



Rendering Circles

A newsletter produced by the Australian Renderers Association Inc.

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Presidents Annual Report



The ARA continued its focus on market access, benchmarking and carbon tax in 2010/2011 and of course it also put a major effort into getting ready for the 2011 symposium. As usual Graeme Banks bore the brunt of the work but my fellow directors also put in their time and effort into making sure that the ARA represented members effectively. Dennis King deserves a special mention for re-developing the ARA web site. The web site now looks slick and modern and is up-to-date as far as technology and facts are concerned. An update of the website is one of the projects that the ARA has been threatening to do for years and Dennis is to be congratulated on getting the job done.

The work load in preparing for the symposium was greater than usual because new venues were being used and the ARA was determined to turn-around falling attendances. The work was shared out amongst the symposium committee members but some special mentions are warranted. Committee Chairman Phil Lambeth kept the arrangements on track and did the jobs that no-one else wanted. Phil made sure that all the details were in place at the venues and made the arrangements with the booth

construction company. The Sydney connections, Bill Trollope and Bill Spooncer, did the work of sussing out a wide range of venues and identifying the best options and Dennis King crops up again for his efforts and expertise in establishing the very successful symposium web site

The other people who deserve special mention for making sure that the symposium preparations went smoothly are the sponsors. The long-term major sponsors Keith Engineering and Gardner Smith were again great supporters contributing both sponsorship dollars and their time in organizing venues and the program. Other previous sponsors including Peerless Holdings, BEC Feed Solutions and Craig Mostyn also returned as Gold Sponsors. There were also plenty of new sponsors. The ARA appreciates all their contributions.

A major event for the ARA in 2010/11 was the visit by Japanese MAF inspectors to review rendering plants. The visit was a major step in allowing access to Japan for poultry and pig meals and digest. It occurred after several years of negotiations between the Japanese MAF and AQIS with input from the ARA. One member of the ARA provided some unusual support for the visit. Chieko Sasaki of Skretting provided a Japanese translation of a Power Point presentation about the Australian Rendering Industry. The presentation was prepared by Craig Palmer and Bill Spooncer but it was Chieko's translation that was a hit with Japanese delegation.

By the end of the 2010/11 year the question of Japanese access had not

been resolved but more recent information from AQIS is that an agreement about access could be close.

Apart from the ongoing saga of Japanese access, the ARA continued to work closely with AQIS on a range of market access issues. Details are reported elsewhere in Rendering Circles but I would like to record my appreciation for the support that AQIS staff have given the rendering industry. I would particularly like to thank Laura Timmins who was an excellent AQIS rendering specialist but has now moved on to be Program Manager of Live Animal Exports. Laura has been a great help to the ARA and we wish her well in her new and challenging role. Clare Jones took over from Laura as the rendering specialist and I thank her for her valuable input. Christine Coulson also provides essential support to renderers. Christine is Manager of the Non-prescribed Goods and Organics Program and we depend on her to maintain credible programs that comply with importing country requirements.

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the retirement of some valued supporters of the ARA. Bill Trollope of Keith Engineering has retired although he looks too young to give up the enviable business of rendering. Cam Wilkinson the NSW Manager of A.J. Bush & Sons (Manufactures) has also decided he has something better to do than rendering and Richard Reeder, the founder and Managing Director of BEC Feed Solutions has also retired.

AQIS Rules!

The ARA is entering into a more formal arrangement with AQIS about the management of market access programs. AQIS has had long-standing arrangements with the ARA about the ARA's management of independent auditing programs designed to ensure that members who require specific market access comply with the relevant importing country requirements. These arrangements have been documented in a variety of ways, for example in the AQIS Animal By-products Program for Export to the EU. AQIS has proposed that the ARA and other industry associations agree to a memorandum of understanding with AQIS that will set out the conditions for managing market access programs. An MOU has been drafted and is being worked through by the ARA and AQIS. The MOU will be an important advance in the ARA's relationship with AQIS and will provide the basis for the ARA to manage independent auditing programs.

Members may not notice the effect of the MOU with AQIS but behind the scenes Graeme Banks will be doing the extra tasks required by the MOU on behalf of members.

