

Group Visits China Soybean Production Area

Following the World Soybean Research Conference in Beijing, China office staff arranged visits to China's Heilongjiang Province, a major soybean growing area that produces about 40 percent of China's soybeans. China will produce an estimated 600 million bushels of soybeans this year, which is approximately one-third of their soybean consumption.

The group was comprised of 4 members and 2 staff from the USB Production Committee, led by Committee Chairman Rick Stern. Meetings occurred August 16-21 and included stops at soy fields, crushing-refining plants, a state-owned farm and machinery station, a state reserve storage facility, educational-research facilities, feed mills and meetings with the Heilongjiang Soybean Association and the Provincial Grain Bureau.

The group was joined by the FAS attaché and staff covering oilseeds issues for the U.S. Embassy and one of the Global Oilseeds analysts from FAS-Washington. Country Director Phil Laney and Marketing Manager Claudia Chong also assisted with the visit.



World Soybean Research Conference in Beijing, China



USSEC Aquaculture Feeding Demonstration and Research Site/Beijing

Advantages Of Soy-Based Aquafeeds In Korea

Technical Director In Soo Shin of ASA-IM Korea visited three marine fish farming sites along the southern coast of Korea. Shin visited a hatchery offering extruded feeds to fingerlings and two grow-out farms raising fingerlings to market size with feed based upon trash fish. Dr. Shin presented technical material showing that extruded soy-based feeds save about 40 percent in feed costs per kilogram gain compared with trash fish. Also, Shin indicated that extruded feeds are advantageous in terms of mortality and water pollution compared with trash fish-based moist pellets, based upon the results of recent feeding studies. The grow-out farms are evaluating increasing the use of soy-based feeds for future production.

Bangkok Feed Conference Teaches Benefits of Soy Meal

A group of 29 progressive poultry entrepreneurs from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka attended the ASA-IM Feed Quality Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. The conference participants represent a feed milling volume of 4.6 million metric tons and use an estimated 1 million tons of soy meal annually.

At the conference, the team learned of advancements in various aspects of broiler industry, layer industry, and soybean use in the poultry segment and had the opportunity to interact with experts who provided solutions to improve their operations. The conference attendees will apply these technologies to their local poultry operations increasing their use of soybean meal.



Audience at the Feed Quality Conference in Bangkok

China Livestock Team Supports Chinese Swine Industry

The ASA-IM China Livestock Team continues working with preferred customers, focusing on improving technical levels for the Beijing Swine Breeding Center (BSBC). The state-owned BSBC is an important swine breeding and genetic improvement entity in China who recently merged with Huadu Pig Breeding Company and owns over 10,000 breeding sows. They plan to significantly expand their swine breeding and production.

Three China Technical Directors, Drs. M.Y. Huang (livestock), Sam Shi (swine) and Y.M. Han (poultry), gave presentations on piglet feeding and management, quality control of soybean meal and advancements in the U.S. swine industry. The team also visited BSBC's new breeding farm, which has 400 purebred sows in a well designed and equipped farm.

The unique feature of this farm is that a corridor with a sealed glass window on one side of the pig pens was installed to allow visitors and trainees to view all the farm operations while physically separating visitors from entering the animal living space and maintaining the needed bio-security standard. This will be an excellent venue for future training programs. These programs help Chinese swine producers attain the best animal performance in maximizing economic benefit by teaching, superior genetic improvements, keeping optimum nutrition management, and minimizing disease outbreak. China already produces half of the world's pork and, as the industry continues to grow, so will the use of U.S. soybeans.



The Livestock Team see swine farm through viewing corridor.

13th Annual Japan Partnership Team Explores U.S. Soy Industry

This week the 13th Annual Japan Partnership Team traveled throughout the U.S. to cultivate, improve and further develop their relationship with the American soybean industry. The team is comprised of the largest Japanese soybean crushers, representing imports of over 80 million bushels of soybeans a year, with 70 percent of Japan's total soybean imports coming from the U.S. The team's tour began in Indiana where they visited USSEC Board Vice-Chairman Scott Fritz's farm. The team also toured Indiana's Beck's Seed Company, where the team learned of farm production and information on the work Beck's is doing to help with the demand from the overseas markets. Next the team visited Missouri, where they toured the Monsanto Research Facility, Mid-America Biofuels, University of Missouri's National Center for Soybean Biotechnology, and Kelly Forck's farm. These visits help the Japanese crushers gain important knowledge of the U.S. soybean complex and the amount of work it takes to ensure our customers are receiving the most consistent and safe supply of soybeans. One of the main goals of the team's visit here is the roundtable discussion that took place August 27, where presentations to the Japanese Crushers included current U.S. crop production and the U.S. Soybean Complex and the Biotech Pipeline. Mr. Tsutomu Obara of the Japanese Oilseed Processors Association also addressed the group, speaking on the current Japanese soybean and oil markets. USSEC's Acting CEO Miguel Escobar is with the team as they visit New Orleans' Zen-Noh Grain Corporation and one of their export elevators.



Kelly Forck addresses the Japanese team on his farm operation

Malaysian Fish Farmers Learn About Soy-Based Feeds

The ASA-IM Southeast Asia office recently held a series of three seminars in Malaysia for several feed mills producing soy-based floating fish feeds. Sean Lan from the Shanghai office provided information on management of marine fish cultured in off-shore cages. The main concern is the feeding of trash fish that leads to water pollution, the spreading of diseases and high mortality rates. Post mortems on infected fish demonstrated to the farmers the types of bacteria infecting their fish. The increasing water pollution in the ocean bays has reached worrisome levels; hence participants were eager to understand the benefits of using the OCAT system in open seas. Based on feedback from the seminars, these farmers hope to learn more about using soy-based floating fish feed instead of trash fish to improve the efficiency of their farms in terms of feed conversion ratio and lower mortality.

Staff is actively working with the aquaculture industry in Southeast Asia to show farmers the benefits of using better production techniques and the importance of using appropriate feeds and feeding techniques to reduce production time and bring fish to market size faster. This would also reduce the risk of losing a crop to poor environmental conditions or disease.

USSEC Soy Bits

- Brown Smith Wallace auditors reported results of their Accounting and Compliance reviews of USSEC's offices in India (Asia Sub-continent), Japan, and Turkey (Middle East), as well as reviews of two USSEC sub-contractors. With the exception of a few minor findings and recommendations related to local office management, the reviews were completely free of any material observations.
- FAS auditors were in St. Louis this week conducting their annual review of FAS funding programs. FAS staff are reviewing 100% of St. Louis based expenses and a two month sample from each overseas office.

USSEC Events Calendar

Aug. 29-Sept. 6	Women In Soy Industry Meetings	India
Aug. 30-Sept. 6	Japan Food Bean Buyers Team	SD, MN
Sept. 1-2	Midwest Specialty Grains Conference	Sioux Falls, SD
Sept. 5-15	Southeast Asia Feed Industry Nutritionists Team	AR, MO
Sept. 6-12	Southeast Asia Buyers Conference	Philippines
Sept. 9-11	Soy in Aquaculture Stakeholders Meeting	Montgomery, AL
Sept. 13-27	China Crop Tour	IN, IA, IL, MO, MN, WI
Sept. 14-19	Caribbean/ Latin America Buyers Mission Team	MN, LA



The activities of the U.S. Soybean Export Council to expand international markets for U.S. soybeans and soy products are made possible by producer checkoff dollars invested by the United Soybean Board and various State Soybean Councils, support from cooperating industry, and through the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service investments provided through the American Soybean Association.

