



RENDERING *Circles*

A quarterly newsletter produced by the Australian Renderers' Association for customers and members.

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Register now for world symposium

Environmental, marketing and product innovations are among the topics for the international symposium World Rendering Beyond 2000 to be held in Queensland in July.

The symposium and accompanying trade show will be staged at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort Hotel on 21-23 July.

Speakers include Mr Neville Chandler who represents the US rendering industry in Europe, on the subject of global marketing challenges, and Mr Mike Langenhorst of US rendering company Anamax on market access. Mr Langenhorst is a vice president of the US National Renderer's Association and has spearheaded the formation of the International Renderers' Coalition. A speaker from Japan will cover subjects such as the Asian trading scene.

Others on the marketing program include Dr Jack Haslam of AQIS Canberra, Mr Bill Spooner of Food Science Australia and Mr Scott Amedee of Gardner Smith.

The environment session will see Mr Terry Schulz of CH₂M discussing the finger printing of odours, Prof Mike Johns of the University of Queensland on waste water sources and solutions, and Mr Terry O'Brien of Pacrim Environmental talking about environmental regulations.

The topics for 23 July include product and equipment innovations. Subjects include protein optimisation, fractionation of meals, aquaculture, feeding fats, coproducts research and development and soaps and cosmetics.

Fees are \$595 for ARA members and \$645 for non members, but discounts apply if paid before 20 June. Fees cover morning and afternoon tea, lunch, a cocktail party and dinner.

For details and registration forms, contact ARA, PO Box 390, Baulkham Hills NSW 1755; telephone 612 9686 3119; fax 612 9686 3303. RC



From left, Ir N. Johnny Adhinegara of Cargill Indonesia, Kevin Pratt of Camilleri Stockfeeds, Denis Roberts of MLA's meatmeal for aquaculture program and Ir Jonny H. Budiman of Cargill on the MLA stand at World Aquaculture '99. Photo courtesy MLA.

Feedmiller interest at aquaculture show

Feedmillers, aquaculture nutritionists and Australian fish farmers were among visitors to Meat & Livestock Australia's (MLA) display at World Aquaculture '99 in Sydney in April.

Over 900 papers or posters were presented at the conference, which attracted over 3000 delegates.

Coordinator of MLA's Meatmeal for Aquaculture subprogram, Mr Denis Roberts, said there had been considerable interest, particularly from Asian feedmillers, aquaculture nutritionists and aquaculture producers. Overseas delegates visiting the stand came from Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan, Europe and South America.

Mr Roberts said, "We provided data on the experimental work done on using meatmeal in aquaculture. Many prefer 55%-plus protein levels, which doesn't suit many of the Australian products. A number of papers during the technical program discussed displacing fish meal with meatmeal."

MLA is finalising contracts for research for 1998-99 into the use of meatmeal in aquaculture under its co-products research program.

People from ARA members Peerless and Camilleri Stockfeeds helped staff the stand. RC

Briefly...

ARA meeting: The Australian Renderers' Association held its general meeting at Food Science Australia (FSA) at Werribee Vic on 21 May. The meeting included a tour of the FSA facilities.

Newcastle disease: ARA members have received regular updates on overseas market access following an outbreak of Newcastle disease in the isolated Mangrove Mountain Ridge area of NSW in late March. Authorities decided to destroy all poultry in the infected area - about 1.5 million birds - to help contain the outbreak within the quarantine area. According to the National Office of Animal and Plant Health, no birds, poultry or products had been exported from the farm where the outbreak was detected.

Ruminant feeding: Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) has produced a leaflet on the ban on feeding ruminant material to ruminants. The leaflet explains what Australia has done to maintain its freedom from bovine spongiform encephalopathy in cattle and scrapie in sheep, including monitoring, quarantine laws and the ruminant feeding ban. It also explains the labelling of bagged feedstuffs and reinforces the need for everyone handling feedstuffs to comply with the appropriate legislation.

For copies of the ruminant feeding ban brochure, call Ms Tristan Owen at MLA on (02) 9463 9333.



Peak body: The Australian Renderers' Association is the peak body representing the rendering sector. ARA members represent 90 rendering establishments and the vast bulk of national rendering capacity. Individuals and companies who want to keep up to date with the rendering industry, including new regulations and standards, can join the ARA. Annual membership is \$750 for members and \$650 for associates. Contact Mr Graeme Banks on (02) 9686 3119 for details. **RC**

Market outlook flat

Major rendered products traders believed export markets were bottoming mid May, but expected little improvement short term.