On a related issue, the ARA has responded to the AQIS audit of the ARA's market-access listing-program by documenting policies and management and auditing procedures. The documented policies and procedures follow accepted practices so again, members should not notice any difference to their market access arrangements but Graeme will be carrying the burden of implementing the more formalised arrangements.

AQIS is working on several market-access issues. The most important one, in terms of product volume, is access for protein meals to China. This is now at the stage where establishments will have to be registered by China's quarantine agency, the AQSIQ, and will have to be audited by AQSIQ inspectors to obtain registration. The registrations are supposed to be in place by 1 January and AQIS has forwarded details of 27 establishments that have requested registration. The audits of rendering plants will not be completed by 1 January because the AQSIQ does not have the necessary resources. Some pet food establishments expect to be audited in December. The ARA has asked AQIS to request that audits by AQSIQ be initiated as soon as possible and AQIS has requested a postponement of the 1 January deadline to allow trade to continue. Registration by the AQSIQ is in addition to the established pro-

cess of registration with the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture.

There may be some progress with access for poultry and pork meat meal and digests into Japan. Mark Schipp, who has worked with the ARA before and is now the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, has had discussions with the Japanese MAF and has reported that the MAF has proposed a market access protocol. The protocol removes some doubts and misunderstandings that seemed to arise at the inspections that took place in November 2011 and returns mostly to the requirements as understood by the ARA.

If this protocol is put in place we could see some exports of poultry meal and digest to Japan in the near future. However, a recent development is that the Japanese MAF is again reviewing the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Rendering of Animal products to see if the provisions of the Standard can be considered equivalent to the MAF's requirement to process rendered products at prescribed time and temperature.

AQIS has pointed out that establishments that require access for inedible products to Mexico must submit an application for registration through AQIS. Plants have been listed for access to Mexico previously but these listings have lapsed and listing is now required on an annual basis.

New EU legislation covering animal by-products not for human consumption is due to come into force in November. At the same time, AQIS has reviewed EU requirements in the process of transferring importing country requirements from the Export Meat Manual volume 2 to the MICoR framework. This could result in changes to requirements for EU access but specific requirements remain unclear until AQIS releases a checklist of operational requirements. The checklist is due by the end of November and in the meantime the ARA is negotiating with AQIS about some of the proposed changes.



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11th International Symposium

For the history buffs, the ARA's 1st symposium was held in Sydney in 1991 at the Gazebo Hotel. The next two symposia were also in Sydney and in 1997 the fourth symposium went to Melbourne. For 2011 the 11th symposium moved back to Sydney. This turned out to be a good move and the 11th symposium attracted a record attendance of 234 people. The ARA particularly wants to thank the international guests for the efforts they made to attend the symposium.



David Conoulty, Reg Evans and mark Sorensen at the symposium dinner.



The A.J. Bush team congratulates Cam Wilkinson on his service to industry award

There were plenty of highlights at the 11th Symposium notably the great venue at the Sydney Conference and Exhibition Centre in Darling Harbour with excellent facilities and space for exhibitors; a well varied program led by world fats and oils expert Dorab Mistry; and a memorable harbour cruise and dinner function.

Rendering Circles' vote for most memorable moment goes to Noel Dew's presentation about the Christchurch earthquake. This may not seem like a rendering issue but Noel's sensitive handling of the topic and presentation of a stone from the Christchurch cathedral in acknowledgement of the ARA's contribution to Red Cross relief fund meant a lot to the Kiwis and Aussies at the symposium.



Noel Dew presents a stone from the Christchurch Cathedral to Graeme Banks in acknowledgement of the ARA's contribution to the Red Cross earthquake relief fund

Tina Caparella has provided a detailed report of the symposium and the various presentations in the August edition of Render magazine. In addition all the presentations are available on the ARA website through the link www.arasyposium.com.au/index.php?option=com_zoo&view=frontpage&Itemid=41

ARA Scholarship

The ARA held the workshop on hygienic rendering of animal products at The University of Queensland, Gatton for the first time in February. To mark the relationship between the ARA and The University of Queensland the ARA sponsored two scholarships for students at the Gatton campus. The scholarships were offered to third-year animal production students who were involved in feed-lot studies. The students had to apply for the scholarship and write a one-page application that demonstrated some understanding of rendering. The two winners, who were selected on the basis of their applications, were Robert Johnstone and Carly Harris.

