Ukraine and, therefore, the EU should maximize the use of safe, home-produced PAPs. So far, the European Commission's response

to such ideas like permitting inclusion of ruminant PAP in fish feeds has been negative, though it is considering allowing Category 1 ash to be used in fertilizers.

EU and national authorities are still ultracautious over rendered products due to the lingering, though much diminished, threat of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), fears over fraud, and so forth. The meat production chain, especially the feed sector, is almost as wary. Beerendonk said EFPPRA is aware of this and, in the future, will concentrate on demonstrating the positive role of rendered products in preserving the integrity of the food supply chain.

The EU is experiencing a range of trends from meat-free days to movement toward vegetable-only diets. EFPPRA is taking aim at the meat chain for not doing enough to counter campaigns against meat eating. On a more positive note, the EU's "Green Deal" ambitions include putting more emphasis on promoting the circular economy, and rendering activities fit well with this.

The rendering industry is subject to more than just BSE-related rules. It is having to address forthcoming changes to the EU's renewable energy policy, which affect the use of animal by-products in biofuels, and matters such as Best Available Techniques Reference Documents (BREDS) being developed in the EU to establish best available techniques for integrated prevention and control of pollution from industrial activities. The biggest problem for renderers under BREDS is dealing with odors. On the other hand, demand for biofuels from animal fats is strong and growing, so renderers should do well there.

## Fertilizers

“Your meals are important to us.” This was the introduction to a presentation from Leon Fock, CEO of Culterra Holland, a manufacturer of organic fertilizers, and a leader in promoting his sector in Europe. Demand for organic fertilizers is growing. He said he believes, once the regulatory framework for the sector is fully established, his company and others will be able to meet that demand, which is emerging at a time when mineral fertilizers are in short supply due to EU relations with Belarus and Russia.

Fock’s views were echoed by Dominique Billard, director of business development at Violleau, an AKIOLIS company producing organic soil improvers. His company needs meat and bone meal (MBM) and PAPs. In his view, it is time for fertilizers to move away from being a market of last resort for renderers to one where the nutrient values of MBM and PAPs are fully rewarded. One danger he sees on the horizon, however, is that consumers may want the ingredients in organic fertilizers themselves to be organic.

## Sustainable Food

The background to all the European rendering industry’s activities continues to be sustainability – environmental, social and economic. Gert van Duinkerken of Wageningen University in the Netherlands explained how security in the food supply has now become a priority worldwide, and the EU is trying to align the need to produce ample supplies of food with the societal requirement for shorter supply chains and locally sourced foods and their ingredients. His institution is working on aspects of new technologies, such as gene editing, nanotechnology, sensors and robotics, to improve the food industry’s ability to respond to such demands. He emphasized the meat sector has many more positives to offer than plant-only diets, such as the provision of amino acids.

## Food Waste

In a talk that took renderers to an area they may not normally deal with directly, Fernando Ventura of the Jéronimo Martins Group – a Portuguese company that operates in food distribution and specialized retail in several countries – described the different ways his business is trying to deal with food waste problems. He said without his company’s efforts, the amount of food waste generated would be 35% higher.

## Insects

No food-related conference would be complete without input from the insect feed sector. Heinrich Katz of Katz Biotech AG took up the theme of amino acid provision. He explained insect proteins contain all the essential amino acids and claimed such proteins are the best-known substitute for fish meal. Feeding trials with dogs and cats had gone well and further trials of insect meal in pig, chicken, turkey and fish diets are underway.

## Biofuels: A Mature but Growing Market for Rendered Products

Rohaise Low, senior biofuels economist at LMC International, provided some useful background to developments

in the vegetable oils market, which has been affected by the Ukraine conflict and more traditional challenges, such as the poor canola and palm oil harvests in Canada, Indonesia and Malaysia, respectively, and lower soy crushing in North America. She then explained how government policy, especially in the EU, drives demand almost entirely in the biodiesel sector. The current freezing or reducing of biofuels mandates to meet the need for higher food production may prove a temporary measure, but in the long term the EU needs more biodiesel and renewable diesel.

Animal fats and used cooking oil (UCO) are major feedstocks for these fuels. Eventually, EU authorities want to move transport towards electrification, but this will take time and, in any case, the aviation and maritime sectors are likely to need liquid fuels for many years to come.

## European Rendering Data

Dirk Dobbelaere, EFPPA secretary general, gave his customary statistical snapshot of the European rendering industry (the latest statistics refer to 2021). Some key points:

- Animal by-product processing is stable.
- Pet food remains the biggest market for proteins.
- Export of all PAPs is strong (approximately one-third of total EU PAPs is for export).
- The main export purpose of PAP is pet food.
- There is a continued increase of Category 3 and food-grade fats being used in biodiesel (up 5% from 2020).
- The fertilizer market is stable.
- However, the oleochemicals market reduced by 13%.
- Biodiesel is increasingly the biggest market for fats.

*See the sidebar on page 14 for more details.*

## Looking Forward to 2023

The 2023 EFPPA Congress will be held at the Hotel Royal Continental in Naples, Italy, on June 7-9, 2023. The Italian renderers association, ASSOGRASSI, will have a job to match the success of EFPPA 2022. **R**

Sjors Beerendonk, EFPPA president

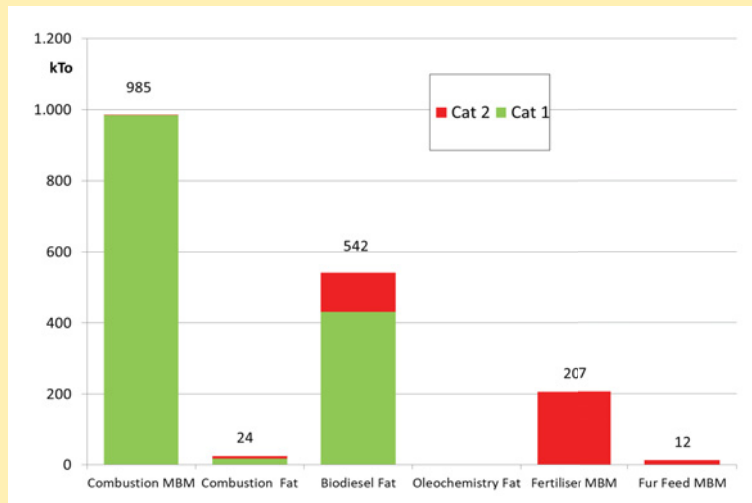
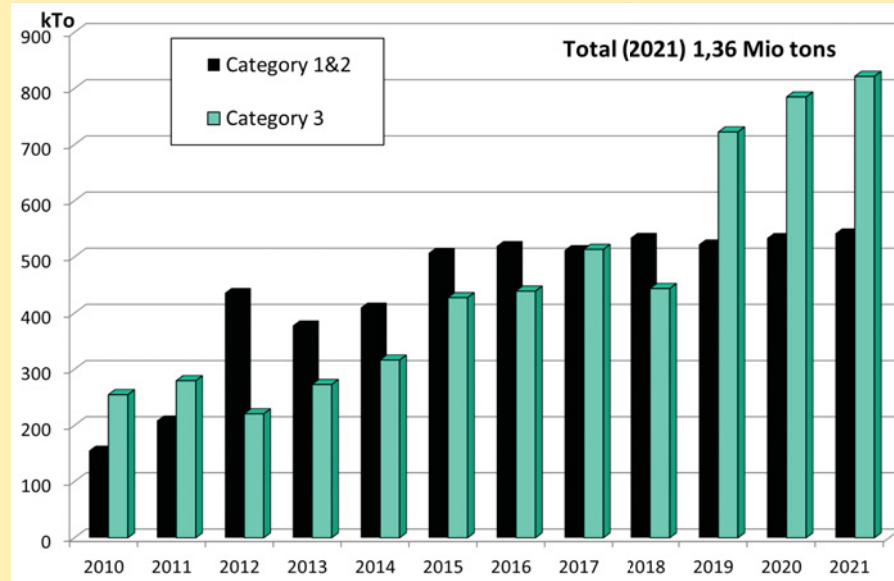