Plant closures and seasonally low slaughter in southern States in the second quarter had reduced supply, and domestic stockpiling was starting to reduce availability for export.

While domestic MBM prices in Victoria had lifted about A\$15/tonne, and there was some short covering, export MBM prices had not rebounded as expected.

Because of the near export parity prices achieved in Queensland, northern prices were also pressured by the export market resistance.

The world market reflected both increased supply of cheap alternatives, and some demand issues.

Demand was reported as slow to 'almost slack', reflecting keen US and Argentine price competition and higher supplies, resulting in part from the La Nina cycle. One result was record fish catches off South America, resulting in fishmeal from Peru halving in price from US\$680/tonne to US\$340/tonne bulk in vessel. China in particular had taken advantage of such extremely cheap supplies.

Similarly, South America has recorded a large oilseeds harvest, while North America has reported good crop yields

and Malaysia is marketing high palm oil supplies, pressuring tallow prices and protein meals.

US slaughter rates have also stayed high. For example, the US weekly hog kill in April was around 2 million head, or about 200,000 head more per week than the 10-year average.

With supplies high, the market also had its demand problems. South American fishmeal had decimated the Chinese market and product quality concerns had dampened demand from Japan.

In Indonesia, feedmillers were reported to have built long stock positions to ensure supply against any political instability in the lead up to the national elections in June. The Malaysian market was also under pressure, given the cheap protein complex and pig health problems.

Additionally, there was little forward buying as customers awaited market bottom, while freight and exchange rates had contributed to a disparity approaching \$20-30/tonne.

Australian traders expected the market might start to pick up in July/August, depending on exchange and freight rates, with world commodity prices up in six months.

The tallow market had also bottomed, according to traders, with palm oil making a recovery and vegetable oils in general improving. **RC**

Young achiever soon

The Australian Renderers' Association will announce the winner of the inaugural Ron Lyon Young Achiever's Award shortly.

The association established the award in memory of respected tallow trader and logistics expert Ron Lyon, who died on 11 November last year.

The award carries a study grant of \$5000.

Guidelines for making the award were agreed at the March ARA meeting. They include nomination and employment by an ARA member, and successful completion of an ARA accreditation workshop (or registration for the next one).

Nominees have to describe the subject they wanted to study, the travel involved and how it could benefit the Australian rendering industry. **RC**

Japanese feeders visit

Japanese feeder requirements, the 5th rendering symposium and the ruminant feeding ban survey dominated the ARA quarterly meeting in Western Australia in March.

Twenty-nine people attended the meeting, which received a detailed report on the tour of Australian plants by Japanese feed users the previous week.

The meeting discussed various issues raised by the Japanese delegation, including the use of organic acids, Salmonella testing and a request to AQIS to include the name of originating establishments on health certificates.

Developments will be discussed at the May ARA meeting.

Members also discussed the sixth draft of the proposed Australian Standard for rendering, and the tighter controls, additional microbiological tests and supplementary audits required by AQIS to meet EU requirements.

Members also visited service renderer Talloman following the meeting. Talloman Divisional Manager Mr Andrew Bennett said the plant's new biological nutrient removal system for waste water treatment had reduced TKN from 1100mg/L raw to 20mg/L treated.

Visitors also inspected the plant's biofilter, which had been expanded from 580m² to 1750m² following odour fingerprinting under a Meat Research Corporation project headed by Colin Pitt and continued by MLA. Fugitive emissions were then tracked down, and a program to eliminate them devised.

Mr Bennett said, "Non condensibles are now blended into these streams and treated biologically rather than by incineration, saving \$1500 a week in natural gas costs and dramatically reducing odour problems." RC

New workshop

The first Rendering Operations Workshop will be held at the University of Western Sydney Hawkesbury on 20-24 June.

The course will cover quality aspects of meat meal and tallow, the effects on yield and quality of various equipment and processes, export and feeder specifications and the equipment and procedures available to meet those specifications.