ARA director Dennis King attended the awards dinner where Robert and Carly were presented with their scholarships. Robert and Carly were also presented with certificates from the ARA and portfolios about the Australian Rendering industry.

The next workshop on hygienic rendering of animal products is scheduled at The University of Queensland, Gatton on 5 to 10 February, 2012.



Dennis King with ARA scholarship winners Carly Harris and Robert Johnstone



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Summation—11th ARA International Symposium—July 2011



Julius Rath summarises the symposium

One of the unique things about the rendering industry is that it has a window into so many other businesses and industries.

Our rendering raw materials come mostly from the meat and poultry industries so we are exposed, through them, to all the issues in their markets from meat prices, to animal nutrition, food safety and animal welfare.

Our rendered products go to a range of markets from edible food, to stock feeds, pet foods, soaps, oleo-chemicals and fuel. We are exposed through these markets to the fluctuating conditions in the grain, oilseeds and energy markets. This means we need to follow weather patterns, shipping and world trade to keep in touch with market conditions.

Then the rendering industry itself has its peculiar industrial processing conditions, with a focus on transport, material handling, energy and environmental issues, to mention a few.

For such a small and invisible industry we punch above our weight when it comes to interest and challenges.

In the last few years the return for rendered products has been strong, particularly in Australia and New Zealand and the market outlook continues to be promising, underpinned by world population growth, strong demand from China and the need for sustainable practices.

Dorab Mistry gave us a good picture of the global fats and oils market. The short-term outlook is that there is likely to be over-supply and softer prices, but tallow seems to be in a good position underpinned by biodiesel demand and sustainability issues. Jan de Roover backed up Dora-

b's comments with an explanation of tallow use in Europe with emphasis in the advantageous position of tallow for use in renewable fuels.

Frank Ji was able to elaborate on the enormous importance and potential of the Chinese market for both tallow and meat and bone meal.

We certainly live in uncertain times with serious debt crises in the US and Europe. Our markets are dynamic and there's nothing more constant than change. The changes in the animal protein market continue to evolve and although animal protein meal continues to be extremely useful and valuable, the various markets require us to weave our way through bureaucracy and regulations to achieve and secure market access.

The meat and bone meal market is certain to become more interesting with increasing competitive tensions from South America, and the re-emergence of tallow and animal protein meal from North America and maybe Europe.

Customers will continue to determine which countries' products are acceptable, whether raw materials are segregated by species, which parts are included and whether tallow is suitable for edible or inedible use.

As Mike Rodey stated, it is incumbent on us to know our products and markets and stay focused on quality, safety and sustainability.

On the subject of sustainability, we need to broadcast the message that rendering is a positive contributor to sustainability targets. We don't need the burden of a carbon tax that discriminates against Australian producers, or worse still only some Australian producers, all of whom have to compete against each other and ultimately against renderers from all over the world. Moreover we need to be competitive with global manufacturers of alternative vegetable oils and meals.

On the theme of investing in the rendering industry, we've had some insights on the rationale behind our investment decisions, including value adding, compliance, energy efficiency, heat recovery and innovation.

However the first rationale of investing in rendering has got to be confidence in future business and the big picture outlook continues to be positive provided we are mindful of what's going on around us.

The enterprise of rendering is fundamentally strong because it takes something of little value to anyone else and converts it to valuable products for others to use.

This is equally true even if we redefine rendering, as suggested by Erika Weltzien, to include the capture of other waste streams or focus on the production of biogas.

Our principal challenge is to protect and increase the value of our raw materials and we need to be mindful of the steps that help us achieve this. What we've heard in the

(Continued on page 6)



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last couple of days has helped to focus our minds on this issue.

We've heard from industry experts from around the world about a range of topical issues from the big picture, right through to important and minute details.

