



MLBA Edition 11
The only hope for feeding a large continent: Asian poultry takes off



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17th Annual ASAIM Southeast Asian Feed Technology and Nutrition Workshop

by Arianne M. PEREZ

The 17th Annual ASAIM Southeast Asian Feed Technology and Nutrition Workshop, was held from June 15 – 19, 2009, at the Imperial Hotel in Hue, Vietnam. Organised by the American Soybean Association International Marketing (ASAIM), the United Soybean Board and the US Grains Council, it featured a total of 116 participants from a host of different countries including the United States, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The five-day seminar focused on the most essential issues at this time of food scandals and heightened consumer consciousness, feed safety and livestock hygiene.

Participants did not merely discuss details about the most practical ways to achieve feed to meat production safety. The shared insights also paved the way for various agribusiness supply chain stakeholders to come together and cooperate towards the overall safety of the feed-to-meat chain.

John A. Lindholm, the regional director of ASAIM Southeast Asia, highlighted the importance of the feed and livestock industry in delivering safe food for human consumption. "No other industry touches more human beings in this planet or is more critical to their welfare than the food industry. Contaminated feed that is consumed by food animals has far reaching effects and ultimately impacts on our individual companies and the image of our industry overall. Feed and food safety issues, such as the melamine adulteration incident last year, are receiving increased attention, as the diversity and volume of trade in food and agricultural products increases globally."

The topics covered during the seminar included: History and regulations on feed safety and hygiene, raw material handling from field to feed, feed processing and traceability, microbiological and toxic contamination of feed and feed ingredients, implications of feed safety and hygiene on human health and issues critical to aquaculture feeds.

One of the speakers, La Van Kinh, vice director of Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Vietnam shared his experiences with regards to feed safety in Vietnam. Kinh said that, "The animal feed industry in Vietnam has been growing very fast and it brings many benefits to Vietnam's animal production for increased yield and efficiency. However, the sector also has many things to do to improve in terms of safety, especially with regards to controlling bacteria, antibiotics and illegal growth promoters."

Alfred Petri of Evonik Degussa, highlighted on the current challenges in the European feed manufacturing process, which include traceability, grain contamination, cross contamination and hygienic feed production.

Kim Koch, feed production center manager, Northern Crops Institute of North Dakota State University, made a presentation titled "From Gate to Plate – The Importance of Trace-back Programs for the Animal Agriculture Sector." Koch pointed out the pressing need for Animal Feed Safety System (AFFS) to identify and assess risks to animal and human health from biological, chemical and physical hazards in animal feed. He also stressed the need for preventive measures to lessen the likelihood of a feed safety mishap and support quality control standards throughout the feed to meat value chain.

Expanding on the same theme, Jon Ratcliff of Food & Agriculture Consultancy Services (FACS), discussed the "Control of In-feed Medication and Specified Additives in Animal Feed." Ratcliff noted that "residues can occur at many stages of the animal feed production chain and that GMP and HACCP procedures should effectively control residue hazards occurring through risk assessment and risk management." He added that all control measures should be validated and that verification must be provided by further testing of the feed and animal tissues.

Other key discussions included "Pest Management in Feedmills" by Bhadriraju Subramanyam of Kansas State University, "The Role of Extrusion Technology on Feed Safety and Hygiene" by Mian Riaz of Texas A&M University, "Traceability and the Benefits of Supply Chain Transparency" by Phil Werdal, CEO of Trace Register and "Fact and Fiction: Mycotoxin Problem of Feed Ingredients in Southeast Asia" by Budi Tangendjaja of the US Grains Council Indonesia office.

With all these topics covered, the 17th ASAIM timely insights better ensure the agribusiness value chain's safety. Through all its presentations and the insights shared, ASAIM successfully addressed how to minimize feed safety issues or prevent them from occurring at all. In all, one more incremental, yet significant step towards reinventing southeast Asia's supply chain.



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