# European Renderers Look Increasingly to Export Markets

By Dirk Dobbelaere, EFPRA secretary general

## Livestock and Meat Supply

Dirk Dobbelaere, EFPRA secretary general, gave an update on the European rendering industry's latest statistics (2021). Beef production continues its slow contraction. This is not new but there are no signs of a reversal. Consumption is on the same trend, partly due to price but increasingly thanks to many disparate movements discouraging beef consumption on sustainability, health, welfare and other grounds. EU pigmeat production has been through one of its periodic cyclical troughs and this is turning around slowly. Two significant producers – Spain and



## Where are the ABPs going?

Dobbelaere explained combustion, biofuels and fertilizers are the three main markets for Category 1 and 2 materials. Biodiesel/renewable diesel is the biggest growing market for all categories of animal fat.

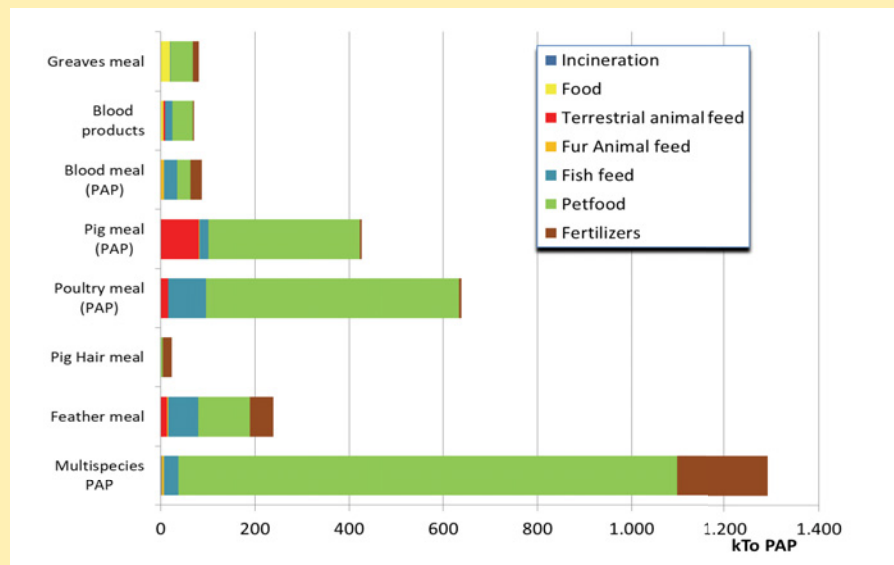
## Processed Animal Proteins Have Their Day, Too

EFPRA has data on production of all the main types of PAP and meal. This is destined mainly for the pet food market. Here is a breakdown of which types of the overall 2.85 mmt of PAP and food-grade meals go into which markets. The rapid growth in PAP going into fish feed has slowed somewhat recently.

Denmark – however, are expecting production to increase in 2022. Prices for farmers have also rebounded.

Spain is now the EU's biggest producer of pigmeat, taking over the top spot from Germany. However, the gradual spread of African swine fever, which jumped from the east of Germany to the French-German border at the time of the EFPRA Congress, is a major concern for all in the sector.

The poultry sector has been one of the brighter spots in recent years, despite occurrences of avian influenza. Production is relatively stable now and, despite strong European demand, the EU has a surplus and is a major presence on the world market.





## Translated into Rendered Products

The livestock sector provides renderers with its raw materials, so the overall livestock/meat figures need some translation, which Dobbelaere provided. Overall, the rendering industry (EFRA has data from 21 European countries, 18 EU plus 3 non-EU) processed 18.6 million metric tons (mmt) of raw material into over 3 mmt of animal fat and nearly 4.1 mmt of animal proteins. This transformation was done by renderers using 472 different production lines (from Category 1 to food) in 246 processing plants and 189 intermediate (collection) plants. The long-term trend is a gradual increase in animal by-product production (APB), from a low point below 15 mmt in 2005. Within the total APB figure is another trend – less Category 1 and 2 products and more Category 3 and food-grade material.

## Export Growth

The big feature of this year's statistical review was that European renderers are now exporting increasing amounts of their proteins to non-EU markets. Around one-third of all proteins was exported in 2021; the vast bulk of this is going into the pet food and fish feed markets.

## What of the Future?

The future is very uncertain in Europe, not least due to the Ukraine crisis, which will affect availability of feed and other agricultural inputs and, thus, meat production. It will also influence the speed and direction of developments in the biofuels sector. All of this impacts rendering. Nevertheless, the mood among renderers is good. While many challenges remain, the gradual reduction of restrictions on uses of rendered products is expected to continue, meaning more market opportunities becoming available, both within Europe and elsewhere. The EU rendering industry is increasingly gearing up for those outside opportunities. **R**

# Biodiesel at a Crossroad

By Bruce Ross,  
Ross Gordon Consultants SPRL

## International Roundup/ Europe

**T**he much-delayed Active Communications International Oleofuels conference had metamorphosed from Oleofuels 2020 through Oleofuels 2021 to become Oleofuels 2022 by the time it was held May 18-20 in the southern French town of Aix-en-Provence, which I attended and spoke at on behalf of the North American Renderers Association. This annual event has grown over the years to now involve 230 participants in person, plus more online, drawn from all parts of the oleofuels (vegetable oils and animal fats) world.

## Perfect Storm of EU Regulation

The conference was chaired by Angel Alberdi, secretary general of the European Waste-based & Advanced Biofuels Association. Alberdi described the myriad rules changes in the pipeline. While the second iteration of the EU's Renewable Energy Directive is currently being implemented, proposals to revise this directive – and make it more ambitious – are already under active discussion. While it is expected the rules will permit additional feedstocks to qualify for production of biodiesel and hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO), the number of such raw materials and the quantities available are likely to be limited. Conference participants spent much time discussing where these materials might come from, with no clear answer.

In the end, the EU intends for all new passenger vehicles to be electric by 2035. But this has not stopped new fuels from being developed – the EU has seen biobased naphtha and methane, as well as and synthetic fuels, gain market share – albeit slowly.

*Continued on page 16*



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## Where Are the Feedstocks?

Cornelius Claeys of Stratas Advisers was one of several speakers who focused on which feedstocks might be available in sufficient quantities, and which satisfy the EU's regulatory requirements. Amongst the obvious – including animal fats and used cooking oil (UCO) – he talked about the potential use of rotational crops such as camelina and cellulosic sources. Only one problem – neither he nor other speakers indicated where these materials could be found. He actually played down the speed at which the EU will be able to electrify vehicles, not least because transport fleet turnover times are so slow. He added supply and demand for biofuels will remain broadly in balance globally until 2030 and thereafter there is likely to be overcapacity – provided current expansions and new builds take place, which in his view, seems doubtful.

At least there was consensus on one topic – Category 3 animal fats will not be added to the list of feedstocks eligible for special treatment under EU renewables rules. It's true the EU renderers association, EFPRA, is fighting for this, but it may be a bridge too far. Some argue these fats should be made available for aviation biofuels.