On behalf of the ARA I would like to thank all of our speakers for their input into the symposium. I would particularly like to thank our international speakers for their extra effort in coming to Australia to share their knowledge and expertise with us and to make this a truly international event. And more particularly I would like to acknowledge Dorab Mistry, Jo De Roover and Guilhurme Melo for their presentations. These speakers are not directly involved in our industry and we appreciate hearing their broader view.

Some of the major equipment and ingredient suppliers to our industry have been exhibiting their most up-to-date technology. Their sponsorship and support is appreciated.

I think the symposium has been an outstanding success, with over 230 full registrations, an array of accomplished speakers giving us their spin on the latest and most interesting topics with a good balance of socialising and fun.

An event like this does not just happen, it has required the hard work and dedication of many people and I want to acknowledge again the good work done by the organising committee and the ARA directors.

In particular I must mention the Chairman of the organizing committee Phil Lambeth and also Bill Spooncer, Graham Banks and Bill Trollope and Scott Amedee. And thanks also to all ARA directors, especially Dennis King for all the good work on the website. Thanks are due to the ARA presidents: Andy Bennett you're doing a great job, and to the previous president Craig Palmer who presided over the symposium plans for the first year of the planning period.

Well done to all concerned and thank you for your participation.

Julius Rath

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ARA Benchmarks

The ARA has completed its fourth annual benchmark survey. Members responded to the survey with details of energy, electricity and water use. Results from the 2010/11 survey have been examined by Dr Stewart McGlashan to determine the CO2 equivalent emissions corresponding to the benchmark data. Stewart found that based on the data submitted to the benchmark survey, emissions could exceed 1000 tonnes of CO2 equivalents per million dollars of product revenue. Further work is required to verify the benchmark data but if the 1000 tonnes of CO2 per million dollars revenue is confirmed, rendering could qualify as an energy intensive trade exposed (EITE) industry and renderers could get a 60% allocation of permits to emit.

Eleven ARA members submitted data to the survey. In addition, data was submitted by six members of the New Zealand Renderers Group.

Data on energy and water use were submitted on the basis of per tonne of water removed from raw material and/or per tonne of raw material processed. Water removed is the difference between the total weight of raw material intake and the total weight of products.

The figures for energy and water use are spread over all raw material intake and products.

The ARA conducted surveys of members to establish benchmarks for energy and water use in 2008, 2009 and 2010. The details of these surveys have been made available to the ARA members who responded to the survey and a summary of results is shown below.

It is not suggested that data from different establishments should be directly compared but one point of interest is the possible difference between wet rendering and dry rendering processes. Some of the Australian establishments that responded to the survey use multiple rendering processes but several establishments use predominantly dry rendering (apart from possible blood processing). No Australian establishments that submitted data use wet rendering only. By contrast, the six New Zealand establishments use wet rendering only. The mean energy use was 4.33 GJ per tonne water removed at all Australian establishments and 3.73 GJ per tonne water removed at the New Zealand establishment. In addition the energy use at Australian establishments that use predominately dry rendering was 4.8 GJ per tonne water removed and 3.86 GJ per tonne water removed at establishments that use multiple rendering systems.

Mean energy and water use at rendering plants

	Mean benchmark for financial year			
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Gas (GJ per tonne water removed)	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.3
Electricity (kWh per tonne water removed)	101.5	112.5	102.1	98.0
Water use (kl per tonne water removed)	2.3	3.3	1.6	1.8
Waste water (kl per tonne water removed)	1.7	2.4	1.6	1.6

People and Places

Derek Henderson has been appointed General Manager of Keith Engineering following Bill Trollope's retirement. Derek has been with Keith Engineering for 9 years as Assistant General Manager. Before he joined Keith Engineering, Derek had been working South Africa. After surprisingly being conscripted into the South African army, Derek learned that business risks are a relatively minor aspect of life's tapestry. Consequently, when he got out of the army he started a company to supply and install abattoir and rendering equipment. Derek had an agreement with Keith Engineering to install rendering equipment in South Africa and when Terry Skillcorn retired from Keith, Derek was offered the job of Assistant General Manager. Despite spending much of his career in South Africa, those who know Derek will have detected a hint of Scottish accent. Derek was born in Glasgow and studied structural engineering in that home of engineers until he went to South Africa in 1981.

