

Many Meetings, Successes for WRO

On behalf of the World Renderers Organization, I am taking this opportunity to report on the actions carried out by WRO during July and August.

New Allied Member

WRO extends a warm welcome to Camlin Fine Sciences — our newest allied member. The support of allied members is crucial for enabling WRO's actions. We believe that allied members can benefit from this partnership by receiving firsthand information generated and shared by WRO. We warmly invite all companies doing business with the rendering industry to join us in strengthening our sector on a global level by becoming allied members of the organization. Together, we can work to enhance the rendering industry's impact and ensure a prosperous future for all involved.

FAO

WRO participated in several events at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome July 15-17, including the Livestock Environmental Assessment Performance partnership event, where we had the opportunity to give a presentation on the sustainability of the global rendering sector to all the authorities present — over 300 experts, scientists, farmers and global representatives gathered at FAO headquarters to celebrate the 12th anniversary of the partnership.

As an observer, WRO followed the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock Multistakeholder Partnership Meeting and the conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation, which hosted nearly 300 participants from 55 countries. Discussions focused on policies supporting best practices for production, consumption and distribution.



FAO collaborates with diverse stakeholders worldwide



LEAP aims to establish a global consensus

As an active member of LEAP, WRO participated in the 38th steering committee meeting. The main points discussed included the creation of courses on the use of LEAP tools in FAO's e-learning academy, which can be found at elearning.fao.org. We were also informed that guidelines on Ecosystem Services Assessment in Livestock Agroecosystems and the Role of Livestock in Circular Bioeconomy Systems will soon be available for public review at fao.org/partnerships/leap/resources/public-review/en.

WRO supports the circular bioeconomy guidelines, having contributed to the draft, and will assist in this final public review stage. We are very pleased with the content presented so far and eagerly await the final publication as it will allow better environmental assessment of the low emissions from our industry.

TAHSC/WOAH

As planned, WRO's Scientific Advisory Panel submitted a report to the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission of the World Organization for Animal Health addressing the manufacturing process and sanitary safety of rendered fats, protein meals and functional blood products. In this report, the SAP described the minimal standard procedures for producing meals and fats aiming to have them recognized as safe trade commodities, regardless of a country's status under the Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

In the same report, WRO requested a review of the Newcastle disease virus chapter. The chapter currently describes processing parameters for the production of

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feather meal, which is inconsistent with the health code's requirement, which should solely address the minimum conditions for pathogen inactivation. These parameters are often cited in international health certificates for exporting hydrolyzed feather meal. Correcting this will be crucial for providing proper recommendations on minimum processing parameters.

At press time, WRO's report was to be reviewed by WOAHS during the September TAHSC meeting. We will closely monitor the outcome, which will be published in the September report, traditionally released in mid-October. We hope WRO's report will be well received by the TAHSC, and that all protein meals, rendered fats and functional blood products be finally recognized as they had always been — a safe commodity.

CEBRA Interview

On July 31, Dr. Lucie Newsome from the University of New England, Australia, conducted an interview to discuss the collective work of WRO, which has been positively received by Australian agricultural representatives. Rob Atkinson, a leading Australian veterinary official involved in reviewing the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) chapter, played a significant role in these discussions. This meeting between WRO representatives and the Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis team aimed to better understand the rendering industry's insights during the consultation phase and to assess

the potential impact on trade and production if the original BSE standards had been adopted.

The main objective of this interview was to explore how industry expertise and insights can contribute to international standards, ensuring that the rendering industry's interests are well-represented in future deliberations.

Additionally, there was a discussion about whether further engagement with WRO would be beneficial, given the consistently well-researched and well-written papers issued by our organization and its SAP.

Next Events

To continue our purpose of representing the rendering industry worldwide, WRO will participate in the following events in 2024 and report about it in future issues:

- REAM 2024 (renderingamerica.com), Sept. 3-5, Medellín, Columbia (See Render's REAM write-up by Felipe Hurtado on page 16).
- 17th ARA Symposium (arasymposium.com.au/), Sept. 17-19, Brisbane, Australia
- CIPAL-Latin American Pet Food Congress (cipal.com.ar/), Sept. 24-25, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- NARA's 91st Annual Convention (convention.nara.org/), Oct. 22-25, Santa Barbara, CA
- FAO/International Feed Industry Federation Annual Meeting and 37th IFIF Annual General Assembly (ifif.org/), Nov. 20-22, Rome, Italy.

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