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August 2026

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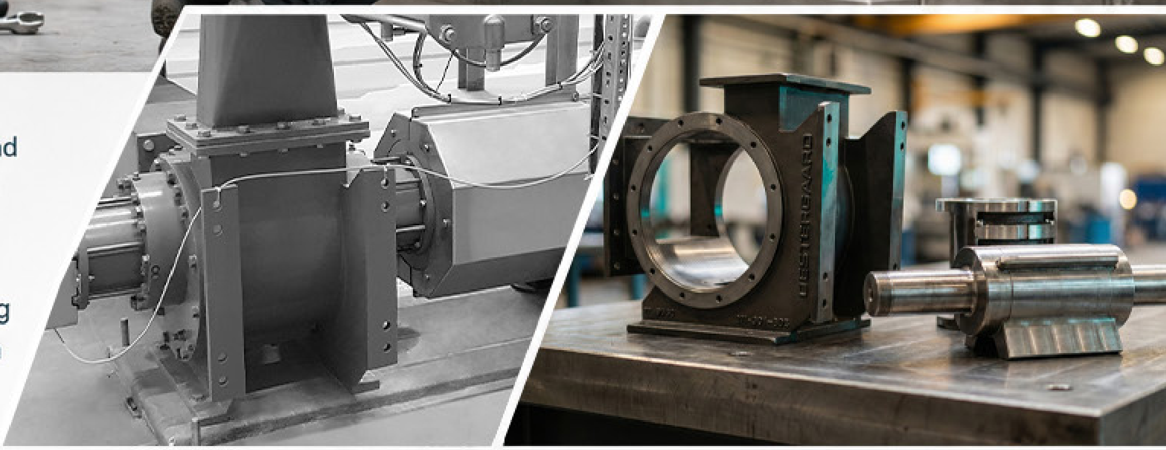

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Departments

Editorial staff

Editor and Publisher
Sharla Ishmael

Associate Editor
Ron Kotrba

Magazine Production
Raised Brow Productions

Phone: (888) 927-3634
editors@rendermagazine.com
www.rendermagazine.com

Contact the North American Renderers Association
500 Montgomery St., Ste. 310, Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-0155 Fax (571) 970-2279
info@nara.org • www.nara.org

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Out of Sight, Out of Mind?

No matter what sector of the rendering industry you're in, chances are there is some belt-tightening going on — that's probably true of about every industry. Fuel is higher, energy is higher, many of your input costs are likely going up. Even *Render* magazine is getting hit with higher paper and postage costs. During uncertain times like these, marketing dollars are often one of the first areas where some companies cut back.

Research shows that's not a good idea for the long-term health of a company

For example, a review of 40 studies published in the *Journal of Advertising Research* found that firms maintaining or increasing advertising during recessions — granted, we aren't there yet — generally achieved higher sales, market share and earnings after the downturn than firms that cut advertising.

Other studies from *Marketing Science* and the *Journal of Marketing* found that advertising can actually be more effective during rough economies because competitors often reduce spending, which craters their visibility but enhances the profile of companies that continued to advertise.

Think about that. What better time to get a leg up on the competition than when they go silent and become less visible to customers and prospects?

Of course, marketing is more than advertising. For many companies in rendering, exhibiting at trade shows like NARA's Tabletop Night at the annual convention is a key tool to enhance the visibility of their brand and cultivate relationships with the people who make purchasing decisions. Even companies that are already well-known benefit from regular visibility, whether in the pages of *Render* or at the Tabletop Night coming up in October in Arizona.

Cutting back on marketing expenses might save some money in the short term, but ultimately it will cost more to rebuild the brand awareness that was lost.

Marketing is important to active renderers as well as their suppliers. Renderers can remind existing customers and potential partners of their capabilities, quality standards, certifications and commitment to service. Keeping your company name in front of potential employees is also an essential recruiting tool, especially for executive positions.

Keeping your business out in front of *Render's* readers and NARA's convention attendees will ensure customers think of your company first when projects move forward or budgets become available. Let's talk about how advertising in *Render* can keep your company top of mind through good times and tough ones. Shoot me an email at editors@rendermagazine.com or call 888-927-3634. **R**

Sharla Ishmael
Editor/Publisher

By Tyson Redpath, The Russell Group

Trump Puts His Own 'Greatest Trade Deal' Back on the Clock

Six years after U.S. President Donald Trump celebrated the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement as a replacement for the "worst trade deal ever made," his administration declined renewal of its signature trade achievement. On July 1, the U.S. joined Canada and Mexico for the agreement's first mandatory review but refused to extend USMCA in its current form for another 16 years.

The decision does not terminate the agreement, at least not yet. USMCA remains in effect, preserving preferential trade among the three countries while negotiations continue. That preferential trade treatment has exempted scores of products under other tariffs levied this past year by Trump. But under the agreement's novel sunset provision, failure to renew requires the countries to conduct another review every year until they agree to an extension — otherwise the pact expires in 2036. A country may also withdraw separately by providing six months' notice. Setting rhetoric aside, the president has not killed USMCA — he has placed it on a 10-year clock.

The move was hardly a surprise. In the weeks leading up to the review, Trump openly questioned the value of the agreement he negotiated during his first term. "I'm not looking to renew it," the president said from the White House June 10, arguing that Canada and Mexico need access to the American market far more than the U.S. needs theirs. Later, he went further, saying he would rather not have USMCA at all, even while leaving open the possibility of signing a revised agreement.

Those words have been matched by action. U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer has already completed two rounds of bilateral negotiations with Mexico, with a third scheduled for the week of July 20 in Mexico City. The talks have focused on automotive rules of origin, steel and aluminum, agriculture, labor, environmental standards and what the administration calls "economic security."

At the center of these discussions is a desire to prevent companies from using Mexico as a back door for Chinese and other nonmarket goods to enter the U.S. under favorable USMCA treatment.

The administration wants stronger rules requiring more North American — particularly more U.S. — content in manufactured products. The most consequential proposal reported from the talks would require half of the value of an automobile receiving USMCA treatment to originate in the U.S.

Currently, vehicles generally must meet a 75% North American content requirement, without a separate minimum reserved exclusively for U.S. production. Such a change would be intended to pull auto investment north from Mexico, but automakers warn it could also raise costs and further complicate a supply chain designed around components crossing the border several times before a vehicle reaches the showroom.

Canada, meanwhile, has not received the same amount of love. Greer has described U.S. issues with Canada as "significant," citing disputes involving automobiles, dairy market access and Canadian retaliation against American tariffs. Trump's separate tariffs on automobiles, steel and aluminum have added another layer of tension, making clear that the administration no longer views compliance with USMCA as an automatic shield against other U.S. trade actions.

On Capitol Hill, there is more agreement on the need for changes than might be expected, although lawmakers differ sharply over Trump's tactics. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith praised the decision not to rubber-stamp the agreement, pointing to Mexican policies that discriminate against U.S. energy investors and Canada's continuing restrictions on American dairy products. Smith also wants to close loopholes allowing countries outside North America to benefit indirectly from USMCA preferences.

Trade Subcommittee Chairman Adrian Smith has offered a similar assessment, emphasizing that nonrenewal is not termination but an opportunity to strengthen enforcement. Earlier this year, Smith pressed USTR to improve the speed of USMCA dispute settlement, noting how long American corn growers waited before prevailing against Mexico's restrictions on genetically engineered corn.

Democrats are hardly united behind an automatic extension either. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, joined by major labor unions and more than 100 House Democrats, has argued that USMCA failed to halt offshoring and needs major proworker changes. Ways and Means Ranking Member Richard Neal has openly called for worker protections but accused the administration of creating unnecessary trade chaos and warned that North American economic integration should not become another casualty of the president's tariff fights.

That leaves the administration with an unusual political opening. Republicans want tighter origin rules, stronger enforcement and more domestic manufacturing. Many Democrats want tougher labor standards, fewer incentives to offshore production and greater protection for strategic industries. The disagreement is less about whether USMCA should change than whether tariffs, bilateral pressure and annual uncertainty are the best ways to accomplish it. **R**

From left, Bryan Colorado, assistant farm manager at one of LANEC's shrimp farms in Ecuador, and Moises Huerta of NARA.

Three months, five countries, one clear message: Latin America is ready to do business with NARA members.

By Moises Huerta, NARA Regional Director for Latin America

When I took on this role, I knew it couldn't be a desk job. Carrying the North American Renderers Association's message across Latin America means getting into the field, and that's exactly what these first months have looked like. I have been meeting with importers, feed producers, livestock, aquaculture and pet food companies, industry associations, regulators and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service in each country. It's from these visits, across all five countries, that this story comes together.

The journey started in Mexico — NARA's largest market in the region — where importers and NARA Ambassadors ED&F Man, Proteínas Marinas y Agropecuarias, Scoular and Tecnoalimentos gave me a firsthand look at how deep this relationship already runs in the country. From there I went on to Ecuador and Chile, where two stops captured my attention — LANEC in Ecuador, one of the country's most established shrimp producers, and AquaChile in southern Chile, a leading name in salmon.

Talking with the people who run those operations day to day alongside NARA Ambassadors Aniprotein, Balcamsa and Terramar, which supply them with U.S. rendered protein meals, gave me a real feel for what sits behind the headline numbers: Ecuador is the world's largest exporter of shrimp, and Chile is the world's second-largest exporter of farmed salmon. The trip continued to Peru and Colombia, where once again I found companies and industries with real, untapped potential.

In every market, doors opened. Granted, not every market is converting into trade today, but the message coming back to NARA members is clear: Latin America wants a closer relationship with U.S. renderers.

Why This Region, Right Now

Latin America is a key global market for U.S. food and agricultural exports, taking in nearly 30% of the total in 2025. It's also one of the fastest-growing. Imports of U.S. agricultural products rose 66% between 2015 and 2025, reaching $55.1 billion, while U.S. agricultural exports to the rest of the world grew only 23% over the same period. Behind that growth is a region of roughly 660 million people, a rising middle class and increasing demand for animal protein.