Mark Schipp has been appointed Chief Veterinary Officer in the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry. Mark is well known to the ARA from his time as the Australian Veterinary Counsellor based in Korea. It was during this time that Mark helped with the ARA workshops in China and took part in the program. Mark was subsequently manager of the AQIS Technical Standard branch where he helped the ARA with market access issues and was then manager of Food Exports. The ARA wishes Mark all the best as CVO.

Dean Aaron has been appointed NSW Manager of A.J. Bush and Sons (Manufactures). Dean has been with A.J. Bush for 12 years and worked very closely with Cam Wilkinson. Dean is from an accounting background and was looking after the accounting for both the Riverstone and Beaudesert establishments before he was appointed NSW Manager. Dean told Rendering Circles that he is looking forward to his involvement with the developments at the Riverstone plant including biogas recovery, energy efficiency projects and a new plant for processing fat and bone.

Jim Jamieson, who is well known as the former proprietor of Dalriada Meats at Keith, is now working at T&R Pastoral at Murray Bridge. Jim is helping Les Obst with the installation of a new ovine plant at Murray Bridge. Jim has many years experience in the rendering business and is a pioneer in the production and marketing of specialty ovine meals.

Malcolm Scifleet has taken on the job of Rendering Manager at the Primo Smallgoods new rendering plant at Scone. Malcolm has had a long career in the meat

industry. He was Manager of Mudgee Regional Abattoir and since the Mudgee abattoir closed has been Manager at Pyramid Hill abattoir in Victoria and has worked at Bindaree Beef, Inverell.

New rendering plants have been installed at Master Butchers in Adelaide and Primo Smallgoods at Scone. MBL has gone for a Flo-Dry plant for processing poultry and Primo has opted for an A&S Thai Works plant with twin-screw press and disc drier.

A.J. Bush and Sons (Manufactures) at Rivertstone is installing a new Keith plant to process fat and bone. Stage 1 of the project should be completed by April 2012.

Keith Engineering has installed a second continuous dry-rendering plant in the South Island of New Zealand. The first plant was in Invercargill and the second has been commissioned in Dunedin.

Auscol

The Melbourne operation of used cooking oil recycler AUSCOL has been accredited by the ARA as complying with the National Standard for Recycling of Used Cooking Fats and Oils Intended for Animal Feeds. ARA-approved auditor Bill Spooner told ARA members at the October meeting that he was very impressed with the professionalism and commitment to quality displayed by AUSCOL.

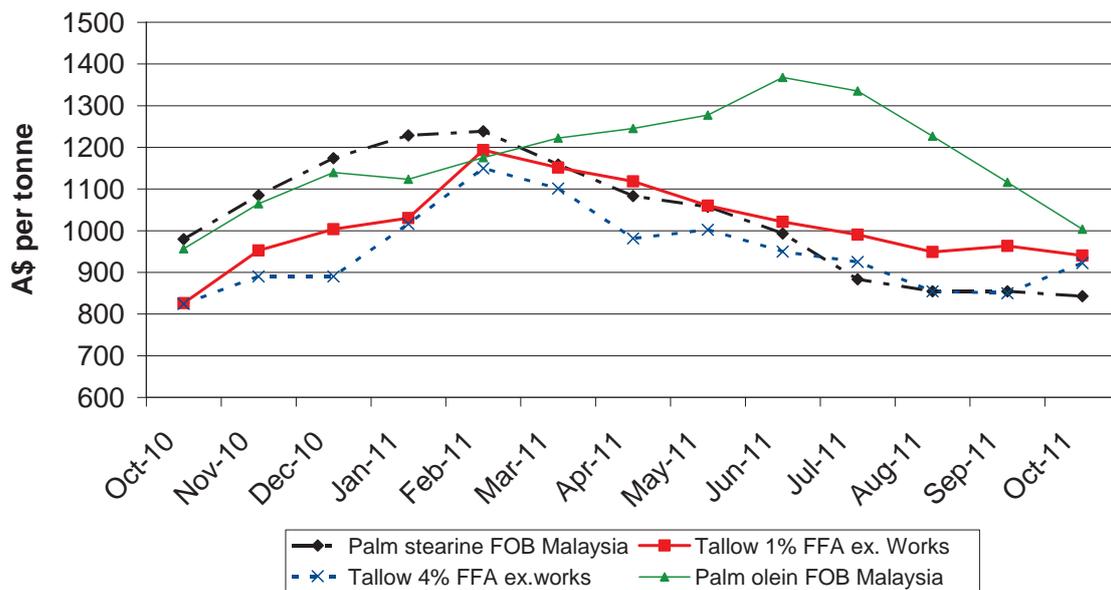
AUSCOL General Manager Pieter van Meel told Rendering Circles that AUSCOL operations in all capital cities are making sure that they are fully compliant with the National Standard. Pieter intends that all AUSCOL operations that produce oil for animal feed will be accredited.

