

Soybeans
1.37 billion bushels

Soybean Meal
379 million bushels

Soybean Oil
1.14 million metric tons

Friday, July 16, 2010

USSEC Grower Leader Visit to Mediterranean Promotes Use of U.S. Soy in Fish Diets



Grower leader trip participants Yannis Kotzamanis, HCMR researcher; Mike Cremer, USSEC Aquaculture Technical Director; Lance Peterson, ASA Minnesota; David Wilson, USB Alabama; Robert Metz, Director USB; Catalina Valencia, USSEC Aquaculture Marketing Manager; Jan Van Eys, Animal Nutrition Consultant Europe; Marty Ross, USB Delaware; Sharon Covert, USB Illinois; and John Campen, USB New Uses Program Manager

Growing Soy Inclusion Rates

Greece, Turkey and Spain produce more than 287,000 metric tons of European sea bass and gilthead sea bream annually, consuming over 516,000 metric tons of aquafeeds per year. USSEC-funded research has demonstrated that using a combination of soy protein concentrate and soy meal, together with amino acid supplementation, can bring soy product inclusion rates up to 60% for sea bass and 50% for sea bream. Current research is designed to further increase soy product inclusion. Egypt produces 635,000 metric tons of tilapia annually. A USSEC-funded tilapia cage feeding demonstration is being used to highlight soy-based aquaculture production technologies developed by the U.S. soybean industry and serve as a model for boosting aquaculture in Egypt.

Soy grower leaders visited aquaculture industries in Turkey, Egypt and Greece during an 11-day tour organized by USSEC. Participants saw first-hand the activities of the aquaculture program in these countries and had the opportunity to visit key production sites and meet with key industry representatives. The tour was also used to promote results of USSEC-funded research on soy-based diets for European sea bass and gilthead sea bream. The group also met with potential cooperators for FY11 feeding demonstration projects, followed up on a Nile tilapia feeding demonstration project in Lake Wadi Rayan in Fayoum, Egypt, and checked on the progress of a soy-based diet research with taurine supplementation at the Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR) in Greece. Throughout the trip the farmers met with key aquaculture producers, feed mills and government representatives to discuss opportunities for mutual cooperation in the near future that could increase U.S. soy product use in aquafeeds.

USSEC Reaches Potential U.S. Soy Customers at Egypt Show

USSEC participated in the Agrena Poultry, Livestock and Aquaculture Exhibition in Cairo, Egypt, displaying information at a booth on the show's main floor. The exhibition is an annual regional event that is attended by thousands of producers, managers and technicians from countries in the Middle East and Africa. USSEC Middle East

Regional Technical Director Dr. Mohamed Sherif and his staff attended the exhibition and manned the booth to meet old and new contacts, and to answer technical questions from the guests at the booth. They also spoke to the local media and poultry magazines in the Middle East region.



USSEC's booth at the Agrena Poultry, livestock and aquaculture exhibition

Strong Support From Jiangsu Province For USSEC's Ongoing Aquaculture Project

USSEC is teaming with two other organizations to conduct a pond culture demonstration using zero-water discharge and soy-based (more than 60% soy) aquaculture technology to culture grass carp on a fish farm in Pingwang of China's Jiangsu Province. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate the environmental, economical and bio-safe advantages of this technology over the traditional technology. Working with USSEC on the project is Nanjing Institute of Environment Sciences (NIES) of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Jiangsu Provincial Extension Station for Fisheries Technology (JES). USSEC will provide the technology, feed formulas, monthly sampling and final report, while NIES will conduct initial and monthly water analysis and pond bottom mud checks at the beginning and at the end of the project. JES will provide coordination and facilitation for the project. USSEC staff has learned that to support this project and encourage the development of environment-friendly aquaculture technology in the province, the Jiangsu Provincial Bureau of Ocean and Fisheries has decided to grant a total of \$73,500 for two years (2010 and 2011). In addition, NIES will also provide financial support to this project. Jiangsu Province is one of China's largest aquaculture provinces with a total annual freshwater aquaculture production of about 3 million metric tons, which ranks No. 3 in the country.

Soy Food Processors in Taiwan Welcome USSEC's Technical Assistance

USSEC joined the Taiwan Tofu Industry Association (TTIA) to host a technical seminar for 80 participants, including large tofu processors, U.S. soybean dealers and researchers servicing the tofu market in central Taiwan. The Taiwan market imports more than 9 million bushels of U.S. soybean annually. The technical seminar allows USSEC to assist the preferred food customers of



Leaders of Taiwan's tofu industry at the Tofu Processing and Technology Seminar

U.S. soybeans improve production efficiency and profitability. At the seminar, USSEC invited Dr. K.C. Chang, Professor, Department of Cereal and Food Science, North Dakota University, to give presentations on the basic qualities of U.S. soybeans, their mechanisms in making high yield and good quality tofu and modern technology in using coagulants. A report on the updated health benefits of soy was also given by a local researcher to enhance the knowledge of tofu marketers about their products and for use in promoting soy to their customers. At the "question and answer" session, audiences suggested USSEC generate a scientific report to explain to consumers that tofu and soy milk are not high-purine containing foods.

Feed Quality Management Seminar Presented to Korean Industry and Government

USSEC technical staff in Korea was invited to participate in a short course on feed quality management organized by Korea's Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The course had 21 attendees, about half of them from the feed and livestock industry in charge of quality control and research and development. Other participants were government officials in charge of developing and executing policy for the feed and livestock industry. USSEC staff explained the comparative economic value of soy meals from different origins in terms of nutrient profiles and factors affecting quality of soy meal. In particular, a stable year-around supply and less-variable quality of U.S. hipo dehulled meal were highlighted, along with Information on growing conditions and anticipated quality of U.S. soybean and soy meal during 2010-11 crop season. The Korean feed industry and government has been regarding soy meal quality as one of the factors impacting feed quality.

Soybits

- Technical Issues Director Kim Nill assisted in the creation of presentations about sustainable agriculture and biotechnology for Illinois farmer leader Ron Moore, who will deliver them at the Sustainable Agriculture Partnerships 2010 conference in San Francisco next month.

USSEC Events Calendar

Jul 17-24	CFNA Risk Management	China
Jul 20-21	GOC Annual Tactical Planning Meeting	Washington
Jul 24-31	Soy in Baking/NCI	North Dakota
Jul 27-28	USB-IM and ASA-TPIA Committee Meets	St. Louis
Aug 11-19	Latin American Aquaculture Tour	Peru
Aug 22-27	Japan Partnership Team	Japan



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.