## Technical Matters

Among the discussions of markets and regulations, time was found for producers of enzymes, bleaching earths and other treatments. Clariant, Desmet Ballestra, BDI-BioEnergy International, NextChem, Novozymes, PQ Corp. and others presented a variety of processes and products, for example to remove soaps, metals and phosphorus. Clariant pointed out it has had to develop a new range of adsorbents for new and emerging feedstocks being used.

## A Vegetable Oil Comeback?

The need for Europe to improve its food security as a result of the Ukraine crisis has already resulted in the suspension or reduction of some EU biofuels mandates in several member states, in order that land can be dedicated to food production. There was, however, much discussion at the conference of maximizing use of all potential feedstocks, including vegetable oils. The European Parliament may well vote in favor of allowing more crop-based biofuels in the future, bucking the current trend. A speaker from Saipol of France – a major oilseeds crusher – gave a spirited defense of the environmental advantages of oilseeds as a biofuels

feedstock and the added value they provide in the form of meals that can be used as animal feed.

One certainty as the Ukraine crisis drags on into the summer is this food-and-fuel debate is far from over. The EU's "Green Deal" and renewable energy strategies call for less vegetable oils to be used for biofuels, but the geopolitical situation necessitates the EU to reduce imports of fuels and to encourage more production of biofuels. Something's got to give.

## TotalEnergies Biorefinery

A feature of ACI Oleofuels conferences is a tour of a local biofuels facility. This year, delegates were hosted by TotalEnergies at the company's biorefinery at La Mède near Marseilles.

A senior TotalEnergies executive explained how since it started operations in July 2019, the La Mède biorefinery has moved to process a wide variety of certified raw materials, from rapeseed and other vegetable oils to waste sourced from the circular economy, such as UCO and animal fats. The two main outputs of the biorefinery are HVO and biobased naphtha, although it also has a small solar energy plant, and a pilot plant for algae-based fuels.

TotalEnergies has initially pledged to supply fuels each year based on no more than 450,000 metric tons of vegetable oils, including rapeseed, sunflower and palm oil; a maximum of 300,000 tons of certified palm oil; and a growing share of wastes and residues to support the circular economy, with a minimum of 25%.

TotalEnergies has committed to cease sourcing certified palm oil from Jan. 1, 2023. By 2030, the biorefinery should be running on wastes and residues only, which will necessitate greater pre-treatment capacity (degumming, bleaching, etc). Our host would not be drawn, however, into what specific feedstocks might be used and in what quantities, but they could include wood pulp, inter-crops, and other materials. **R**

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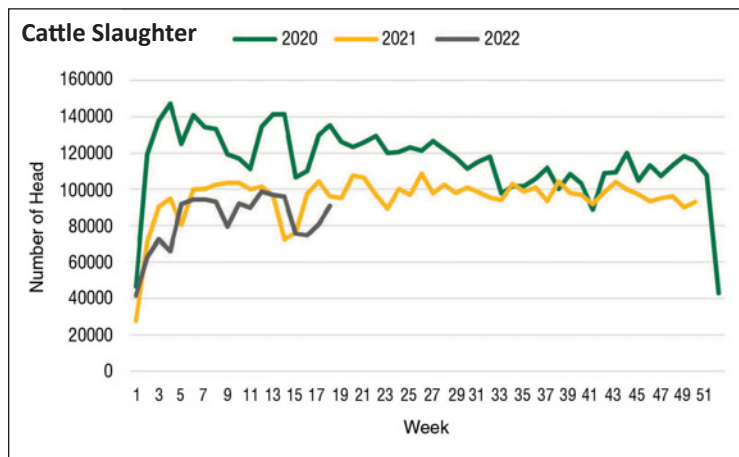
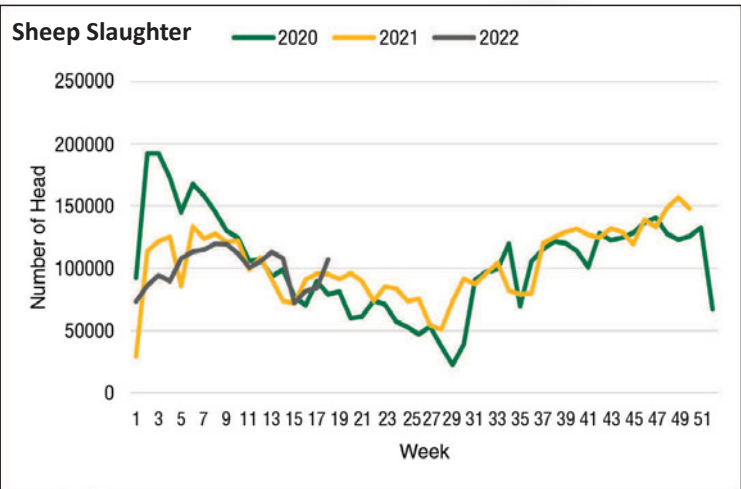
# An Australian Perspective

By Dennis King, Executive Officer,  
Australian Renderers Association Inc.

## International Roundup/ Australia

Finally, international borders to most destinations are open, which is allowing industry to get back to normal. However, disruption through shipping and logistics challenges continue to be an issue. From the Australian perspective, our biggest concern is the spread of lumpy skin disease and foot and mouth disease in Indonesia, right on our border. Our government and veterinary officers are working closely with Indonesian officials to assist them in their fight to stop the spread and to vaccinate their herds. Indonesia is a complex issue, as there are hundreds of islands spread over a very large area, and often in very remote places difficult to reach.

The Australian Renderers Association's hygienic rendering training course continues to attract maximum



capacity participation from members. It fulfills the vital role of training operators and managers in the hygienic production of rendered animal products. We continue to promote the need for all renderers to educate their supply chain to eliminate foreign matter from the raw material stream.

ARA's board of directors continues working hard to develop and implement the Australian rendering industry core strategies to ensure the future of our industry – market access, supply chain integrity and product development.

As predicted by Meat and Livestock Australia, slaughter numbers in Australia have remained soft. Moving into winter, the Bureau of Meteorology forecasts above-average rainfall for a large portion of the country, which could encourage producers to hold onto livestock and continue the herd rebuild and flock growth. MLA revised the prediction of the national cattle herd upward by 5.6% to 27.6 million head in 2022. The strong availability of pasture will accelerate the rebuild, with this affecting the cattle available for slaughter in the short term.

Sheep flock size is expected to grow by 4.9% to 74.4

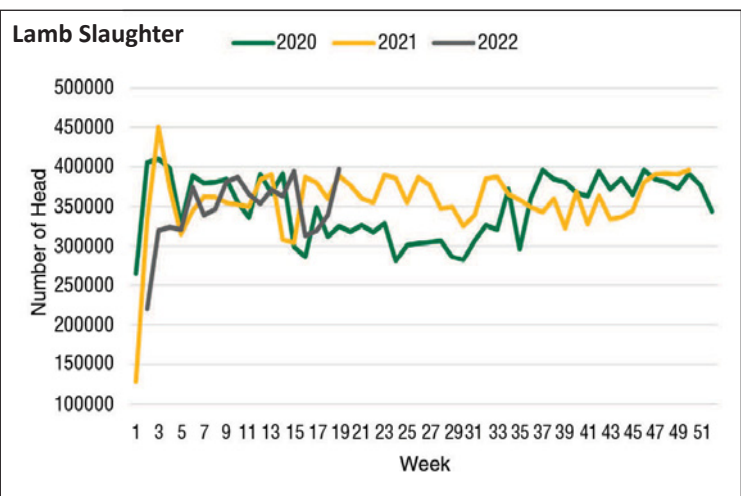
million head in 2022, reaching its highest level since 2013, according to MLA's latest projections. Continued strong seasonal conditions across key sheep-producing states of New South Wales and Victoria, as well as a favorable autumn and winter rainfall for Western Australia in 2021, were the key drivers in boosting the flock's growth in 2022.