For U.S. rendered animal proteins and fats specifically, Latin America imported over 500,000 metric tons (mt) in 2025, worth nearly $500 million — or roughly a third of total U.S. export volume. Mexico, Ecuador and Chile anchor that position today, with Peru and Colombia representing the region's clearest growth opportunities. Latin America's feed production reached roughly 204 million metric tons (mmt) in 2025, and Mexico alone is the world's fifth-largest animal feed producer.

Ecuador's shrimp industry and Chile's salmon industry, where NARA members already have real access, represent two of the clearest success stories in that total, but they're not the whole picture. Livestock, pet food and other aquaculture markets across the region still have real room to grow, but finding where specifically remains the work ahead. Brazil is the constant competitor across the region. Notably, recent elections across the region have also brought in more market-oriented governments, several of them eager for closer commercial ties with the U.S.

Mexico: Protecting and Nurturing the Anchor Market

Mexico remains the largest market in the region, accounting for more than half of all U.S. rendered product exports to Latin America. A handful of importers handle more than 90% of the animal protein meal that enters the country — all established, repeat buyers of U.S. product, particularly for pet food, where the relationship is mature and trusted.

That maturity comes with rising expectations. As Mexican pet food and feed industries become more sophisticated, they're holding suppliers to a higher standard on consistency and quality, a natural progression worth taking seriously. Brazilian suppliers have begun reaching out to Mexican importers and the Mexican government, though early trial shipments have run into logistics and pricing challenges.

Importers have asked for more direct, technical engagement: plant visits, supplier meetings and exposure to the U.S. rendering industry. That input is shaping an ambassadors program that NARA is developing, starting in Mexico, to bring Latin American demand closer to the U.S. supply. Pet food has been the traditional stronghold, but there's room to grow U.S. presence in Mexican livestock formulations too.

Ecuador: World's Top Shrimp Exporter, Ready to Go Further

Shrimp surpassed oil in 2025 as Ecuador's top export for the first time in 50 years, with exports growing to over $8 billion. People at LANEC, one of the country's most established shrimp producers, and elsewhere, credited this clear success story not only to the country's ideal natural production conditions, but also to investment in health and genetics, industry innovation and an entrepreneurial push from Ecuadorian businessmen. Local industry experts estimate continued two-digit annual growth in the coming years.

Ecuador is also ready to go further with NARA members beyond shrimp. At Bioalimentar, one of the country's top livestock and pet food producers, leadership described real interest in increased use of U.S. rendered animal proteins, including bovine meal. They're also interested in workshops, technical assistance and a formulator program to help their teams understand the nutritional quality and cost efficiency that U.S. rendered animal proteins bring to a formulation. That lines up with feedback from Agrocalidad, Ecuador's rendered products regulator. The agency welcomes that kind of NARA-led training.

U.S. rendered products already hold close to a 90% share of Ecuador's rendered products imports, nearly 90,000 mt in 2025, making Ecuador NARA's second-largest market in the region. On pet food, CENMA, Ecuador's pet food producers committee, shows domestic production growing from roughly 114,000 mt in 2020 to 141,000 mt in 2024 — an industry worth $174 million and supporting some 4,500 jobs.

Ecuador's poultry association, CONAVE, and swine association, ASPE, also want to work more closely with NARA. Notably, bovine meal demand is real but market access exists only on paper because no U.S. plant is currently registered to export it.

Chile: Salmon's Global No. 2, Aiming to Double Production by 2050

Salmon is Chile's second-largest export product after copper, generating roughly $6.5 billion in 2025 and a meaningful contributor to national gross domestic product (GDP). At AquaChile, one of the country's leading salmon producers, it is clear to see the reasons behind Chilean salmon's global success. They have optimal natural conditions and a world-class industry that continues to invest in best production practices, unmatched resilience and a relentless drive to keep improving.

Notably, Chilean producers are now pursuing the Salmon 2050 Plan, an industry initiative to double national production to 2 mmt by 2050, with a more market-oriented government expected to ease regulatory constraints that have allegedly limited faster growth.

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From left, Moises Huerta, NARA's Latin America regional director, and Alvaro Bravo, director of operations at Grupo Nutec, a Queretaro, Mexico-based producer of pet food and livestock/aquaculture feed.

Chile is ready to go further with NARA members. Local industry contacts described real interest in workshops, technical assistance and a formulator program to understand the nutritional and cost-efficiency advantages that U.S. rendered animal proteins can bring to a salmon diet, where inclusion rates can reach up to 25%. Feeding trials, run directly with interested companies, came up repeatedly as the most credible next step to prove that case.

The U.S. doesn't have the market share in Chile that it should, and closing that gap will take sustained technical engagement with Chile's aquafeed sector. While U.S. poultry and porcine meals do reach Chile, market access for U.S. bovine meal exists only on paper. This is due to at-origin processing requirements by the country's Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG), tied to older bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) era concerns, which currently leave that category largely unusable in practice.

From left, Nelson Ramirez and Maria Jose Herrea, both marketing specialists at USDA FAS Chile, Moises Huerta of NARA, and Paula Bayer, financial and budget analyst at USDA FAS Chile.

Peru: Door Is Open Across the Board

Peru is currently a smaller market for NARA members, but one where real access already exists across most rendered product categories, including U.S. bovine meal. Interest in working more closely with NARA is real across the country's feed, livestock and pet food sectors. Brazil's presence here is active and growing, not only in imported rendered meals but across meat categories more broadly. Notably for NARA's interests, Peru's poultry association, APA, and swine association, ASOPORCI, expressed interest in NARA-supported technical workshops and assistance to both industries.

There's real growth underneath that opportunity. Peru already has the highest per capita chicken meat consumption in Latin America and ranks fourth worldwide, at roughly 55 kilograms (roughly 121 lbs.) a year, and pork and chicken production both grew again in early 2026. Industry estimates project Peru's pet food market growing from $456 million in 2023 to $680 million by 2028, as the country's pet population approaches 10 million and demand for premium formulations rises.

From left, Ana Maria Trelles, executive director of ASOPORCI and Moises Huerta in Lima, Peru.

Colombia: A Bigger Door Than Most Realize

Colombia is the top destination for U.S. agricultural exports in South America, and one of the fastest-growing markets in the hemisphere. U.S. agricultural and related product exports to Colombia reached $5.11 billion in 2025, up 16% from the year before and more than four times since the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement went into effect in 2012.

Colombia's livestock and feed sectors are growing fast enough to matter directly. National animal feed production reached 13.2 mmt in 2025, up 20%. Poultry grew 8.3% to 3.1 mmt of production, still the largest feed user in the country. Pork production has grown even faster over the longer term, more than doubling from 320,000 mt in 2015 to 664,000 mt in 2025, with per capita pork consumption nearly doubling over the same period. Pet food and aquaculture are smaller today but among the fastest-growing segments as the middle class expands.

Despite that scale, Brazil holds roughly 70% of Colombia's rendered products import market, while the U.S. share is less than 10% even though regulatory access exists for most major U.S. product categories. What's missing is direct technical engagement with Colombian buyers and formulators — the same conversion work NARA will start elsewhere, applied here with real intention.

Central America: Exploring Where to Invest

Central America and the Caribbean need a different kind of work: Exploring, market by market, which sectors are genuinely strategic rather than assuming uniform opportunity. Guatemala and Costa Rica look like the clearest starting points, with workable product eligibility. The rest of the subregion needs more groundwork first.

Looking Ahead: What NARA Is Doing Next

Three months in, it's clear that NARA needs to move more aggressively and strategically across the region, matching the

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From left, Anthony Gilbert, USDA FAS regional agricultural counselor for Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia, and Moises Huerta of NARA.

Latin America *Continued from page 10*

approach to each market's particularities rather than treating Latin America as one opportunity. Two things stand out clearly: the need for a stronger technical case for U.S. rendered proteins, and continued work turning on-paper open markets into actual trade.

NARA's response starts with structure, designing a defined set of programs with a real focus on measuring their impact across the region. Education is the clearest example. NARA is designing a series of technical events across the region's strategic sectors (and later on a feed and pet food formulator program) around a two-part message: nutritional quality for the formulators who decide what goes into a formulation and cost-efficiency for the buyers across livestock, pet food and aquaculture.

Buyers across the region have consistently asked for this kind of grounding. Market access is the second piece: a plant registration support service designed to help NARA members navigate plant registration systems across the region, working hand in hand with FAS and with direct access to local regulators.

NARA is also developing an ambassador program to bring importers and technical staff to the U.S. for plant visits and direct supplier engagement, along with communications work built around these same programs.

Three months isn't long enough to draw sweeping conclusions, but it's enough to say the fundamentals in Latin America are solid, and the region is telling NARA members something clearly — the doors are open. Walking through them will keep taking fieldwork, not desk work. I'm looking forward to sharing more at NARA's annual convention later this year in Tucson, Arizona, and hope to see some of our current and new trade partners from Latin America there. **R**

NARA International Member Profile – Balcamsa

By Sharla Ishmael

After working for Empagran Group Co. for 20 years, Julio Campozano Centeno clinched an opportunity to start his own business importing rendered products to Guayaquil, Guayas, Ecuador in 2013. For the first year, Campozano ran it by himself. The next year, his brother Julio Cesar Campozano joined him to lead the project successfully until today. By 2026, the company — Balcamsa — employed 38 people providing animal by-products to the aquaculture and livestock feeding industries.

"We are an Ecuadorian family business committed to excellence and quality," Campozano says. "We specialize in the processing and marketing of high-value raw materials for the production of balanced animal and aqua feed. We work step by step to provide as much value as possible. Our goal is to make feeders' lives as simple as possible and give them the quality they need."

