

Friday, November 20, 2009

Protein Concentration of U.S. Soybeans Increases in 2009

The average protein concentration of soybeans harvested in the U.S. so far this year is 35.3 percent, 1.2 percent higher than in 2008, according to the USSEC 2009 U.S. Soybean Quality Survey. Meanwhile, overall U.S. soybean production for the year could reach 3.3 billion bushels, which would make it the largest crop in history. Other characteristics of this year's crop include a smaller percentage of foreign material found in soybean samples and a slightly larger seed size compared to 2008. The average foreign material content in 2009 is 0.22 percent and average oil was 0.5 percent lower, at 18.6 percent. The average seed size increased from 15.3 grams per 100 seeds in 2008 to 16.3 this year. Another finding of the survey was that the spread of soybean rust was low throughout most of the summer, increasing in the south in September and early October. The most northern detection was in west-central Illinois, but was of no significance. Additional soybean samples are currently being analyzed and these will be included in an updated report available January 2, 2010. The full report is available on www.ussec.org/resources/statistics.html.

Two of China's Largest Swine Farms Expected to Increase Use of Soymeal



Drs. Ted Funk and M.Y. Huang and Mr. Keith Schuman visited a 2,000-sow farm of the Giant Star Group in Sichuan province, and viewed breeding pigs through a glass-window zone under the current bio-security measure.

ASA-IM's continuous technical support on nutrition, feed and health control is expected to help expand two of China's largest swine farms' use of U.S. produced soybean meal. The China office Livestock Program invited two U.S. experts to serve as consultants on China's Advanced Swine Technical Service Program. Dr. Ted Funk, an agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois, recently traveled to China for a CIGR Hot Climate Animal Housing Control International Conference in Chongqing. Keith Schuman, president of the Herdsman Farm Management System, visited Beijing for the latest VIV Beijing Expo. Both worked previously in China and are familiar with the needs of the swine producers. Dr. M.Y. Huang, Technical Director, and Dr. Sam Shi, Technical Director, joined the effort by presenting seminars to 360 participants

and providing one-on-one technical services in Chengdu, Qingdao and Hangzhou. The team also visited the Giant Star Group farm in Sichuan and the Jiang Nan Animal Husbandry Company in Zhejiang, which holds 5,000 sows. Giant Star has been in feed milling business for 14 years and recently entered the swine production area.

Soy in Baking is Topic at Middle East and Africa Millers Expo

Middle East Regional Director Tim Burleigh and Soy Flour Consultant Dr. M. Hikmet Boyacioglu attended the 20th Annual IAOM Mideast and Africa District Conference & Expo held in Antalya, Turkey. There, they met with several flour millers, feed millers, equipment manufacturers as well as traders. Dr. Boyacioglu made a presentation entitled “Soy in Baking” and moderated a Technical & Education session. Both team members provided technical answers to many users and potential users among the 621 delegates from 39 countries participating in the conference. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan attended the opening of the Expo recognizing the importance of the industry.



Expo opening ceremony attended by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan

Advantage of Soy-based Fish Feeds Promoted in Korea

ASA-IM Korea provided on-site consultations on the merits of extruded soy-based pellet feeds to rockfish and sea bream farmers that currently use trash fish-based moist pellet feeds. Addressing the problems caused by trash fish based feed, team members explained why soy-based extruded feeds could help reduce disease outbreaks, water contamination, and labor costs common with trash fish based feed. With the increased concern over environment and food safety and Korean government's financial support to fish growers who switch to soy based feed, the demand for soy is forecasted to continue to increase in aquaculture sector. This will increase opportunities for U.S. hipo dehulled meal to export to Korea.

USSEC Comments Assist in Restarting European Soy Exports

In response to the office of U.S. Trade Representative's annual "Request for Public Comments to Compile the National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers," the USSEC submitted

comments detailing how the European Union's mandatory traceability law continues to be a trade barrier which periodically restricts exports of U.S. soybeans and soy products. During 2009, U.S. soy exports to the EU were virtually halted for several months due to presence of small amounts of several unapproved-in-EU corns within soy shipments. Those biotech corns were finally approved for EU import early in November, and U.S. soy shipments resumed.