Poultry production continues to grow with high beef and lamb prices driving consumers to eat more chicken. Slaughter for 2021 was 692 million with production expected to rise to 705 million in 2022.

Production of rendered protein meals remained at around 640,000 metric tons, while tallow and oil production were around 610,000 metric tons. These predictions all point to an ongoing excellent opportunity

for the rendering industry with improved production and demand along with strong prices for protein meals and fats.

We look forward to welcoming delegates to Brisbane in sunny Queensland for the Australian Renderers Association's 16th International Symposium to be held Sept. 27-30. Visit [www.arasymposium.com.au](http://www.arasymposium.com.au) for the latest information. **R**



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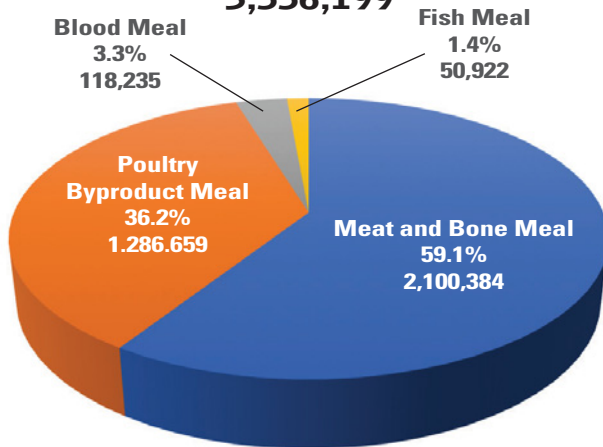
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# Animal Rendering in Brazil is a \$5.16 Billion Business

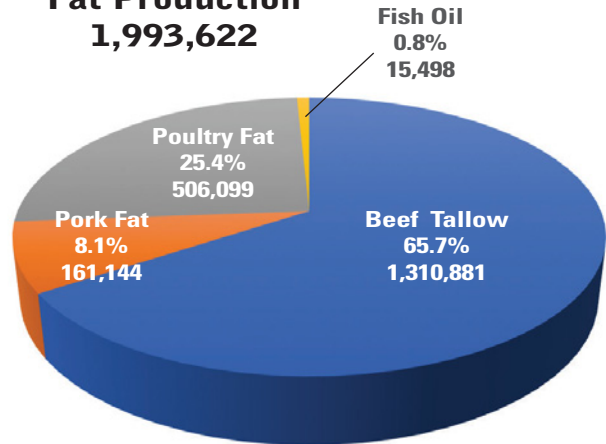
## International Roundup/ Brazil

Thank you to ABRA, the Brazilian renderers association, for sharing these statistics on the current state of rendering in their country. 2021 data in metric tons.

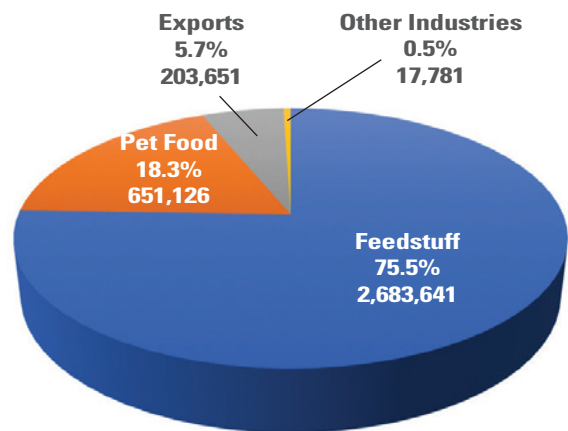
**Meal Production**  
3,556,199



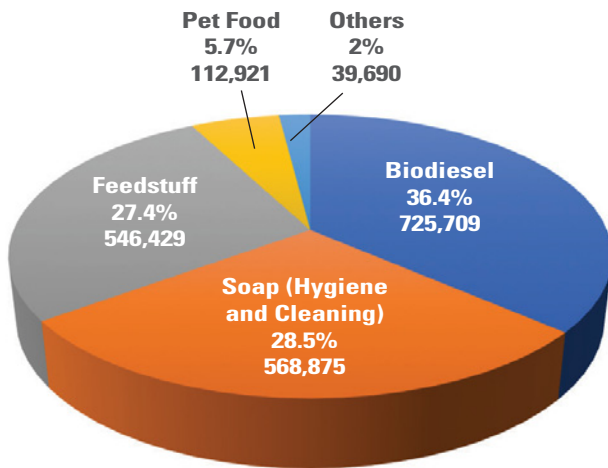
**Fat Production**  
1,993,622



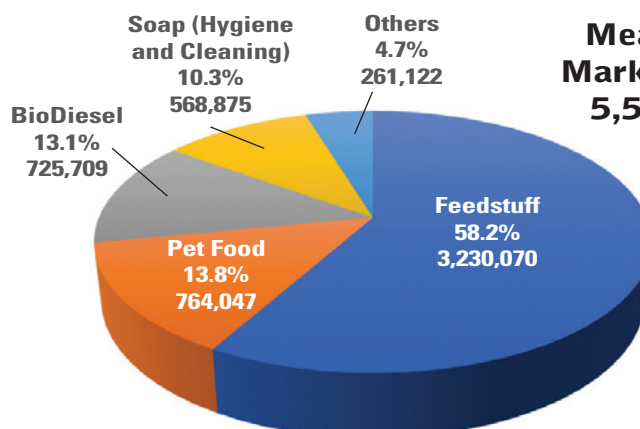
**Meal Market Share**  
3,556,199



**Fat Market Share**  
1,993,623



**Meal + Fat Market Share**  
5,549,822





*From left: Mike Smith, Rep. Adrienne Smith, Doyle Leefers and Kent Swisher at the congressional reception held during NARA's Fly-In.*

## First Half NARA Summary

**A**s we enter the dog days of summer, it gives us time to reflect over the first half of the year. In April, the North American Renderers Association completed its first in-person spring planning meeting since the COVID lockdowns, and it was good to see downtown Chicago starting to pick up again. In June, NARA successfully completed its fly-in after two years of absence. As we began to plan for the meeting, we realized we had booked the meeting over a federal holiday. Juneteenth was made a federal holiday last year, and it happened to coincide with our fly-in week.

This hiccup in planning did not stop NARA's members from bringing their message to Capitol Hill. Approximately 30 NARA members attended and heard speakers talk about the general situation in Washington, D.C., biofuels and transportation prior to the Hill meetings.

This year, NARA hosted an evening congressional reception on the first day. The reception was well attended and Rep. Tracey Mann, R-Kansas, gave opening comments. We plan to make this reception an annual event. Many thanks to the sponsors – Baker Commodities, Coast Packing Co. and BHT Resources. Other thanks go out to National Beef for supplying the beef for the reception, the Russell Group and Legislative Committee Chair, Dave Kaluzny, for his leadership. We have changed the dates for next year's fly-in to avoid the holiday. Please mark your calendars for June 14-16, 2023.