To achieve that goal, Balcamsa grew quickly but intentionally. By 2020, a logistics department was added to ensure proper handling and timely delivery of products, as well as ISO 9001 certification for its quality management system. The company operates its own lab with near-infrared (NIR) spectroscopy analysis of nutritional and compositional parameters of raw materials and finished products.

Customers also benefit from its high-precision nitrogen and protein analyzer to determine protein content of samples and quality control, plus chemical and moisture analysis of oils and greases and particle size analysis.

Campozano explains that about 60% to 65% of their market is aquafeed — importing poultry by-product meal (PBM), feather meal, and hemoglobin from U.S. renderers. In 2024, Balcamsa expanded its portfolio of raw ingredients and moved into new facilities with more capacity. The company also sells meat and bone meal, pork meal, poultry fat, shrimp meal, salmon meal and other nonrendered ingredients.

"We are a company committed to quality, trust and service," Campozano says. "We work to become a strategic ally of our clients, offering reliable products, transparent processes, personalized attention and solutions that add value to their operations."

He explained that Balcamsa joined the North American Renderers Association as an international member to strengthen its commercial relationship with the U.S. and continue discussing ways to align and improve the quality of its products and services.

For more information about becoming a NARA member, contact Amy Moulden, director of operations and member services, at amoulden@nara.org. **R**

Consumption and Sustainability: Explaining the Value of Animal Proteins to Build Trust

At the Assograssi conference in Rome, the rendering sector reiterated the circularity of feed based on processed animal proteins (PAPs), which are yielding excellent results in aquaculture. The messaging around rendered ingredients, however, must be effectively communicated to consumers who know little about them.

By Silvia Cerioli, Assograssi Press Officer

Dario Dinosio was appointed the new president of Assograssi. He succeeds Paolo Valugani, who held the same position for the past three years and will now take on the role of vice president. Luca Papa becomes deputy vice president, while Andrea Poggioli has been confirmed as head of the technical committee.

In May, Assograssi, the National Association of Animal Fat and Protein Producers in Italy, held its annual conference in Rome, where members participated in stimulating discussions on processed animal proteins (PAPs) and their contribution to the green economy.

Assograssi is an aggregate member of the Italian Association of the Edible Oil Industry (Assitol), adheres to the General Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria) and represents about 80% of the rendering sector in Italy. Member companies process meat residues, giving them a second life and transform them into raw materials for feed intended for domestic and farmed animals, detergents and fuels.

During the conference, a conclusion was reached that agrifood production can become increasingly sustainable — thanks to the contribution of PAP-based feed. Members also agreed that a simple narrative is needed to convey the economic and nutritional value of animal proteins and build trust in their companies' work.

According to Paolo Valugani, Assograssi president, the sector has gained authority in recent years. "The heavy restrictions imposed during the time of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) are still there, but the sector has grown," Valugani said. "Our ability to create circular production, in compliance with stringent biosafety rules, is now also recognized by institutions. Furthermore, the crisis in the Middle East requires us to use raw materials capable of combining security of supply with food safety, and PAPs meets these requirements."

Assograssi just joined the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance partnership project — an initiative of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization — to promote the production of food from animal origins. The FAO itself has repeatedly stressed the importance of animal husbandry in the bioeconomy, affirming the importance of reopening feedstuff markets intended for farm animal nutrition to rendered products.

This commitment is also viewed favorably by Giovanni Filippini, the director-general for animal health at the Italian Ministry of Health. "We intend to give maximum support to the sector and the entire meat supply chain," Filippini said. "In the future, we believe that easing the feed ban is possible, provided that our guiding principle remains biosafety. We must get there gradually, in agreement with the EU."

In short, despite the existing restrictions on the use of animal by-products in animal feed, institutions appreciate the work done so far by companies. What about consumers? In an era where attention to the environment intertwines with the request for products that certify animal welfare or the demand for "plant-based," does PAP-based nutrition really have a future?

Helping to answer these questions in a debate moderated by Rai journalist Fabrizio Patti were Edi Piasentier, director of the department of agriculture, food, environmental and animal sciences at the University of Udine, and Emanuele Dolfi, a doctoral student in the faculty of veterinary medical sciences at the University of Bologna.

Piasentier presented the research from the "Acquainnova 2.0" project analyzing consumer acceptance of the use of PAPs in aquaculture. The University of Udine, in particular, tested products using four different innovative feed formulations, which also contained PAPs. The 240 participants demonstrated the same satisfactory level of acceptance for all products, regardless of the feed composition. But what happened when consumers were informed that the fish had been fed with PAPs?

"It is the gustatory emotion that drives purchase, and this is what prevails," explained Piasentier. "Let's not forget that we eat with the mind and that expectation, as our study shows, is very important. This explains how the value of circular feed, which avoids waste and safely reuses scraps, is viewed very positively by consumers — even by those who view intensive farming negatively. That is why it is so important to provide correct information to overcome distrust and combat fake news."

He cautioned the audience, however, not to overwhelm consumers with information. "Transparency is right, but too many technical concepts confuse instead of inform," he added. "It is better to build multiple levels of information. One level should be essential and clear, based on the shared value of circularity. The other level can be more detailed and specific. For example, for the more demanding consumer, it would be good to provide a label with a QR code, explaining the process in more detail."

Dolfi was on the same wavelength. "Our study focused on consumer perception regarding the use of these circular raw materials in the feed for the fish they will consume," Dolfi said. "Indeed, 50% of consumers want to be informed for the sake of transparency about what is present in the feed of the fish they eat. They told us this clearly during our research."

According to that research, the majority of respondents have a neutral attitude towards conventional raw materials, such as fishmeal and oils or vegetable products. Things change, however, when talking about insects and PAPs, which were more polarizing. Age also plays a role — the 50-year-old consumer may still be afraid of BSE but the young person, in many cases, doesn't even know what it is.

"In fact, from our results, the idea we have formed is that the perceived naturalness of the product plays a decisive role in acceptance," Dolfi explained. "What is closer to nature is also what is best for you."

Effective communication appears to be the solution. Guido Carlo Quattrocolo, an entrepreneur and communication expert, outlined possible strategies to overcome consumer distrust by recounting the "Circular Egg" project he created using circular feed, which was tested by the University of Gastronomic Sciences of Pollenzo.

"The consumer recognizes innovation as a value if they perceive the benefit," Quattrocolo explained. "That is what we did, linking simple and clear communication to science, to the certified data that came from the university, and to the actual sustainability of the product. The same should be done with circular PAP-based feed. In this way, trust in the supply chain is built." The storytelling, however, must not be defensive or too broad.

Nutrition must become healthy and circular, concluded Luca Papa, Assograssi vice president. "We live bombarded by information," Papa said. "This is why, regarding PAPs — which are often the subject of fake news — we must transition from a radical transparency to a 'transparency of substance.' Transparency of substance is not limited to stating what is in the feed but explains why.

"It explains that using PAPs means honoring the animal by not wasting its noble nutrients," Papa said. "It means drastically reducing the import of vegetable proteins from areas at risk of deforestation. It means increasing the stability of our supply chains against external shocks. In a word, it means circularity." **R**

Save the Date for Argentine Rendering Meeting

The Chamber of Livestock By-Products of the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, founded in 1921 and a member of the World Renderers Organization as well as North American Renderers Association, invites the national and international community to participate in the traditional event of the animal recycling industry in Argentina.

The 6th Congress will take place in March 2027 at the Sofitel Reserva Cardales hotel in Buenos Aires with participation from the best speakers in specialties related to the rendering industry and the support of exhibitors offering machinery, raw materials and services.

Registration starts Sept. 1, and space reservations for exhibitors will be open and published.

For more information, contact:
Daniel Di Pardo, Gerente
Cámara de Subproductos Ganaderos de la Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires
+54 9 11 5585 5999
25 de Mayo 347 – 1 subsuelo – of 1707
C1041AAE – Buenos Aires
ddipardo@camsubprodganaderos.com.ar
www.subproductosganaderos.org

EFPRA Congress 2026 – Setting the Stage for Reform of European ABP Regulations

By Leo Townsend

Proposed reforms to European animal by-products (ABP) regulations dominated discussions at the European Fats Processors and Renderers Association Congress in May in Tenerife, Canary Islands, as industry leaders argued that Europe's bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) era rules should now be replaced with a modern, science-based framework.

More than 400 delegates from the European and global rendering industry attended the 24th EFPRA Congress, hosted by ANAGRASA (the Spanish Renderers Association). Alongside a permanent exhibition of technical suppliers and service providers, the program covered a wide range of technical and commercial issues. Above all, there was palpable excitement about the opportunities presented by potential changes in Europe's regulatory approach.

EFPRA President Dr. Robert Figgener led from the front, clearly laying out the opportunities and challenges in creating a new regulatory landscape. He was supported by presentations highlighting the value of animal by-products as feed materials and as a key component of a circular economy.

Calls for Science-Based Regulatory Reform

"The EU's BSE framework was built for a crisis that has now passed," Figgener said. "With negligible BSE risk across member states, robust surveillance systems and improved feed controls, it is time to move from emergency measures to a science-based, risk-proportionate regulatory framework. We have demonstrated that we can guarantee safety while supporting competitiveness, circularity and a resilient livestock sector."

From left, Sjors Beerendon, past EFPRA president, and Dr. Robert Figgener, current president. Photo credit Marjorie Gonzalez

The first step in the reform process is already underway. The European Food Safety Authority is assessing whether the EU should align with the World Organization for Animal Health standards for the definition of specified risk material. If this alignment is confirmed, it would have consequences for the entire EU market, including a significant reduction in Category 1 material, which is only permitted for energy recovery, and a corresponding increase in Category 2 material.

"A fragmented approach would create market distortions, operational challenges and regulatory inconsistency," Figgener added. "The next steps must be a coherent, single implementation package that aligns science with practical reality.