ARA Meeting Date

The next general meeting of the ARA will be held in Wellington, New Zealand on Thursday 8 March, 2012 commencing in morning at a time to be announced. This will be followed by a joint meeting between the NZRG and the ARA.

Tallow and the Green Environment

Tallow and palm monthly average prices 2010-2011



Tallow prices have been on a downhill trend for most of the year mirroring the trend in palm stearine price and the meteoric rise in the Australian dollar from post Japanese earthquake lows to July "symposium" highs. But in September the nexus between tallow and palm stearine prices appeared to be broken. Could this be due to the green credentials of tallow compared with palm stearine? There are undoubtedly a combination of reason for why tallow has bucked the palm stearine trend and demand from customers in China who can't or don't want to use stearine in place of tallow is an important reason. However, there are environmental arguments to support demand for tallow now and in the future.

In general, tallow as a by-product from the primary process of meat production has a low carbon footprint compared with palm and other vegetable oils which require extensive land clearing for production. Whether this supports demand for tallow in a variety of applications in the long term remains to be seen. In his presentation at the ARA symposium Dorab Mistry raised the issue of indirect land use change (ILUC). When land use is changed from forest or natural grassland to cropping to produce vegetable materials for renewable fuels there is an unintended increase in carbon emissions. The advantage of using renewable fuel compared with fossil fuel, in terms of carbon emissions, disappears if the renewable fuel is derived from ILUC. The EU is considering whether to invoke ILUC to the detriment of palm-based biodiesel. Such a decision could kill the demand for palm-based biodiesel and support demand for tallow-based biodiesel. In this case tallow prices should enjoy a sustained premium compared with palm stearine.

However the inability of biodiesel producers to sell biodiesel at a premium to conventional diesel will, in the absence of any aggressive government subsidy or enforced mandate accompanying ILUC law, cap the price gains. As the Australian biodiesel experience has shown, traditional users of tallow with relatively inelastic demand and who

are able to push costs onto an uncapped selling price will be able to outperform unsubsidised biodiesel production.

The concept of ILUC is not just a European issue. It could affect biodiesel use in many countries including the USA. Another issue was canvassed by Joe de Roover at the symposium. The use of tallow-based biodiesel in working towards renewable fuel targets has expanded because tallow benefits from double counting under the EU's renewable energy directive (RED). Tallow has to be considered a waste to be double counted and Joe de Roover made the point that

category 3 tallow is hardly a waste. Nevertheless, the Netherlands, Germany, France and other EU nations allow double counting of tallow-based biodiesel. Double counting means that the quantity of renewable fuel made from a waste material can be counted twice when assessing the replacement of fossil fuel with renewable fuel. The RED aims to replace 10% of fossil fuel with renewable fuel by 2020. With double counting, the target would be achieved by replacing 5% of fossil fuel with renewable fuel from a waste material e.g. biodiesel made from tallow.

In the EU, double counting has certainly stimulated the demand for tallow in preference to palm and other vegetable oils to make biodiesel. However, Joe de Roover warned that double counting of category 3 tallow may not be permanent. He also explained that the demand for tallow-based biodiesel in Europe does not directly benefit Australian tallow because with transport costs, EU customers cannot compete with Asian buyers of Australian tallow. But there is an immediate impact in that the Neste Oil plant in Singapore, reputed to be the world's largest biodiesel plant, can take advantage of double counting for product sold into the EU and made from Australian tallow. Statistics reported in an Oil World publication report that Neste imported 55,000 m/t of tallow from January to June 2011¹. Australia and New Zealand were the source.