NARA also organized meetings after the fly-in for a delegation to meet with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service to discuss export markets, NARA's export program and a future outlook of FAS programs. The delegation also met with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to discuss a near breakdown in APHIS's ability to inspect and approve plants for export in a timely and

functional manner. The discussion in the meeting was direct, driving home the point that renderers provide an essential service, and that APHIS is an important part of the supply chain.

APHIS representatives in the meeting acknowledged and took ownership of the problems. They also laid out their actions to correct the situation. It appears APHIS's headquarters in Riverdale, Maryland, is now getting staffed fully, and there is oversight from higher-level APHIS officials in Washington over the plant-approval process.

On the Hill, gridlock continues. Talks between Sens. Chuck Shumer, D-New York, and Joe Manchin, D-West Virginia, on a reconciliation bill continue. In early July, talks between the two lawmakers seemed to be gaining ground, and it appeared that parts of the president's Build Back Better plan might be revived. However, it was put to death once more in mid-July, when Manchin backed away from the table after the Labor Department issued a report showing inflation hit 9.1% in June.

In an interview, Manchin said he could not support a budget bill that would raise hundreds of billions of dollars in tax revenue to spend on climate proposals. Hence, the biodiesel/renewable diesel tax credit, which expires at the end of the year, has not been extended. On a positive note, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized its proposed rule that increased the renewable volume obligation (RVO) for biomass-based diesel from 2.43 billion gallons in 2021 to 2.76 billion gallons in 2022. This expansion of the RVOs is a positive move and should help set the stage for EPA to set 2023 obligations.

Finally, on July 15, I testified before the U.S. House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis hearing titled, "Climate Smart from Farm to Fork: Building an Affordable and Resilient Food Supply Chain." The aim of the hearing was to "examine pathways to create a sustainable food system that is resilient in the face of climate change ... and to explore solutions to reduce heat-trapping pollution in the food chain supply, while ensuring access to affordable, safe and healthy food for all Americans." During the hearing, there were recommendations on what can be done.

However, the rendering industry is already a key component to a more affordable and resilient food supply chain. In my testimony, I pointed this out along with a warning about creating legislation that incentivizes the other recyclers to the detriment of the rendering industry. The message was well received and rendering got positive comments from committee members.

Rep. Buddy Carter, R-Georgia, stated, "Renderers play a vital role in the sustainability of the agriculture industry by utilizing nearly all of the by-products from the production of meat. So, in addition to preventing waste, they are also providing sustainability for multiple consumer products."

NARA will continue its efforts to be front and center in any climate discussions that revolve around agriculture's carbon footprint or food waste. **R**



Photos this page:

**Left:** Mike Karman (Sanimax), Tom Beseman (Central Bi), Thomas Roe (BMO Capital Markets), Jesse Unsicker (Wilbur-Ellis Nutrition), Mike Stemper (Brown Milling Supply).

**Below (from top to bottom):** Keith Meyer (Smithfield Foods), Andy Walters (G.A. Wintzer & Sons), Brett Sasser (Dupps), Sean Wintzer (G.A. Wintzer & Sons), Chad Cottrell (G.A. Wintzer & Sons), Jody Jenkin (Smithfield Foods), and Derek Michalski (International Feed).

Carol Baird, Brad Baird, Jessica LeRoy, Jack Webb, Angie Hartman, Jason Hartman (Mahoney Environmental).

Chris Karman (Sanimax), Theresa Beseman (Central Bi), Angie Hartman (Mahoney Environmental), Bernie Kaiser (International Feed)

## Central Region Convention Held in Minneapolis

Members of the Central Region of the North American Renderers Association met June 8-10 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in conjunction with the Animal Protein Producers Industry Code of Practice meeting. In the APPI meetings, 50 people completed the intensive Preventative Control Qualified Individual training over two days.

Central Region members learned more about employee safety and engagement from Steven Yates of Optimum Safety and got an update on the trucking industry from John Hausladen with the Minnesota Trucking Association. Adam Young of Seyfarth Shaw LLP gave a presentation on Occupational Safety and Health Administration inspections and Sarah Schieck Boehlke with the University of Minnesota addressed biosecurity for renderers.

Luke Greiner with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development led an open discussion on the current labor market, recruitment and retention and other industry trends. About 65 people attended the Vendor Tabletop event, where sponsors and attendees could meet and visit.

NARA's Eastern Region, which was invited and had several participants, sponsored a breakfast buffet followed more presentations, including the topic of boiler maintenance and operation by John Humphrey of Anderson Chemical

Co. Cooker maintenance and operation was addressed by Brett Sasser and Richard Weeks with Dupps Inc. As well, NARA staff members Anna Wilkinson and Dr. David Meeker addressed rendering sustainability and updates from the Fats and Protein Research Foundation, respectively.

After the day's business was done, members enjoyed either golf or lawn bowling, capped with a peaceful riverboat cruise on the *Minneapolis Queen*.

On the last day of the convention, new leadership for the Central Region was elected, including – Tom Beseman of Central Bi-Products, president; Robert Kaluzny of Kaluzny Bros., vice president; and Ryan Berkey of Darling, secretary/treasurer.



## Surprise Postponement for Key Vote



In the past three issues of this magazine, I have been reporting on the revision process for chapters on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, a topic that has been under consideration by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

TAHSC has been working on necessary improvements of these chapters, which are included in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code. This code is a type of “manual with wide governmental acceptance,” in which the minimum national actions are recommended to recognize the health status of a country against the most diverse animal diseases. In addition, it provides recommendations for the international trade of products and by-products of animal origin, including meals and fats of animal origin recognized by the World Trade Organization.

The World Renderers Organization has been debating with OIE about the need for adjustments to the proposed BSE text, submitting five technical opinions to the OIE TAHSC since September 2019. In particular, the version presented in September 2021, if implemented, would have the potential to interrupt much of the world trade in beef tallow and fat with unjustifiable rules (read the April and June editions of this column for more details).

For this reason, a virtual meeting took place in January between WRO and TAHSC to clearly explain to OIE the risks created by the proposed text. In February, the final text to be voted on was presented. Although the text includes important adjustments, WRO still understands there are significant improvements to be implemented, which is why WRO members again emphasized to TAHSC “critical points” to the stability of the international trade of meals and animal fats.

Despite this, the text was settled to be voted on at the 89th General Session of the OIE, held in May – a meeting that I had the opportunity to attend as a representative of WRO. The vote on the proposed TAHSC amendments was scheduled for May 24, and the meeting began that way – until it was time to vote on Chapters 11.4 and 1.8 concerning BSE.

To everyone’s surprise, or at least to the vast majority of those present, the president of TAHSC, Dr. Etienne Bonbon, announced the commission decided to remove Chapters 11.4

and 1.8 (referring to BSE) from the voting agenda, postponing it until the 2023 OIE’s General Session. This is an unusual situation for a global general session.

The floor was not even open to OIE members to express themselves on the proposed BSE chapters, nor the decision to postpone the vote itself. Instead, members were instructed to do so through official channels by sending a technical scientific presentation with suggestions for adjustments to the BSE chapters by July 15.

As a result, WRO gained at least two more opportunities to speak with the TAHSC (in September and next February), suggesting new and important adjustments to the chapters that should be kept under consultation at least until the OIE General Session in May 2023.

In other words, WRO’s scientific work advocating for improvements to OIE recommendations for the mitigation of BSE risk, as well as the international trade of meals and fats of animal origin, will continue throughout 2023. WRO would like to express our gratitude to all members that addressed their local veterinary authorities with the WRO “call to action.” We are sure members’ local efforts were crucial for this achievement.