"Modernizing the EU's ABP and feed rules means unlocking safe, sustainable protein resources while preserving the absolute ban on feeding animal proteins to ruminants. A coherent reform package should authorize Category 3 processed animal proteins (PAPs) for nonruminants, remove unnecessary restrictions on nonruminant recycling and enable Category 2 meat and bone meal (MBM) exports without compromising animal or public health."

Beyond regulatory reform, delegates also examined opportunities to expand markets for PAPs, particularly within aquaculture. At congress, Dr. Dominique Bureau of the University of Guelph in Canada presented on formulating aquaculture feeds with PAPs. The theme was carried on by Leif Kjetil Skjæveland, the sustainability and public affairs manager for Skretting Norway, who discussed this in context of the Norwegian salmon feed market.

"Aquaculture is a market that we still haven't fully developed," said Dr. Martin Alm, EFPRA technical director. "The technical and nutritional aspects of using PAPs in aquafeed are not in question, but we need to work on consumer and retailer acceptance."

Livestock's Role in a Circular Economy

Attention then turned to the broader role of livestock and animal by-products in a sustainable economy. Both Drs. Dominik Wisser, Food and Agriculture Organization livestock policy officer, and Michael Lee of Harper Adams University presented compelling arguments about why effective use of animal by-products within pig and poultry production offers a pathway to more sustainable livestock production.

In his presentation, Wisser concluded that livestock is both part of the problem (environmental impacts) and part of the solution (nutrition security). He cautioned against blanket reductions in livestock.

Sustainable intensification of livestock production through improved feed efficiency, better manure management and circular practices, including the use of animal by-products, can reduce emissions intensity per unit of product by 20% to 50% or more without necessarily decreasing total output. Technical innovations can further help to reduce emissions intensity.

According to Lee, assessing the environmental impact of livestock production is a challenge because of the complexity of biological systems. He argued that conventional life-cycle assessment, adapted from manufacturing, does not fully capture livestock's nutritional contribution, land-use efficiency or wider sustainability benefits. He emphasized that livestock must remain a critical part of a circular economy because it can upcycle nonedible biomass into high-value, animal-sourced foods and it produces manure as an organic fertilizer for improving soil health.

"It's very important that we continue to push back against the idea of a much-reduced role for meat and animal products in food security," Figgener said. "The ability of animals to consume human-inedible feed and convert it into high-value food is very important. Renderers help underpin this by recycling energy and nutrients from livestock production, as well as capturing a variety of useful materials like leather and gelatine, for example."

The program also covered sustainability, biofuels and export markets. Richard van Lijssel of Darling Ingredients and chairman of EFPRA's sustainability committee spoke about rendering in a sustainable economy. Beatriz Alvarez, public and governmental affairs manager with SARIA, addressed EU biofuels legislation and the strategic opportunities for animal fats. Ryan Standard, editorial and pricing director of agriculture and biofuels at Fastmarkets, covered price and market developments. He outlined where animal fats fit in the overall oils market and gave a long-term view of potential future developments.

European ABP Sector Snapshot

Dirk Dobbelaere, EFPRA secretary general, shared an overview of the European ABP sector. Overall processing volumes have remained stable in 2025 with a modest 2.3% increase across Category 1, 2 and 3 materials. Production of Category 3 PAPs increased by 5%, while fat production rose by 1%.

PAP markets continued to perform strongly. Exports of PAPs remained high despite a slight decline from previous levels, while fat exports stabilized at around 5%. Pet food grew slightly and remained the largest market for proteins, accounting for more than 74% of use within the EU, with aquafeed becoming the second-largest market at over 12%.

Fat markets experienced notable shifts. Growth in biodiesel use of Category 3 and food-grade fats slowed to 2%. Oleochemical use declined by 5% while feed applications increased by 3%. Pet food remained broadly stable but use in aquaculture fell by 48%, although it is a small market to begin with.

"The European market was relatively stable during 2025," Figgener added. "Of course, 2026 has already seen a jump in oil prices and other market problems connected with the situation in the Middle East, which will undoubtedly filter through to the ABP market.

"With EFSA's review now underway, delegates agreed that the coming years could mark the most significant change to European ABP regulation since the introduction of BSE controls," he added. "If implemented, the reforms have the potential to reshape raw material availability, new ABP flows, feed markets and the role of rendering in Europe."

EFPRA thanked ANAGRASA for organizing a successful congress and expressed its appreciation to all sponsors, speakers and delegates who made the event possible. The association now looks forward to the next EFPRA Congress in Liverpool, U.K., June 8-11, 2027. **R**

By Kent Swisher, NARA President and CEO

The Rest of the Story: Pet Food and Rendered Fats

By now, most of you have seen the Pet Food Institute's recent comments regarding the use of rendered fats in renewable diesel. I want to address this openly because the pet food industry has been a good partner to renderers for a long time, and I believe this conversation deserves the full picture rather than just part of it.

As renderers, we live in these markets every day. We know the grades, the specs and the numbers, and I think a closer look at the data tells a more nuanced story than the one currently being discussed.

2 Grades of Fat, 2 Different Markets

Let's start with an important distinction that sometimes gets lost: Pet food and renewable diesel generally aren't drawing from the same pool of fat.

Pet food requires high-grade rendered fats that meet strict quality, palatability and nutritional specifications. Renewable diesel, by contrast, primarily runs on lower-grade fats. These materials, which represent the majority of what our industry produces, historically haven't had many places to go. It's also worth acknowledging that increased demand from renewable diesel has pushed fat prices higher across the board, and we understand why that's a real concern for pet food manufacturers watching their input costs.

That said, the context matters. For decades, our industry annually exported 30% to 40% of rendered fat production simply because domestic demand couldn't absorb it. Today, the U.S. actually imports over 1 million metric tons (mmt) of tallow. That's a remarkable shift from an industry that once had to ship a third or more of its fat overseas to one now pulling in tallow from abroad to meet demand. Renewable diesel is a big part of why that changed, and it's a change our industry has needed for a long time.

A Look at the Numbers

It's worth putting some context around the scale of pet food's fat usage relative to the broader market. According to industry data, the pet food industry uses approximately 6% of total rendered animal fat production in the U.S.

Within that slice, the overlap with renewable diesel feedstock is even smaller than it might seem. In some cases, pet food companies rely primarily on poultry fat while poultry fat use in renewable diesel is minimal — biodiesel and renewable diesel producers generally avoid it. Poultry fat carries potassium, calcium and magnesium levels that interfere with clean fuel production. So, on poultry fat specifically, the two industries are rarely drawing from the same supply at all.

Given that, I'd simply ask PFI to consider the scale here. An industry using roughly 6% of rendered fat production is a valued customer, but it shouldn't reasonably expect to steer decisions about the other 94%.

Rendered protein meals typically carry roughly 10% to 12% residual fat content. That means every ton of meal a pet food manufacturer buys already comes bundled with a meaningful amount of fat, which is priced as meal, not as fat. Fat routinely trades at two to five times the price of meal on a per-ton basis. So, when pet food companies purchase the 1.17 million metric tons of meal they use annually, they're picking up a substantial volume of fat content at meal prices. That's a real cost advantage to the pet food industry and it grows more valuable, not less, as fat prices rise.

If PFI wants to talk about who benefits most from current market dynamics, let's look at the actual numbers. Industry data shows U.S. pet food manufacturers annually utilize approximately:

- 253,214 mt of rendered fats.
- 1.17 mmt of rendered protein meals.

Do the math. Pet food manufacturers use nearly five times more rendered protein meal than rendered fat. This is fundamentally a meal-buying industry, and meal prices are moving decisively in their favor.

The EPA's 2026 renewable volume obligation (RVO) announcement projects soybean meal prices falling by $39.88 per short ton in 2026 and $48.51 per short ton in 2027. Rendered protein meals are highly correlated with soybean meal pricing. As the far larger buyer of meal, the pet food industry stands to gain considerably more from falling meal prices than it could ever lose from adjustments in fat markets.

Soybeans Aren't Oilseeds, They're Mealseeds

A soybean is roughly 20% oil and 80% meal. Yet we keep calling soybeans an "oilseed," a label that flatters the smaller output while ignoring the larger one. A more honest term would be "mealseed."

As biofuel demand drives dramatic expansion in soybean crush capacity, that crush isn't just producing oil. It's also producing four times as much meal. That meal is flooding the market, and it's precisely what's driving soybean meal prices down. The same crush expansion PFI wants to frame as a threat to fat supply is simultaneously delivering the pet food industry cheaper meal at volumes it uses five times over. You can't credibly attack one side of that ledger while cashing the check on the other.

We've Heard This Before

Our industry has a long memory because we've lived this cycle more than once. In the 1960s, we lost the laundry detergent market to petrochemicals. In the 1980s and '90s, saturated fats were hit with a wave of unjustified public attacks, culminating in the fast-food industry's shift from tallow to soybean oil. In every case, we didn't walk away from a customer, the customer walked away from us often based on incomplete science or shifting trends rather than any failure of our product.

It's also worth remembering that some in the pet food industry have, in years past, run marketing campaigns against "by-products." Those campaigns were, in substance, direct attacks on rendered products. Rendered fats and meals are by-products of animal processing. That's simply what they are. The biofuel industry has no such hang-up. It values by-products for exactly what they are, an efficient, lower-carbon use of material that without demand would go to waste.

The Real Competition Is Edible, Not Biofuel

If PFI is genuinely worried about competition for high-grade fat, it's looking in the wrong direction. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture data, edible tallow production has increased 14% over the past five years. That growth is driven largely by renewed human-edible demand as the science on animal fats has shifted. The once-fashionable case against saturated fats hasn't held up, and consumers and formulators are taking notice. The Make America Healthy Again movement, along with the new USDA food pyramid, is further accelerating demand for edible tallow and other animal fats.