If palm oil is considered to be derived from ILUC and tallow enjoys continued double counting towards renewable energy targets in Europe, the future for tallow looks very healthy.

Unfortunately this is not necessarily the case. The lobbying highlighted by Joe de Roover in relation to the inconsistent interpretation of tallow as a waste has resulted in Germany making an announcement in August to exclude tallow from

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¹ Oil World, *Oil World No. 36, Vol. 54*, p. 441, 9 September 2011

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its waste law and in effect remove the double counting of tallow-based biodiesel.

A highly cynical market theory is that if one were to track the countries with aggressive biofuel subsidies then one is also likely to find countries with sovereign debt issues. This clouds the outlook for biodiesel. For instance, the USA voted in June 2011 to end the ethanol and biodiesel subsidies and other energy tax breaks. This was undertaken to reduce spending and curb the budget deficit.

The calendar year 2011 has been a particularly tumultuous year with, in general, every region of the world suffering from natural disasters and economic unease. In the case of China, heightened inflation levels compounded by a fixed and devalued currency have created economic uncertainties. Frank Ji of Gardner Smith Shanghai touched on this point when he noted that price controls by the Chinese government had squeezed demand and margins of processors and manufacturers. However, Frank noted that the price controls were expected to ease from the middle of August 2011. Resurgence in Chinese demand has been evident from late August that has seen tallow diverge from and out-perform palm stearine. Frank also made the point that increased proportions of the Chinese domestic tallow production were moving into the cosmetics and oleochemical industries and this has also affected Chinese import demand at the margins.

All told, 2011 has unveiled a balanced demand picture for Australian tallow. The efficiency of the newly constructed, multi-feedstock Neste Singapore plant coupled with the double counting rules of Europe delivered substantial competitive demand through the first eight months of the year. This at a time when traditional Chinese demand was adversely affected by price controls and the shifting use of Chinese domestic tallow.

However, the relaxation of price controls, the passing of the peak season for Chinese domestic tallow production coupled with low stocks and low inventory have seen Chinese demand dominate since September.

A sleeping issue for tallow remains the possible reintroduction of Canadian tallow into China. An announcement that the Chinese ban on Canadian tallow was to be lifted was made in June 2010. At the time of writing physical importation has not commenced because import protocols are not fully implemented. Some redistribution of demand is likely to occur in a post-Canadian ban future. But use of Australian tallow in renewable fuels should provide a balance. The geographically advantageous demand of Neste Singapore is highly price sensitive due to its multi-feedstock nature but should provide an outlet for Australian tallow. And in this environment, if tallow is cost effective in a biodiesel plant in Singapore, then it may be cost effective in an efficient plant in Australia.

Tom Coughlan and Damien Evans are acknowledged for their input to this article

WRO

The World Renderers Organization held its AGM in conjunction with the ARA symposium. Alan von Tunzelman stepped down as President after a two-year term to be replaced by David Kaluzny II. Stephen Woodgate moved first vice-president and Tim Juzefowicz was elected second vice-president.



David Kaluzny II presents an award to Alan von Tunzelman in recognition of Alan's tenure as WRO president with Stephen Woodgate looking on.

At the WRO annual general meeting, Stephen Woodgate highlighted the WRO's technical blueprint. He also gave a presentation about the blueprint at the WRO technical session on the second day of the symposium. Alan von Tunzelman explained that the WRO had been formed at the height of BSE and one of its main objectives was to provide a unified voice to represent renderers at international forums such as the OIE, FAO, WHO and Codex Alimentarius. This objective has been achieved successfully and the WRO is now looking to widen its role in engaging with renderers.

The blueprint is based on work of Bruce Ross and Kent Swisher. It sets out issues that affect the world rendering community and seeks to engage the international rendering community to find common approaches to the issues. Operational issues include raw material classification and transport; processing standards to ensure safe products; product transport; product benefits in nutritional and non-nutritional uses and product quality.