## OIE is now WOA

The acronym OIE has been used since its foundation, under the name “Office International des Epizooties.” In 2003, its nomenclature was changed to “World Organization for Animal Health,” but it was chosen to keep its original acronym “OIE.” At the OIE general session, after a heated discussion, a relatively tight majority approved changing the acronym to WOA (World Organization for Animal Health) in English, ending 99 years of the acronym OIE. Therefore, from this article on, WOA will be used to refer to the World Organization for Animal Health.

## WRO Presentation to Global Alliance of Petfood Associations

WRO was invited to give a presentation at a Global Alliance of Petfood Associations technical meeting regarding the sustainability of rendered products for the petfood industry and the availability of our products in the coming years.

The presentation took place virtually on June 20, with 34 GAPFA members present for the chat. Afterwards, the U.S. Pet Food Institute invited WRO to repeat the presentation for its organization. The virtual presentation is booked for Aug. 17. **R**







## North American Meat Institute Votes to Strengthen Food Security

**T**he executive board of the North American Meat Institute voted in July to designate food security as a noncompetitive issue – similar to how the industry has worked on reducing pathogenic bacteria and adopting animal welfare guidelines in the past by sharing best practices.

“Meat is one of the most needed products for families in need, and the Meat Institute’s members give generously nationally and locally to meet this need,” said Julie Anna

Potts, NAMI president and CEO. “Ending hunger requires even greater collaboration. Declaring food security a noncompetitive issue will allow the Meat Institute and its members to freely share best practices, an especially important step as the industry prepares to support the September 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health.”

Through the Protein PACT for the People, Animals and Climate of Tomorrow, NAMI has committed to

fill the protein gap by 2025, ensuring families in need have enough high-quality protein to meet U.S. dietary guidelines. The institute has also established a food security committee to bring members together for facilitating discussion, information sharing, and problem solving related to charitable giving, hunger relief and food security – for example, cold storage and distribution infrastructure.

The Protein PACT will work with partner organizations, including NAMI, and experts in animal protein and food security to discuss animal protein’s role in ending hunger. Stakeholder session key outcomes will be submitted to the White House organizers for the Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health. **R**

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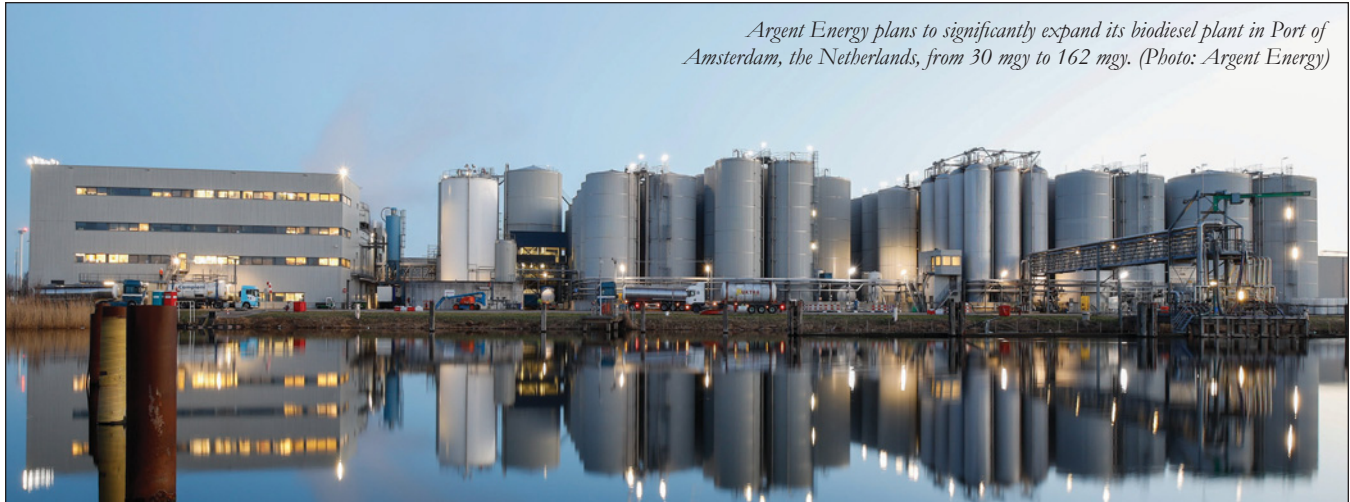
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*Argent Energy plans to significantly expand its biodiesel plant in Port of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, from 30 mgy to 162 mgy. (Photo: Argent Energy)*

## Western Governments' Biofuel Policy Trifecta

**T**hree major biofuel-related regulatory and legislative developments have taken place over the past two months in prominent Western federal governments, including the U.S., Canada and the EU.

In early June, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its long-overdue Renewable Fuel Standard final rule on renewable volume obligations (RVO) for 2021 and 2022 total renewable fuel, advanced and cellulosic biofuels, and the 2022 RVO for biobased diesel. The final rule was much like its December proposal, with some notable differences.

As proposed, the agency is increasing the 2022 biobased diesel RVO from 2.43 billion gallons in 2021, which was set two years ago, to 2.76 billion gallons. The advanced biofuel final RVOs for 2021 and 2022 are lower than the December proposal, now set at 5.05 billion and 5.63 billion ethanol-equivalent gallons, respectively. The agency had proposed setting those volumes at 5.2 billion and 5.77 billion gallons.

EPA is also reducing the previously set 2020 advanced biofuel RVO from 5.09 billion to 4.63 billion gallons. In addition, the agency is retroactively lowering total biofuel volumes for 2020 by nearly 3 billion gallons, from 20.09 billion gallons to 17.13 billion. The 2020 biobased diesel RVOs are unaffected by this. For 2021 and 2022, the agency is setting total biofuel RVOs at 18.84 billion (up from the proposal) and 20.63 billion gallons (down from the proposal), respectively.

This and other concurrently published EPA rules included important information outside of the RVOs, such as setting regulations for biointermediates, a proposed alternative RIN-retirement schedule for refineries, the denial of 69 small refinery exemption petitions for the 2016-2021 RFS compliance years and more.

Canada also released its final Clean Fuel Regulations after a draft rule came out in December 2020. Key elements include a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction requirement of approximately 15% for gasoline and diesel by 2030, along with opt-in eligibility for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). The regulations go into effect next July.

“By establishing a national credit market for clean fuels, the regulation will support investments in clean fuel production

capacity and infrastructure and create stable, well-paying clean-energy jobs,” said Ian Thomson, president of Advanced Biofuels Canada. “As we’ve witnessed in established clean fuel standard markets, enhanced competition between fuel marketers will relieve high prices at the pumps for gasoline and diesel fuels.”

Across the pond, the European Parliament is ready to negotiate with member states after adopting its position on new draft EU rules to increase the uptake of SAF to cut emissions from aviation. Members of the European Parliament increased the European Commission’s original proposal of 32% by 2040 and 63% by 2050, to 37% by 2040 and 85% by 2050 – starting with 2% in 2025.

Parliament also amended the proposed definition of SAF to include recycled carbon fuels produced from waste processing and industrial exhaust gases. It also suggested some biofuels produced from animal fats or distillates could be included in the aviation-fuel mix until 2034, excluding feed and food crop-based fuels, and those derived from palm oil, soybeans and soap stock. Creation of a Sustainable Aviation Fund from 2023 to 2050 was also proposed.