Record Soy Exports is a Hot Topic at Trade Talk Conference for Radio Broadcasters

John Wray and Brent Babb participated in the National Farm Broadcasters annual Trade Talk conference in Kansas City. They highlighted global demand for U.S. soy in approximately 30 interviews with ag radio hosts from around the nation. Record soy exports were a hot topic as the broadcasters interviewed over 50 farm related organizations at the event. Wray and Babb also spoke on strong exports to China, Latin America and the Middle East in addition the record pace of this year's soy exports despite a slow harvest.

Ag Export Organizations Meet at USAEDC

USSEC staff Matt Rickard, Cheryl Huson, Christina Kollmeyer, and Brent Babb participated in FAS's annual USAEDC conference for agriculture organizations receiving FAS funding. Several hundred FAS and ag export staff discussed ag marketing programs, economic conditions impact of agriculture, and funding and compliance issues at the meeting. Babb gave a brief presentation on a China program to expand soy utilization in the Chinese hog industry in coordination with importing improved pig breeding stock from the U.S.

Soy Improves Growth in Dairy Calves in India

India consultant Dr. Ramesh Thaper, who is promoting technology to add value to soy in animal feeds in India, recently demonstrated that soybean-based calf feed improves growth in Holstein crossbred female calves. Dr. Thaper said the feeding of one-half metric ton of calf feed concentrate containing 20 percent soymeal improved the body weight from 30-35 kg (birth weight) to 275-280 kg when the heifers are normally inseminated (14-15 months). The average daily gain was 500-600 grams, compared to 250-300 grams with traditional feed. India has 5 million improved crossbred cows and buffaloes. Seventy percent of the animals give birth to calves, and half of the calves are females. As a result, 1.75 million newborn female calves are available in the country every year. On an average 500 kg of calf feed concentrate is given to each female calf from the second month to the age of 14 months. At an average rate of 20 percent SBM usage in calf feed concentrate, the soymeal consumption potential is 175,000 metric ton in the calf feed alone.

Korea Food Bean Buyers to Meet U.S. Exporters on Purchase of 2009 Crop

USSEC will host South Korean soybean buyers in Chicago Dec. 6-10 to discuss 2010 food-grade identity preserved soybean purchase plans of the Korea Federation of Soybean Curd Industry Cooperatives (KFSIC) and explain bid terms and conditions that KFSIC will employ for its purchase. The KFSIC, which represents 12 Korean tofu processing cooperatives, will also have one-on-one meetings with U.S. IP soybean suppliers interested in the KFSIC's bid. The meetings follow the Korean's purchase of 275,000 bushels of food grade IP beans during a visit to North Dakota and Minnesota in July. That agreement, the first major purchase of IP soybeans by a private Korean soy processor, represented a move forward in U.S.-South Korea trade relations. Along with the meetings and discussion on soy trade, the visitors will tour the DeLong company of Wisconsin.

Soybits

- The Global Opportunities Committee's ongoing examination of Argentine Differential Export Taxes (DETs) served as the basis for the joint ASA, NOPA and NAEGA comment to the U.S. Trade Representative on trade barriers faced by U.S. soy industry. The examination shows significant harm to U.S. industry of a global market distortion caused by these DETs costing the U.S. soy value chain in excess of \$400 million per year.
- Technical Issues Director Kim Nill hosted three University of Missouri Borlaug Fellows from South Africa and Ukraine at the USSEC office. Accompanied by two MU professors, they were in the U.S. for two months this fall in order to learn about U.S. agricultural technology and how it might be applied in their respective countries. Nill provided to them information and documentation about the environmental and human health benefits of biotechnology-derived soybeans.

USSEC Events Calendar

Nov 15-23	U.S. Soy Quality Conferences	China, Korea
Nov 17-25	U.S. Soy Quality Conferences	Japan, Taiwan
Dec 1-4	Aquaculture Field Demo Workshop	China
Dec 3-4	USB Annual Board Meeting	St. Louis
Dec 1-3	ASA Board Meeting	St. Louis
Dec 5	USSEC Board Meeting	St. Louis



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.