For details contact course organiser Mr Bill Spooncer on (02) 4567 7952; fax (02) 4567 8952. The course is supported by Meat & Livestock Australia. RC



• From left, Graeme Banks and Kevin Pratt of ARA, Takashi Suzuki of the Japan Feed Trade Association (JFTA), Bill Spooncer of ARA, Andrew Cupit, San Ng and Jack Haslam of AQIS, Teruo Hayakawa and Norio Sugawara of Japan Feed Manufacturers Association, Junji Arai of the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Association (Zennoh, NFACA), Kentaro Nagashima of JFTA and Yoshiya Sakurahata of NFACA.

• The stainless steel ductwork and biofilter at Talloman WA, inspected by members attending the March meeting.

Diary

21-25 June: Rendering Operations Workshop, University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury NSW. (Contact Bill Spooncer, (02) 4567 7952)

21-23 July: World Rendering Beyond 2000, Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort Hotel, Queensland (Contact ARA, (02) 9686 3119)

17-18 October 1999: Fats and Proteins Research Foundation annual meeting, Phoenix Arizona US. (Contact FPRF +309 829 7744)

19-23 October 1999: National Renderers Association 66th annual convention, Phoenix Arizona US. (Contact US +703 683 0155) RC

Downturn hits members

The Australian Renderers' Association needs new committee members, following the departure of three people due to abattoir closures and downsizing.

President Mr Andy Bennett said members who could fill the committee vacancies should nominate as soon as possible. "It's not a great time involvement - just four meetings a year, and you keep up to date with industry developments," Mr Bennett said.

After 36 years, Mr Wayne Horsell has left the industry, due to the sale of Metro Meat International plants. The closure of Clover Meats in WA has led to the departure of Mr Ken Landwehr after 19 years, and the downsizing of Agpro in SA has seen ARA immediate past president Mr Kerry O'Connor leave the industry.

Mr Bennett said, "We thank these gentlemen for their valuable contributions and efforts over the years." RC

High compliance rates for ARA members

Australia is seeking formal recognition as a BSE-free country from the Office Internationale des Epizooties.

Australia has never had a case of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, but to achieve formal recognition from the international body, countries must meet certain criteria, including a ban on feeding ruminant material to ruminants.

All Australian States have a legal ban on ruminant-to-ruminant feeding and it is being extended to mammalian-to-ruminant feeding. For rendering plants, the legislation requires certain labelling of bulk and bagged products, among other things.

AQIS audited the effectiveness of the ban late last year, visiting 30 renderers as well as feed

manufacturing plants, resellers and feeders. The audits involved an entry meeting, inspection and exit meeting.

The audit found 93% of ARA members compliant with the ban. According to AQIS, any lack of compliance was due to lack of knowledge of the legislation. "In every case companies expressed a preparedness to comply once they were provided with information. There were no incidents of deliberate mis-representation of products by any renderer," the report said.

Safemeat has formed a working group to raise awareness of the ruminant feeding ban in all sectors of the meat and livestock industry. More audits to check the effectiveness of the ban are also being discussed. RC

21 at accreditation workshop

Twenty-one people attended the 10th ARA Accreditation Workshop, held at the University of Western Sydney (UWS) in February.

Participants came from Western Australia, Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

The week-long course covered introductory microbiology, the design and operation of rendering equipment and quality assurance plans to control microbes and ensure hygienic production of rendered animal products.

Participants also get the chance to prepare HACCP components of a quality assurance program and compete laboratory work before sitting the exam.

Course director Mr Bill Spooner said that people who successfully completed the course were accredited by both UWS and the ARA. "Since it started, 280 people have attended these workshops." RC



Your web

Render: You can keep up with American rendering industry news with the magazine *Render* on the Internet at <<http://www.rendermagazine.com>>.

FPRF: Another site worth a look is the Fats and Proteins Research Foundation Inc. (of which ARA is a member). You'll find it at <<http://www.fprf.org/>>.

EU: Another useful resource is <<http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg24/>>, the home page of the European Union's Directorate General 24, which handles consumer protection. Try the links to scientific committees for information on the safety of byproducts and safe rendering practices. You'll also find updates on BSE and hormone residues.

* If readers have favourite sites that might be useful to others, please let us know at ARA. RC

New members

The Australian Renderers' Association would like to welcome two new associate members, Commodity Inspection Service and bi-pro Marketing Ltd.

* **Commodity Inspection Service** is a marine analytical surveying company based in Brisbane Qld. Its services are often used by ARA members involved in the tallow trade.

* **bi-pro Marketing Ltd** is based in Ontario Canada and is involved in marketing food related byproducts, including feed and pet food.

Welcome aboard. RC

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