## North America

Chevron Corp. completed its acquisition of North America’s largest biodiesel producer, Renewable Energy Group Inc., in June. REG operates 10 biodiesel refineries in the U.S. and Europe and one renewable diesel refinery in Louisiana undergoing a major expansion. Last year, REG produced 480 million gallons of biodiesel and renewable diesel. Former REG president and CEO CJ Warner now sits on Chevron’s board of directors.

The first of six mobile biodiesel-fueling stations in Hawaii opened in June at Ma’alaea Small Boat Harbor on Maui. Pacific Biodiesel installed and will operate the off-grid stations, giving customers round-the-clock access to 100% biodiesel (B100). In 2021, Pacific Biodiesel received infrastructure funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to manufacture the 8,000-gallon units.

SAF has been delivered to New York City by pipeline for the first time. The SAF reached its destination at LaGuardia Airport through the Colonial and Buckeye pipeline systems to power a Delta Air Lines flight. The fuel was manufactured by Neste Corp., which completed final processing of its branded SAF at a Texas refinery that previously produced chemicals. The fuel was loaded into Colonial Pipeline and transported nearly 1,500 miles across 11 states to New Jersey before entering the Buckeye Pipeline and sent on to LaGuardia.

On the East Coast of Canada, Cresta Funds Management has selected Topsoe's HydroFlex™ process technology for manufacturing renewable diesel and SAF at the former petroleum refinery in Come By Chance, Newfoundland. Renamed Braya Renewable Fuels, the biorefinery will initially produce up to 260 million gallons per year (mgy) of renewable diesel and SAF by later this year. Cresta acquired a controlling interest in the refinery, previously known as North Atlantic Refining Co., last November.

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## U.S. State Policy News

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds signed new biofuels legislation into law increasing the state's biodiesel production tax credit from 2 cents to 4 cents per gallon (cpg). The law maintains a fuel-tax differential for biodiesel but applies it to B20 blends rather than B11. It extends current fuel retailer tax credits for B11 and higher, while introducing new credits for higher blends like B20 (7 cpg) and even B30 (10 cpg). Reynolds originally proposed the legislation, named the Governor's Biofuels Access Bill.

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## Europe

Cargill's new 35 mgy waste-based biodiesel facility in Ghent, Belgium, is now operating. Under construction since late 2020, the \$150 million project was designed and built by BDI-BioEnergy International utilizing its patented RepCat process. The plant, which utilizes UCO and tallow among other

recycled feedstocks, is one of the largest waste-to-biofuel facilities in Europe and Cargill's first to use waste.

U.K.-based Argent Energy plans to expand its biodiesel plant in the Port of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, by 440%, from 30 mgy to 162 mgy. Construction is expected to begin this summer, provided permits are obtained, and production should start by fall 2023. The company has been producing biodiesel from waste fats and oils since 2005. The U.K. producer invested in the Amsterdam plant in 2018.

Neste has made a final investment decision to significantly expand biobased diesel production capacity in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The company will spend 1.9 billion euros (USD\$2 billion) to nearly double capacity from almost 475 mgy to approximately 915 mgy. Around 44% of its total, expanded renewable capacity in Rotterdam, or approximately 406 mgy, will be capable of producing SAF. Neste plans for the expansion to be complete in 2026. Neste anticipates its global annual capacity to spike from 1.1 billion gallons currently to 2.3 billion gallons by late 2026 once its Singapore, California (Marathon JV) and Rotterdam projects are complete.

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## South America

JBS Biodiesel, a unit of JBS Novos Negócios, has opened a new 98 mgy biodiesel plant in the city of Mafra in Santa Catarina, Brazil. With an investment of 180 million Brazilian reais (USD\$33.4 million), the new production facility brings JBS's total biodiesel production capacity from 92 mgy to around 190 mgy.

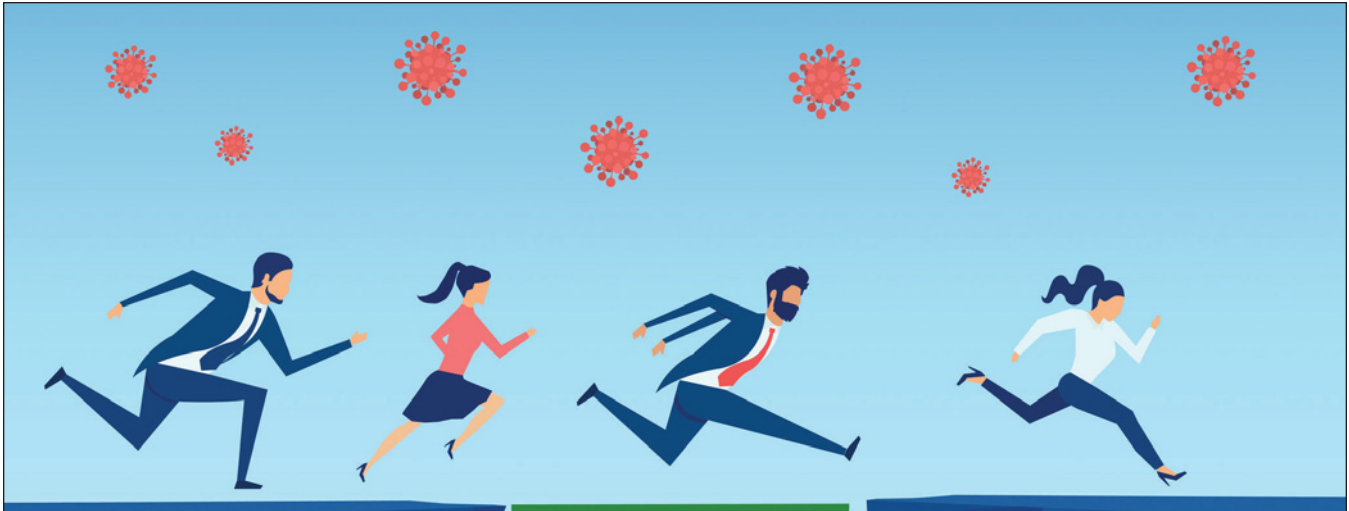
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## Asia

In Japan, where the government is targeting 10% SAF in aviation fuel by 2030, an agreement has been reached between JGC Holdings Corp., Kansai Airports and Revo International for the supply of UCO from restaurants and other sources at the three airports operated by Kansai Airports Group for SAF production. **R**



*The new JBS Biodiesel plant in Mafra, Santa Catarina, Brazil, is scaled at 98 mgy and more than doubles the company's total biodiesel production capacity. (Photo: JBS)*



## COVID-19 Goes Viral

*Virus, enforcement and employer guidance continue to evolve*

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is constantly changing and accumulating mutations in its genetic code over time. New variants of SARS-CoV-2 are expected to continue to emerge. Some variants will emerge and disappear, while others will emerge and continue to spread and may replace previous variants.”

For instance, a newer version of COVID has resulted in the fifth wave of illness and is now dominant in the U.S. The coronavirus subvariant known as omicron BA.5 is driving the majority of new cases, according to the CDC. A similar subvariant, BA.4, makes up approximately 17% more. Studies further indicate COVID-19 reinfections are associated with lasting health effects and long-COVID symptoms.

The Food and Drug Administration has noted vaccines and boosters currently available are significantly less effective against these new variants, and the agency is working with vaccine manufacturers to tailor boosters that address these inadequacies, as well as to anticipate further evolution of the virus.

On June 30, after discussion and vote by the Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee, the FDA issued a statement explaining that it is advising “manufacturers seeking to update their COVID-19 vaccines that they should develop modified vaccines that add an omicron BA.4/5 spike protein component to the current vaccine composition to create a two component (bivalent) booster vaccine, so that the modified vaccines can potentially be used starting in early to mid-fall 2022.”