That matters because it's pulling on exactly the same grade of high-quality fat pet food manufacturers need. Historically, a meaningful share of high-grade edible fat ended up in lower-value uses simply because human-edible demand wasn't strong enough to absorb it. That's no longer the case. Rising edible demand is now diverting that premium fat back toward edible markets, human and pet food alike.

To be fair, biofuel demand has contributed to higher fat prices across the board. That's simply what happens when a new, high-volume market enters the picture. Broader inflation across the economy has also been a major contributor to higher input costs generally, and fat is no exception. But where pet food manufacturers are actually feeling that pressure most acutely is on the high-grade side, and that's being driven primarily by the resurgence of human-edible demand, not renewable diesel. Renewable diesel runs on the lower-grade material that human-edible and pet food markets never wanted in the first place.

I'd also gently push back on the idea that PFI's position and its public messaging are fully aligned. PFI has said it isn't against biofuel, and I take that at face value. But some of the messaging we've seen reads more like an argument against the feedstock supply chain that supports it.

Pet food customers don't have to sacrifice a healthy planet for healthy pets. They can have both. High-grade fat for pet food and lower-grade fat for renewable diesel aren't competing priorities, they're two parts of the same sustainable system with each doing what it should.

A Word About Partnership

None of this should overshadow a simple truth: The rendering industry has been a trusted partner and reliable supplier to the pet food sector for years. We value this relationship, and we don't take it for granted. As a supply chain partner, we encourage and seek further collaboration with the pet food industry, not division driven by misleading public attacks.

W. Edwards Deming, whose principles on quality and long-term supplier relationships shaped modern manufacturing, put it well when he urged organizations to "break down barriers between departments. People in research, design, sales and production must work as a team, to foresee problems of production and use that may be encountered with the product or service."

Deming believed suppliers and customers are part of the same system, not separate camps. That principle applies just as much to the relationship between renderers and the pet food industry as it does within a single company. That's the kind of relationship we've built with the pet food industry over decades, and it's the kind of relationship worth protecting through honest dialogue, not misdirected attacks.

The Bottom Line

Our industry isn't looking to take anything away from pet food manufacturers, and we don't believe that's what's happening here. We're serving two different markets with two different grades of product. Meanwhile, the pet food industry continues to benefit meaningfully from broader market dynamics, from meal pricing to the overall health of the rendering supply chain.

We've had a strong, cooperative relationship with the pet food industry for a long time, and we'd like to see that continue. I hope this column adds useful context to the conversation, and that we can keep working together as we always have. **R**

Aquaculture and Rendering: A Growing Opportunity

Why they belong in the same conversation.

By Emmett Stinson and Ayman Mabchour, LixCap

The aquaculture and rendering industries together address two interlinked challenges. Aquaculture requires reliable protein inputs to sustain yields. Rendering needs strong markets for valuable animal products that would otherwise be underused. As aquaculture grows, feed producers need dependable sources of protein, energy, minerals and fats. Rendered products can help meet those needs while reducing pressure on finite marine ingredients such as fishmeal and fish oil.

Aquaculture is often discussed separately from livestock, meat processing or rendering. In practice, these sectors are already linked through feed. Rendering turns nonedible animal materials into useful ingredients. Aquaculture gives those ingredients a high-value market that supports food production. This relationship is practical on both sides. Aquafeed producers gain more tools to formulate balanced diets. Renderers gain access to a growing global market. Together, they support a more circular food system.

Why Aquafeed Producers Use Rendered Products

Feed is often the largest cost in aquaculture. Fish and shrimp diets must support growth, health, feed intake and efficient production. Rendered products help meet these needs by supplying concentrated nutrition at a practical price. These products offer up to 80% protein. They complement plant-based ingredients in formulas that use soy or grains by delivering essential amino acids, minerals, energy and fats without the antinutritional factors (ANFs) found in other agricultural inputs.

Rendered animal proteins do not contain the same ANFs found in some plant ingredients. Certain plant proteins include compounds that particular fish do not digest efficiently. Rendered products can help improve digestibility, palatability and nutrient balance. Rendered products are not a complete answer for every species or every diet. Their value comes from flexibility. They allow nutritionists to balance cost, availability and performance in a market where ingredient prices can move quickly.

Rendered Products Help Manage Costs, Supply Risks

Fishmeal and fish oil remain important in many aquafeed formulas. However, their supply is tied to wild fisheries, weather events, fishing rules and global demand. Wild forage fisheries face depletion. When supply tightens, prices can rise quickly. This creates pressure for feed manufacturers and farmers.

Recent fishmeal market data shows why the feed sector cannot rely on fishmeal alone. The Marine Ingredients Organization reported fishmeal production fell sharply in the first quarter of 2026. March production was down 38% from the same month in 2025. First quarter output was down 28% year over year.

Rendered products help reduce this exposure. Animal protein meals are linked to livestock and poultry supply chains that already serve human food markets. They are not dependent on catching more wild fish. This gives feed producers another ingredient base that can be sourced domestically or through international trade.

Cost is another advantage. Rendered animal proteins offer superior affordability on a protein basis compared to volatile fishmeal prices. Meat and bone meal can contribute calcium and phosphorus. This may reduce the need for added mineral supplements. Rendered fats can provide dietary energy and may reduce reliance on costly marine oils in some diets. Rendered products help feed manufacturers diversify supply chains, manage price swings and protect margins.

The Most Relevant Species, Production Systems

Rendered animal products are most relevant for carnivorous and omnivorous finfish, as well as shrimp. The level of use depends on the species, production system and market. Species biology matters because fish and shrimp do not all digest feed in the same way. Carnivorous fish often require dense, high-protein diets. This makes animal protein meals useful formulation tools. Omnivorous species can also benefit — especially in intensive systems or at life stages that require higher-quality protein.

Shrimp feeds must sink, remain stable in water and encourage intake. Rendered proteins can still be part of shrimp formulas when they meet the right quality and formulation standards. Commercial farming systems drive ingredient demand. Feed mills primarily integrate rendered products in manufactured aquafeeds. They are less relevant in extensive systems that rely on natural pond productivity or raw agricultural by-products. As farms become more commercial, they use more pelleted and formulated feeds.

Some countries and buyers accept rendered products in aquafeed. Others limit them because of import requirements and a lack of understanding of these ingredients. The opportunity is strongest where aquaculture demand meets an educated market for rendered products.

Rendered Products Globally Accepted in Aquafeeds

The use of rendered products in aquaculture is not new. In many major aquaculture markets, rendered animal proteins and fats are already familiar ingredients. Feed manufacturers have used them for years to manage feed costs, improve nutrient balance and reduce dependence on fishmeal and fish oil.

Acceptance is strongest in parts of Asia and the Americas. Countries with large fish and shrimp industries that have integrated rendered products into commercial feed supply chains include China, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Chile, Mexico and Ecuador. In many cases, rendered products are useful for higher-value diets where nutrition and cost control are critical.

Europe has taken a more cautious path. Regulatory history and consumer perception still influence the use of rendered animal proteins. As fishmeal prices rise, other regions are emerging as frontiers.

Evidence Supports Use of Rendered Products in Aquafeed

The case for rendered products is supported by science and commercial practice. Research led by Dr. Dominique Bureau through the Fats and Proteins Research Foundation has helped document the nutritional value and digestibility of rendered animal proteins for aquaculture species.

These studies address a basic question for feed manufacturers: Can modern rendered products be used safely and effectively in fish diets? Modern meat and bone meals deliver concentrated protein, lipids, digestible phosphorus and micronutrients that may be absent in plant-based ingredients. These include cholesterol, arachidonic acid and taurine. Research has also shown strong digestibility results for North American meat and bone meal with trials demonstrating biological performance. For example, studies showed that Nile tilapia that were fed diets containing meat and bone meal had higher body weight and weight gain.

Industry evidence points in the same direction. Rendered products are already used in commercial fish and shrimp feeds in major aquaculture regions. The North American Renderers Association's planned global aquafeed survey — a collaboration with the World Wildlife Foundation — should help document this more clearly. The survey can map the types, volumes, sources and regional patterns of rendered product use across species and markets.

This collaboration also provides an important sustainability link. By connecting rendered products to discussions on resource-efficient aquaculture feeds and life-cycle assessment data, this work can help show that rendered products are part of a practical sustainability strategy.

Why Rendered Products Rather Than a Protein Alternative?

Rendered products should be understood as stand-alone, high-value feed ingredients, not just an alternative to fishmeal. Rendering takes nonedible portions of livestock and poultry production and turns them into useful proteins, fats and minerals. Animal protein meals can provide concentrated protein and amino acids that support growth in fish and shrimp. Meat and bone meal can contribute calcium and phosphorus. Rendered fats can provide energy and reduce reliance on more expensive marine oils in some diets.

Rendering keeps valuable nutrients in use rather than allowing them to be discarded. By upcycling materials from the existing food system, rendered products support a circular economy. They can also reduce pressure on wild forage fisheries and land-intensive crop ingredients. At the same time, rendered products help aquaculture address nutrition, affordability, supply security and sustainability. They are carefully processed ingredients that can support the continued growth of global aquaculture. **R**

Matthew Meredith, at right, who represents NARA members in North Africa, visited a fish farmer in Senegal.

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The Blue Revolution Begins with Feed

How decades of USDA market development helped build a global aquaculture industry — and why that experience can help America lead its next chapter.

By Dana Johnson Downing, NARA Senior Vice President of International Programs

During my career, I've had the privilege of viewing U.S. Department of Agriculture market development programs from both sides of the table. Early in my career with USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, I saw firsthand how these programs were designed to do far more than promote exports. Their purpose was to build relationships, expand markets, share technical expertise and create lasting demand for American agriculture.