One of the first actions of the blueprint has been to prepare a Code of Practice. The Code focuses on hygienic rendering but can be expanded to include other topics. If the WRO can facilitate and document common approaches to industry issues and these approaches can be shared across the world, the WRO will provide a very useful service to member countries and show international agencies that it has the credentials to represent the world rendering community.

Presentations

The winner of the ARA's Ron Lyon award announced at the symposium was Bill Trollope.

As General Manager of Keith Engineering Bill has been a consistent supporter of the ARA. Keith sponsored the symposium and the accreditation workshops year after year. But Bill's involvement with the ARA goes much deeper than handing out sponsorship dollars. He also takes part in ARA events and makes valuable contributions. He has regularly attended the accreditation workshop to explain the operation of presses and other mysteries of rendering operations. He has also been an active member of the symposium committee. At the 2011 symposium Bill initiated arrangements at the Sydney Exhibition and Convention Centre and made the arrangements for the harbour cruise.

Bill has been involved with the rendering industry his whole career and not just as a leading manufacturer of rendering equipment. When Keith Engineering was first formed it was in partnership with Mascot Industries and operated rendering plants. As a young member of the Keith team Bill had to do his share of the unpleasant rendering jobs. Bill's knowledge and years of experience of rendering is probably only surpassed by Peter Johnson of Baiada and he is always ready to help the ARA and renderers in general with his rendering experience.

Bill was presented with the Ron Lyon award at the symposium dinner. Andy Bennett had arranged with Jim Lyle of Keith's sister company Dupps to make a



Bill Trollope, with Andy Bennett and Graeme Banks, shows off his Ron Lyon award prepared by Dupps

special presentation to Bill. However, with the time constraints the pressures of the symposium the Dupps' contribution could not be organized and acknowledged at the symposium. The award prepared by Dupps was presented to Bill at the ARA meeting in Brisbane in October.

The presentation to Bill at the ARA meeting also coincided with Bill's announcement of his retirement from Keith Engineering. Bill retired from Keith Engineering at the beginning of September after 37 years with the company and 40 years in the rendering industry. The ARA was very pleased to be able to mark Bill's retirement with the second presentation of his Ron Lyon award.

At the symposium dinner, the ARA also acknowledged the contribution of Cam Wilkinson of A.J. Bush and Sons (Manufactures) with the presentation of the Service to Industry Award. Cam had announced his retirement from his position as NSW Manager of A.J Bush and the award marked his distinguished career in the rendering industry. Cam has also been a great supporter of the ARA and was instrumental in initiating and providing impetus to the ARA's benchmarking survey.



Andy Bennett presents the Service to Industry award to Cam Wilkinson

Another notable retiree is Richard Reeder of BEC Feed Solutions. Richard founded BEC in 1985 and has been Managing Director since then. Richard has been a strong supporter of ARA activities and encouraged BEC employees Paul Stenzel and Philip Cuff to take leading roles in the association. The ARA was pleased to mark

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Richards's retirement and Philip Cuff accepted an award on behalf of Richard at the October general meeting.



Philip Cuff accepts the ARA award to Richard Reeder

Len Herbert

Len Herbert passed away aged 86 in July. Len may not be known to many of the current members of the ARA but in the 1960s and 70's Len was a leading researcher in the field of rendering. Len worked at the CSIRO Division of Chemical Engineering where he studied heat transfer in rendering processes. He published his work on heat and mass transfer in rendering vessels in the prestigious Journal of Food Science. In 1971 Len transferred to the CSIRO Meat Research Laboratory. He continued to work on rendering and installed a pilot scale batch cooker at the CSIRO Cannon Hill site. He worked with animal nutritionists Geoff Skurray and later Ted Batterham to determine the effects of raw material composition and processing conditions on the nutritional quality of meat meals. In 1979, when the use continuous dry-rendering was established but still expanding, Len convened a seminar to explore the best ways of operating the technology. His report on the seminar still provides excellent advice on how to operate a continuous cooker.

Len is survived by his two children and five grandchildren. His additions to the knowledge of rendering processes, arrived at through a rigorous scientific approach, are appreciated by all renderers.

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