

U.S. SOY CONTINUES EXPANSION IN EGYPTIAN DAIRY INDUSTRY

Recent decreases in corn and soybean meal prices increased the profitability of Egyptian dairy farmers. The declining corn and soy prices combined with rising consumer demand for milk increased farm gate prices to a record 27 cents per pound.

University of Virginia Professor of Dairy Science Dr. Charles Stallings and USSEC Middle East Animal Nutrition Consultant Dr. Mohamed Sherif presented this data at a recent seminar for Egyptian dairy farmers in Cairo. Dr. Sherif noted that “this represents a wonderful opportunity for USSEC as dairy farmers are now even more responsive to our recommendations to improve the nutritional standards of their formulations by increasing use of soybean meal. Formulating for higher protein content will lead to greater soybean meal and full fat soybean meal use.

At the seminar, Dr. Stallings presented on covered energy in dairy formulations and ways to manage the cost of this nutrient and the importance of calculating income over feed cost. The seminar included a farm visit, where participants discussed various technical issues related to herd management and feed ingredients.

In a related development that also augers well for the U.S., the Egyptian government ended a ban on importing dairy heifers from the United States. This opens the door for expansion of commercial dairy herds. Dina Farms, the country’s largest dairy farm with 5,500 milking cows, has already obtained a license to import 2,000 heifers and expects them to be shipped soon.



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.