Today, representing the U.S. rendering industry, I've had the opportunity to watch those same investments continue to create opportunities that few people fully appreciate. One of the best examples can be found in an unexpected place — the global aquaculture industry.

If you ask most people where the Blue Revolution (global intensification of aquaculture) began, they'll probably point to a fish farm, a shrimp pond or a salmon net pen somewhere along the coast. I'd argue it began much farther inland.

It began on American farms growing soybeans and corn. It was strengthened in rendering plants transforming animal by-products into valuable proteins and fats. It was refined in feed mills where nutritionists developed innovative formulations that would nourish fish while reducing dependence on finite marine resources. And it was advanced through decades of USDA market development programs that helped introduce these technologies and ingredients to customers around the world.

That story deserves to be told.

Building Industries, Not Just Exports

When Congress established USDA's Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development program, the objective was never simply to advertise American products overseas. These programs were designed to cultivate long-term commercial relationships through technical assistance, scientific collaboration, education, trade servicing and market development.

Success would be measured not only by today's exports, but by tomorrow's opportunities.

Over the years, organizations representing soybeans, corn, rendered animal proteins and fats, distillers' grains and countless other agricultural products have partnered with USDA to help customers understand the value of American feed ingredients. Nutrition seminars, feeding demonstrations, research partnerships, regulatory engagement and technical exchanges may not generate headlines, but collectively they have helped lay the foundation for modern aquaculture industries across Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe and beyond.

That work has paid dividends for American agriculture for decades.

Every Fish Has a Feed Story

The success of aquaculture is often measured in tons of salmon harvested, shrimp produced or seafood exported. But every one of those fish has a story that begins long before it reaches the water. It begins with feed.

Modern aquaculture depends upon balanced, science-based diets formulated with high-quality ingredients. Increasingly, those diets include products grown or manufactured in the U.S. — soybean meal, corn products, rendered poultry meal, feather meal, animal fats, distillers' grains and many others.

These products do not compete with aquaculture. They make aquaculture possible.

Over the years, I've visited feed mills in Asia, tilapia farms in Latin America, seafood producers in Europe and livestock operations across the United States. While every country is different, one theme is remarkably consistent — feed is the foundation of successful aquaculture. It is the largest production cost, the greatest determinant of animal performance and, increasingly, the key to sustainability. Time and again, I've seen producers place their confidence in American agricultural products because of their quality, consistency, safety and nutritional value.

That confidence didn't develop overnight. It was earned through decades of partnership.

The Circular Economy in Action

The rendering industry offers one of the clearest examples of how agriculture's circular economy creates value. Every day, renderers transform animal co-products into safe, nutritious proteins and fats that become ingredients in aquaculture feeds. Materials that might otherwise have limited value are converted into products that help nourish fish, shrimp and other seafood consumed around the world.

Agricultural by-products and co-products become feed. Feed becomes seafood. Seafood helps feed a growing world. It is difficult to imagine a more practical example of sustainability.

At the same time, advances in aquaculture nutrition have steadily reduced dependence on finite marine resources by incorporating more agricultural ingredients into fish diets. That evolution has allowed seafood production to continue expanding while reducing pressure on wild forage fisheries. American agriculture has helped make that transition possible.

A 2-Way Trade Success Story

One of the persistent misconceptions surrounding aquaculture is that imported seafood somehow represents a loss for American agriculture. The reality is much more interconnected.

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Blue Revolution *Continued from page 23*

American farmers grow soybeans and corn. American processors produce meals and oils. American renderers manufacture sustainable proteins and fats. American companies export those ingredients to feed manufacturers around the world.

Those feed ingredients are transformed into seafood that helps meet growing global demand — including demand here in the U.S., where seafood consumption continues to exceed domestic production. That is not a broken supply chain. It is an integrated agricultural system creating value at every stage.

Long before imported seafood reaches an American dinner plate, it has already supported U.S. farmers, processors, renderers, exporters, transportation providers, ports and rural communities. This is what successful two-way trade looks like.

Fish Are America's Newest Livestock Customer

Perhaps the most important shift in thinking is recognizing that fish have become one of American agriculture's newest livestock customers. For generations, feed manufacturers focused primarily on cattle, poultry, swine, dairy and companion animals. Today, aquaculture has joined that list.

As seafood demand continues to rise and wild fisheries remain constrained, fish and shrimp will become increasingly important customers for American feed ingredients. That represents an enormous opportunity — not only for rendering, but for the entire U.S. agricultural sector.

The Blue Revolution is not happening somewhere else. American agriculture is already helping feed it.

The Next Chapter Starts at Home

Today, the U.S. has an opportunity to build on decades of international success. The Trump administration's efforts to strengthen domestic seafood production, including the establishment of USDA's Office of Seafood, recognize the importance of expanding responsible aquaculture here at home. Those efforts deserve broad support. But this should never be framed as an either/or proposition.

Growing domestic aquaculture does not diminish the importance of international markets. Likewise, continuing to export feed ingredients does not come at the expense of building a stronger U.S. seafood sector. These objectives reinforce one another.

The same farmers, renderers, nutritionists, feed manufacturers, researchers and exporters who helped build aquaculture industries around the world are well positioned to help America grow its own.

Rather than starting from scratch, we can build upon decades of experience, scientific knowledge and trusted commercial relationships.

Blue Revolution Blueprint

The future of aquaculture should not be framed as domestic versus international, imports versus exports, or farmers versus fish producers. The world will need it all.

Global demand for seafood continues to grow, and no single country will meet that demand alone. Success will require responsible aquaculture expansion around the world — including in the U.S. as America is uniquely positioned to contribute.

We produce abundant feed grains and oilseeds. We lead the world in animal nutrition research. We transform agricultural by-products into high-value feed ingredients through rendering. We have earned the trust of customers around the globe through decades of USDA-supported market development. Those are strengths worth building upon.

The Blue Revolution didn't begin on the water. It began on America's farms. It was strengthened in our rendering plants. It was refined in our feed mills. And it was advanced through decades of partnership, innovation and market development. The first chapter of the Blue Revolution was helping build aquaculture industries around the world with American agricultural innovation.

The next chapter is even more exciting. It is creating new opportunities for responsible aquaculture production here at home while continuing to supply the world with the sustainable feed ingredients that make seafood production possible. This isn't an "us versus them" proposition. It never has been.

It is a recognition that feeding a growing world will require farmers and fish farmers, exporters and seafood producers, innovation and investment, domestic production and international trade. If we embrace that vision, America won't simply participate in the Blue Revolution — we'll help feed it. **R**

By Ron Kotrba, *Biobased Diesel Daily*

Brad Wilson, president of Western Iowa Energy.
Photo credit Iowa Biodiesel Board

Feeling the Effects

In the June issue of *Render*, I wrote about the new, historic biobased diesel volumes for 2026-2027 released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in late March under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and how this final rule — coupled with proposed 45Z regulations and reallocation of lost gallons from small refinery exemptions (SREs) — was expected to revitalize the industry after a prolonged downturn. The effects of these important regulatory actions are already being felt across the sector, and additional policy developments continue to unfold.

"Domestic biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production are reaching capacity utilization rates not seen since 2024," said Donnell Rehagen, CEO of Clean Fuels Alliance America. "Renewable diesel and SAF producers ran at historically high rates in May, positioning to ramp up even further. In April, U.S. biodiesel companies produced 129 million gallons of fuel — the highest monthly production rate in recent years was 176 million gallons. Biodiesel producers ran about 75% of their demonstrated capacity in April and May. That's generating vital market pull for farmers."

In May, less than two months after EPA issued its final renewable volume obligations (RVOs) for 2026-2027, the biodiesel industry in Iowa — the largest biodiesel-producing state — was mostly back up and running, according to the Iowa Biodiesel Board. "While the path ahead involves recovery, producers across the state say they are cautiously optimistic as plants return to capacity and workers stay on the job," IBB stated.

Western Iowa Energy, a biodiesel plant in Wall Lake, Iowa, employs 30 workers and is now running at full capacity. The biorefinery, scaled at 45 million gallons per year (mgy), completed a $30 million expansion project in 2024 and has the flexibility to process soybean oil, animal fats, distillers corn oil and used cooking oil (UCO) as market conditions warrant.

WIE President Brad Wilson said the release of the RVOs came as a genuine relief after years of uncertainty. "When I heard the RVO numbers, it was a really good feeling," Wilson said. "We've been fighting for that for three years, and now we can confidently plan and budget. Employees are in good spirits. It came just in the nick of time — we were able to keep everybody and keep the lights on."

A year ago, the company had to reduce its workforce by 25% in order to survive the downturn caused by policy uncertainty, expiration of the blenders tax credit and lack of guidance for its replacement — 45Z — paired with extremely low RVOs for 2023-2025. The company, however, held on to those remaining employees rather than laying them off outright, a decision that is now paying dividends.

"We're still trying to dig out of a hole, but we're very happy with what's happened," Wilson said. "Last year we would have killed to break even. Now we have some margins built in. It's a great turnaround."

IBB Executive Director Grant Kimberley said the combined impact of the RVOs and the 45Z credit has restored a sense of opportunity to an industry that was struggling to survive. "The road ahead is positive, if not without obstacles," Kimberley said. "Plants that survived the downturn did so at significant financial cost, and rebuilding balance sheets will take time. But with policy clarity now in place and demand strengthening, the industry is positioned to move forward."

In addition to biodiesel market improvement, two new hydrotreated biofuel units came online recently in the U.S. Par Pacific's Hawaii Renewables joint venture with Mitsubishi and Eneos began commercial operations in April at its Kapolei refinery. The company first announced the 61 mgy project in 2023. The unit is designed to produce up to 60% SAF but if market conditions are supportive, yield can be shifted to more than 90% renewable diesel.