At the March 2022 American Bar Association-Occupational Safety and Health Administration conference, federal OSHA upper-level management declared COVID-19 to be the agency’s top enforcement priority for 2022. The agency has continued its National Emphasis Program to allow its inspectors to expand inspections into COVID-19 hazards.

The National Emphasis Program specifically targets three NAICS codes (an industry classification system used by

federal statistical agencies) in the meat processing industry for programmed COVID-19 inspections. This suggests renderers and meat by-product processors may also face disproportionate scrutiny from OSHA agencies. Unionized facilities greatly outpace other facilities in terms of their share of inspections and citations as well.

If OSHA comes out to the worksite for any other inspection, the compliance officer may try expanding the inspection to examine COVID-19 hazards and request a copy of written program documents. OSHA enforces COVID-19 hazards (other than with healthcare and nursing homes) through its record-keeping regulations and the general duty clause that requires employers to provide a workplace free from recognized hazards. OSHA must prove general duty clause citation by showing that the abatements undertaken by the employer were insufficient to address the hazard.

COVID-19 also has been relevant regarding worker’s compensation claims brought by employees who allegedly contracted COVID-19 at work. We have also seen third-party litigation in California relating to employees who allegedly brought home COVID-19 from work and infected household members.

Unfortunately, employers continue to struggle with what COVID-19 precautions and protocols are still necessary 28 months into the pandemic, and whether their abatements are sufficient. OSHA’s COVID-19 temporary emergency standard was thrown out by the Supreme Court. Federal OSHA has not advised employers on how to address new strains or issue employers any updated guidance since Aug. 13, 2021, despite the long-standing promise of an “update coming soon.”

The prospect of new strains of COVID-19, reinfections and lasting health effects have led many employers to revisit their COVID-19 precautions and policies. Employers with vaccination requirements continue to update those policies, including new booster requirements to ensure employee safety from new variants.

**R**

## Smithfield Foods Donates \$15,000 to Recharge Teen Center

Smithfield Foods Inc.'s Monmouth, Illinois, facility presented a \$15,000 donation to Recharge Teen Center, a newly renovated safe place for community youth to recharge, find enrichment and access resources including a food and hygiene pantry, washer and dryer, kitchen and gaming room, and library of 400 donated books for young adults.

The center is open weekdays 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. to area youth entering eighth grade through age 18. Activities offered on a rotating schedule include cooking classes, art therapy, workforce and leadership development support, literature review, homework assistance, mindfulness classes, and volunteer and philanthropic opportunities.

In addition to Smithfield's donation, members of the company's Monmouth facility leadership team have volunteered to mentor teens serviced by the center and will provide education and development opportunities focused on economics, budgeting, workplace safety and industry career opportunities.



## Longtime Meat Industry Figure Savell Promoted, Awarded

The American Meat Science Association announced Dr. Jeffrey W. Savell as the 2022 AMSA R.C. Pollock Award honoree. Savell was honored during the 75th AMSA Reciprocal Meat Conference awards presentation in June. The R.C. Pollock Award is presented in honor of the first general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. Pollock, a leader dedicated to the advancement of meat science, was the moving force in establishing the Reciprocal Meat Conference. The award honors a dedicated AMSA member whose work through teaching, extension, research, or service represents an extraordinary and lasting contribution to the meat industry.

Savell was also named vice chancellor and dean of Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in June. A past president of the AMSA and member of the Meat Industry Hall of Fame, Savell has been identified among the top 2% of most-cited researchers in the world, according to Texas A&M President Katherine Banks. During his tenure at Texas A&M, Savell has taught some 12,000 Aggies (including this editor) and produced 150 graduate students who became leaders in academia, industry and government.

## Rome Grinding Solutions Celebrates 45 Years

Rome Grinding Solutions is a third-generation, family-operated business that has always been majority women-owned and is celebrating its 45th year of operations. The company was founded in 1977 by Dolores and Dan Boster in Ankeny, Iowa, as a refined oil and milling equipment manufacturer.

In 1986, the company moved to Sheldon, Iowa, where the headquarters are still located. In 1989, Rome was then purchased by the Boster's daughter, Bonnie Weaver, and her husband, Mike Weaver. Less than a decade later, the market demand shifted the company's focus to food processing and in 1997, the first two complete grinders were sold to a large meat processor. In 2002, Weavers' daughter, Kate Rome, became partial owner and, in 2015, assumed the role of president.

## Tyson Foods Buys Stake in Saudi Poultry Company

Tyson Foods Inc. and Saudi-based Tanmiah Food Co. have entered into a strategic partnership, according to a July 5 Tyson press release. Tanmiah is a provider of fresh and value-added poultry and other meat products, animal feed and health products and a foods brand franchise operator.

Through the agreement, Tyson Foods will acquire a 15% equity stake in the Tanmiah subsidiary Agriculture Development Co. and a 60% equity stake in Supreme Foods Processing Co. The transaction is still subject to approval by regulators.

The company expects to open seven new, fully cooked plants outside the U.S. over the next two years, with six in Asia and one in Europe. Global protein consumption is projected to rise by nearly 95 billion pounds over the next 10 years, with much of that demand happening outside the U.S.

## Supreme Court Rejects Petition Against Beef Checkoff

For years, a splinter group of ranchers, mostly in the northern states, known as the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, has filed lawsuit after lawsuit in its crusade against the beef checkoff program. In late June, the U.S. Supreme Court denied its petition to hear one such case that grew to included 13 state beef checkoff councils and the national beef checkoff program.

In response, Colin Woodall, CEO of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, said, "For too long we have allowed R-CALF and their attorneys to divide our industry and draw attention away from the important job of beef promotion and research. The Supreme Court's rejection of R-CALF's petition confirms the Beef Checkoff, and its overseers, are adhering to the letter and spirit of the laws that protect and guide producer investments in the program."

# Mark Your Calendar

## August

**American Feed Industry Association/Kansas State University Fundamentals of Feed Manufacturing**  
Aug. 2-Sept. 6, online course • [afia.org/events](http://afia.org/events)

## September

**2022 Liquid Feed Symposium**  
Sept. 7-9, New Orleans, LA • [afia.org/events](http://afia.org/events)

**Australian Renderers Association International Symposium**  
Sept. 27-30, Brisbane QLD • <https://ausrenderers.com.au/>

## October

**USPOULTRY Protein and Fat Seminar**  
Oct. 5-7, Nashville, TN • [uspoultry.org/industrycalendar](http://uspoultry.org/industrycalendar)

**American Fats and Oils Association Annual Meeting**  
Oct. 12-13, Savannah, GA • [fatsandoils.org](http://fatsandoils.org)

## October (cont'd)

**Protein Pact 2022 Summit**  
Oct. 13-14, Orlando, FL • [meatinstitute.org](http://meatinstitute.org)

**2022 North American Renderers Association Annual Convention**  
Oct. 23-28, Dana Point, CA • [nara.org/about-us/events](http://nara.org/about-us/events)

## November

**2022 Equipment Manufacturers Conference**  
Nov. 9-11, St. Petersburg, FL • [afia.org/events](http://afia.org/events)

## December

**National Aboveground Storage Tank Conference and Trade Show**  
Dec. 6-7, The Woodlands, TX • [nistm.org](http://nistm.org)

*Meeting information could change so visit [www.rendermagazine.com](http://www.rendermagazine.com) for a complete updated list of industry events.*

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