On the mainland, Calumet's Montana Renewables subsidiary completed a turnaround and its MaxSAF 150 expansion in March and April. Operation of the system in Great Falls began in early May. The project significantly expands SAF production on-site from 30 mgy to between 120 mgy and 150 mgy. Montana Renewables received a $1.44 billion loan guarantee from the federal government to expand SAF capacity to 300 mgy by 2028.

RIN Prices Double

In June, the U.S. Energy Information Administration noted that the new RVOs, coupled with rising fuel prices this spring following the Iran conflict and blockage of the Straight of Hormuz, have led to a doubling in value of renewable identification number (RIN) credits for biobased diesel (D4) and ethanol (D6) since the start of this year.

As of June 4, D4 RINs traded at $2.41 and D6 RINs traded at $2.37, both close to their all-time highs set in 2021. Because one gallon generates 1.5 RINs for biodiesel and 1.6 RINs to 1.7 RINs for renewable diesel (until Jan. 1, 2027, when these change to 1.5 per EPA's final RFS rule released in late March), these fuels currently generate more than $3.50 per gallon of credits.

EIA forecasts record-high production of fuel ethanol and renewable diesel in 2026 because of high blend mandates, high gasoline and diesel prices, and increasing production capacity at biofuel plants. It also projects greater biodiesel production but below record highs because of lost production capacity. EIA projects that renewable diesel production will increase by 24% and biodiesel production by 41% in 2026 compared to 2025. It forecasts further production growth in 2027 when the RVO increases again.

Additional Policy, Regulatory Developments

Building on the high RVOs and Congress' extension of 45Z last summer, President Donald Trump signed an executive order in late June advancing regenerative agriculture. The signing coincided with the U.S. Department of Agriculture issuing a final regenerative feedstock rule, which USDA said is "a landmark action that will help farmers voluntarily capture new value from regenerative agricultural practices through biofuel markets."

The executive order and regenerative feedstock rule provide what is, according to USDA, the next critical step by ensuring producers have a practical pathway to benefit from those expanding markets. The final rule establishes a framework to connect regenerative agriculture practices to new markets within the biofuel supply chain for corn, soybeans, sorghum and spring canola.

The standards include covered biofuel feedstock crops and participating entities throughout the supply chain; field-level quantification of crop-specific carbon intensity; mass-balance chain-of-custody standards, including traceability and recordkeeping; auditing and verification requirements; and regenerative agriculture practice standards for covered feedstock crops.

USDA also released its updated feedstock carbon-intensity calculator (USDA FD-CIC) to help producers quantify regenerative practices such as cover crops, improved nutrient management and conservation tillage, including no-till and reduced tillage. The agency said producers can use the resulting reports when marketing eligible feedstocks to participating biofuel producers.

Continued on page 28

Western Iowa Energy in Wall Lake, Iowa.
Photo credit Iowa Biodiesel Board

Feeling the Effects *Continued from page 27*

According to USDA, the new framework creates significant opportunities for America's leading biofuel feedstock producers.

"Instead of mandates, we're creating market opportunities," USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins said. "Farmers who choose to implement regenerative practices will have new opportunities to earn premium prices, lower their input costs, improve soil health and strengthen the long-term profitability of their operations."

Earlier in June, the U.S. Department of Energy released its latest version of the 45ZCF-GREET model, which includes changes to 45Z signed into law in July 2025 and going into effect in 2026, including deduction of indirect land-use change (ILUC) scores and ineligibility for fuels made from feedstocks sourced outside of North America. Taxpayers can use this updated model to calculate and monetize tax credits for fuels produced during their current taxable year.

Farm Bill Progress

In May, the U.S. House of Representatives passed its version of the Farm Bill. The House-passed bill, applauded by the North American Renderers Association, includes the first-ever formal inclusion of rendering in a Farm Bill, recognizing the industry's essential role in sustainability, agriculture and the circular economy.

The following month, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman John Boozman released a Senate draft version of the Farm Bill. The proposal includes increased funding for the Biobased Markets (BioPreferred) Program, improvements to the Biorefinery Assistance Program and the Rural Energy for America Program, and a directive for USDA to establish a department-wide SAF strategy.

Final 45Z Rule Still Needed

The difference in the biobased diesel market between late 2025 and mid-2026 is like night and day, but the industry is still awaiting release of the final 45Z rule from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. "While the proposed regulations provide much-needed market certainty for biodiesel and renewable diesel producers, we are requesting additional clarity in some areas," said Kurt Kovarik, vice president of federal affairs for Clean Fuels.

For instance, Kovarik said additional guidance is needed on how to apply the credit to fuel produced prior to publication of the proposed rule and further clarity on the prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements as they relate directly to 45Z.

NATSO, representing the nation's truck stops and travel centers, urged the Treasury Department to finalize 45Z as Congress intended and amended in the "big, beautiful bill." Mainly, the organization wants the premium tax credit for SAF to remain out of 45Z. Previous iterations of 45Z provided up to $1.75 per gallon for SAF production while capping ground transportation fuels at $1.

"Restoring technology neutrality to fuels policy means the market is free to deliver the most efficient advanced fuels, driving demand for biodiesel and renewable diesel and keeping feedstocks flowing into the fuels that move American goods," NATSO stated. **R**

By Adam R. Young and Mark A. Lies II, Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Not Just OSHA

Understanding the expanding web of criminal, civil and business risk from workplace accidents.

Employers often approach workplace accidents and resulting Occupational Safety and Health Administration citations as discrete regulatory events — managed by safety teams, resolved through settlement or litigation and, ultimately, closed. As many employers come to learn, OSHA inspections and citations frequently serve as the entry point into a much broader and more complex risk landscape. The implications can involve criminal exposure, expand into multiple forms of civil litigation and create significant business and reputational consequences.

Below is a structured look at how that risk unfolds and how employers can position themselves to manage it and limit liabilities.

OSHA Citations: The Gateway Issue

At the most basic level, OSHA citations matter for many reasons beyond the monetary penalties, which can be significant. Accepted OSHA citations can create evidence for a tort case, predicates on the record for future repeat and willful violations, "red flags" for third-party tracking services and public relations disasters. Citations can quickly become foundational evidence for other forms of liability and, in serious cases, may trigger criminal enforcement.

Criminal Liability Under the OSH Act

Many employers underestimate the circumstances under which OSHA violations can lead to criminal charges. Under Section 17(e) of the OSH Act, criminal liability may arise where a workplace fatality occurs, the employer violated a specific OSHA standard (not just the general duty clause), and the violation was classified as willful and caused the fatality.

The consequences can include up to six months imprisonment and fines up to $500,000 for the company and $250,000 for individuals.

Importantly, an entire multinational organization can be publicly impugned, indicted and prosecuted based on the misconduct of one lower-level manager. But prosecution is not limited to the corporate entity. Criminal liability can extend to safety managers, operations managers and executives.

Despite turnover at federal agencies, OSHA continues to refer Section 17(e) cases, and the U.S. Department of Justice continues to prosecute them. For an employer to be indicted and ultimately convicted of a violation, the DOJ will need to prove to a jury the existence of the willful OSHA violation (and willful mental state by a specific management individual) beyond a reasonable doubt — a higher legal standard than required for a civil OSHA citation.

The Critical Role of 'Willful' Violations

The willful classification is the linchpin for both enhanced civil penalties and potential criminal exposure.

Though definitions can vary based on jurisdiction and federal courts, OSHA generally defines a willful violation as involving purposeful disregard of a known legal requirement or plain indifference to employee safety, including failure to act on known hazards or communicate safety requirements.

In practice, this means the government is looking for evidence that management:

- Knew of the requirement and hazard.
- Failed to act.
- Failed to implement effective safety systems.

Pre-accident hazard analysis can be post-incident narratives — documents, emails, training records and witness testimony that become central to enforcement risk.

Avoiding the Willful Trap

From a compliance standpoint, the most effective defense is a proactive and documented safety program. Key elements include:

- Identifying and addressing hazards before an incident.
- Implementing a safety and health management system and appropriate safety programs to address identified hazards.
- Supervising employees and effectively enforcing safety rules.
- Conducting root cause analyses after incidents and implementing recommendations.

These are not merely "best practices," they are the factors that OSHA and DOJ will examine in determining whether conduct crosses into willful territory. It is critical for employers to manage OSHA inspections deliberately and strategically to avoid willful OSHA citations.

Criminal Exposure Beyond OSHA — 'Dishonesty' Offenses

A critical — and often overlooked — risk arises from employers' conduct during inspections and investigations. Many high-profile prosecutions stem not just from the underlying safety failure but from attempts to conceal it.

Employers (and individuals) may face separate federal criminal liability for falsifying records and making false statements to federal investigators. These offenses carry penalties of up to five years imprisonment per violation.

There is no requirement for Miranda warnings in OSHA interviews, meaning statements made casually or without counsel may still be used in criminal proceedings. The takeaway is straightforward: Inspection management and interview preparation are risk-critical activities. Employers must provide only truthful, nonspeculative information.

State Criminal Liability — No Federal Shield

Employers sometimes assume that federal OSHA enforcement preempts state criminal law. That is not the case. Courts have confirmed that state prosecutors may pursue criminal charges based on workplace safety violations, including manslaughter, reckless conduct and, in extreme cases, murder.

These cases often target both corporate entities and individual executives, particularly where there is evidence of knowing disregard for safety risks.

The Bermuda Triangle of Civil Exposure

Beyond criminal enforcement, workplace incidents frequently trigger overlapping civil liabilities — what we often describe as a "Bermuda Triangle" of claims.

Employment Law Exposure

Workplace incidents can intersect with multiple employment statutes, including the Family and Medical Leave Act (leave rights and job protection), Americans with Disabilities Act (reasonable accommodation and disability protections) and whistleblower laws, when employees report safety concerns.

Employment retaliation claims — particularly after injuries or safety complaints — present significant risk and are actively investigated by the OSHA whistleblower investigation office.

Workers' Compensation and Its Limits

Direct employees of the employer are typically limited to compensation for workplace injuries and illnesses in the workers' compensation system. While workers' compensation systems provide the exclusive remedy for many injury claims, they do not eliminate all exposure.

Employers still face retaliation claims for employees who report injuries, variability in benefits and procedures across states and that can potentially spillover into other forms of litigation.

Perhaps the most expansive exposure arises from third-party claims including negligence (failure to train, supervise or identify hazards); breach of contract claims involving contractors; product liability or equipment modification issues; or indemnity and subrogation claims from insurers.

These claims often rely heavily on OSHA findings and underlying incident facts.

A Single Incident, Multiple Fronts

What begins as an OSHA inspection can quickly expand into criminal enforcement (federal and state), parallel civil litigation and employment claims as well as reputational and business consequences.

And in nearly every instance, the OSHA citation — and the facts developed during that process — serves as the central narrative thread across all proceedings. In short, OSHA citations are not an endpoint, they are often the beginning of a much broader exposure profile. Employers that recognize this early are far better positioned to manage risk and avoid escalation across criminal, civil and business domains.

Employers' best practices:

- Treat OSHA inspections as serious, high-stakes legal events and not brainstorming sessions.
- Invest in proactive safety systems that demonstrate diligence and good faith.
- Manage incident response carefully, including evidence preservation and root cause analysis.
- If applicable, take prompt, effective action to correct unsafe conditions, remove unsafe equipment from service and retrain employees.
- Engage in careful communications with caution to preserve privilege and avoid admissions.
- Prepare personnel for OSHA interviews and avoid admissions.
- Align legal, safety and business leadership in responding to incidents and citations.

R

 By Amy Moulden, NARA Director of Operations and Member Relations

From Policy to Plant Floor: How NARA Advocacy Impacts Your Bottom Line

One of the greatest benefits of North American Renderers Association membership is having a seat at the table where decisions affecting our industry are made. While every member may not have the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., every member benefits from having a strong, unified voice advocating on behalf of the rendering industry. Advocacy is one of the many ways NARA turns membership into measurable value.

Earlier this month, members from across the U.S. gathered in our nation's capital for the 2026 Congressional Fly-In. Over three days, they met with senators, representatives, congressional staff and the House and Senate agriculture committees to discuss the issues that matter most to the rendering industry. We also heard from policy experts during educational briefings and hosted our annual Congressional Reception on Capitol Hill.

While these meetings happen in Washington, the decisions being discussed directly affect rendering facilities, employees, customers and markets across the country.

Transportation regulations influence how products move safely and efficiently throughout the supply chain. Feed regulations help ensure science-based policies that protect both animal and public health while allowing our industry to continue providing valuable feed ingredients.

Biofuel policies shape growing markets for rendered fats, creating new opportunities for renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. International trade policies determine whether U.S. rendered products can reach customers around the world, opening markets that support business growth and strengthening our industry's global competitiveness.

Advocacy also plays a critical role in telling the industry's sustainability story. Rendering is one of the oldest forms of recycling, transforming materials that might otherwise go to waste into valuable products. Those products are used in animal feed, pet food, renewable fuels, fertilizers and countless everyday products.

As conversations around sustainability and the circular economy continue to grow, it is essential that policymakers understand the environmental benefits our industry provides. Those conversations don't happen on their own. They happen because NARA members are willing to share their experiences and educate decision-makers.

The rendering industry has celebrated several significant policy victories over the past year, thanks in large part to the relationships NARA has built with legislators, regulatory agencies and industry partners. Those successes reinforce the importance of having a unified voice representing our industry at every level of government.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this year's Fly-In was seeing members from companies of all sizes come together with a common purpose. Competitors back home became collaborators in Washington, united by a shared commitment to protecting and advancing the rendering industry. That collective voice carries far more weight than any individual company could on its own.

As director of operations and member relations, one of my goals is to help members fully experience the value of NARA membership. The Congressional Fly-In is one of the best examples of that value in action. It provides a unique opportunity to build relationships with policymakers, learn more about the legislative process and help shape the future of our industry. There is simply no substitute for telling your company's story directly to the people making decisions that affect your business.

If you've never participated in the Congressional Fly-In, I encourage you to consider joining us next year. Whether you're attending for the first time or returning as a longtime participant, your voice matters. The more members we have engaged, the stronger our message becomes and the greater our impact will be.

Membership matters because advocacy matters. From policy to plant floor, the work we do together helps protect markets, create opportunities and strengthen the future of the rendering industry. When NARA members speak with one voice, we all move the industry forward. R

NARA Congressional Fly-In 2026

Rep. Tracey Mann, center, was presented with the Congressional Champion of Renderers Award. Also pictured from left, Michael Glenn of BHT ReSources, Doyle Leefers of National Beef, Dave Kaluzny of Kaluzny Bros., Kent Swisher with NARA and Michael Koewler of Sacramento Rendering.

From left, Michael Glenn with BHT ReSources and his wife Jeanine, Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Marsha Vickers with BHT ReSources and Kent Swisher of NARA.

Tristen Daedalus with Baker Commodities, Michael Glenn, Jeff Schopmeyer with Travis Trailer and his wife Robyn all paused to take a photo from Speaker Mike Johnson's balcony in the U.S. Capitol Building after a meeting with his senior policy advisor.

From left, Jeff Neil of Tyson Foods, Dana Downing with NARA, Michael Koewler of Sacramento Rendering, Kyle Canning of Scoular, Kent Swisher and Amy Moulden with NARA.

NARA hosted a congressional reception for representatives and staff in the Longworth House Office Building.

Cornthwaite Joins Camlin Fine Sciences

Mark Cornthwaite was named product manager for Camlin Fine Science's Shelf-Life Solutions platform in North America, where he will support the continued growth and strategic direction of the company's antioxidant and antimicrobial portfolio. Cornthwaite has more than 15 years of experience in the food ingredients industry, with expertise in product management, commercial strategy and driving portfolio growth across food applications.

Schomburger, Morris Tapped as New Tyson Executives

Tyson Foods selected Jeff Schomburger as the company's new CEO in late May. Schomburger served on the company's board for 10 years and had previously worked for Proctor & Gamble for 35 years. He retired from the company in 2019 as global sales officer, having served in multiple leadership roles.

Tyson also named Wes Morris as chief operating officer. He worked for Tyson for more than 20 years before retiring from the company in February. Morris will oversee logistics and procurement in addition to the company's business segments, including chicken, beef, pork, prepared foods and international.

Mountaire Promotes Irwin

Amanda Irwin was promoted to president and CEO of Mountaire Farms. She most recently served as president and will continue to lead the poultry company while reporting to Ronnie Cameron, chairman and CEO of parent Mountaire Corp.

Irwin joined Mountaire at age 19 as a summer intern in quality assurance and has held positions in processing operations, live production, human resources and sales. She was named vice president of processing operations in 2020, executive vice president of processing operations and sales in 2023, chief operating officer in 2024 and president in 2025.

Rangen Group Hires Templeman

Dr. James Templeman has joined the Rangen Group as director of technical services in pet nutrition. Templeman earned his doctorate in companion animal nutrition from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. The company's announcement stated his addition to the team will advance its mission to provide customer-centric technical support through advanced nutrition expertise.

Meat Institute Promotes Schumpp

The Meat Institute has promoted Michael Schumpp to vice president of international affairs. Schumpp has previously held positions handling legislative and public affairs issues at the Meat Institute, most recently serving as senior director of international affairs. He advises and consults members, U.S. government stakeholders and international partners on pertinent issues affecting U.S. meat and poultry trade, providing both technical expertise and strategic guidance to facilitate trade in U.S. meat and poultry products.

AFIA Announces Staff Changes

Meghan Dicks will transition to director of regulatory affairs for the American Feed Industry Association effective Sept. 1, following the retirement of Louise Calderwood. She previously served as director of membership and engagement. In her new role, Dicks will bring her background in regulatory affairs and association operations to AFIA's policy team, providing strategic leadership on regulatory, legislative and scientific issues affecting the animal food industry. Her primary responsibility will be in animal food safety, pet food, equine and scientific regulatory affairs. **R**

Mark Your Calendar

August 2026

Quarterly NARA Committee Meetings
Aug. 13 • Virtual

National Safety Conference for the Poultry Industry
Aug. 17-19, Destin, FL • uspoultry.org/programs/education/seminar

AAFCO Annual Meeting
Aug. 26-28, San Diego, CA • aafco.org/events/meetings/annual/2026-annual-meeting

September 2026

REAM/International Rendering Conference
Sept. 8-10, Mendoza, Argentina • renderingamerica.com

21st Euro Fed Lipid Congress and Expo
Sept. 12-15, Rotterdam, the Netherlands • eurofedlipid.org/#mark-your-calendar

Australian Renderers Association Symposium
Sept. 15-17, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia • ausrenderers.com.au/en/symposium

October 2026

American Fats and Oils Association Annual Conference
Oct. 7-8, Kansas City, MO • fatsandoils.org

Solutions Summit
Oct. 7-9, New Orleans, LA • meatinstitute.org/events

Poultry Protein and Fat Seminar
Oct. 8-9, Nashville, TN • uspoultry.org/programs/education/seminar

6th International Symposium on Lipid Oxidation and Antioxidants
Oct. 12-14, Wageningen, the Netherlands • eurofedlipid.org/#mark-your-calendar

NARA Annual Convention
Oct. 20-23, Tucson, AZ • nara.org/about-us/events

November 2026

Equipment Manufacturers Conference
Nov. 4-6, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico • afia.org/events

International Feed Industry Federation/Food and Agriculture Organization Annual Meeting 2026
Nov. 12-13, Rome, Italy • ifif.org/global-feed/events

Meeting information could change so visit the listed website for updated information.

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