



ADSA TODAY

The Online Newsletter of the
American Dairy Science Association

December, 1999

Dairy Science News You Can Use!

A Word from the President

Greetings fellow ADSA members. "2000 in 2000!" That is our goal for member registration at the upcoming annual meeting in Baltimore July 24-28. We can reach that goal if we encourage our colleagues and graduate students to attend. It is not too early to begin thinking about Abstracts – December passes swiftly and February will be upon us before we know it.



Meetings of the Program Planning Committee and the Board were held in October. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Dave Beede for his efforts to organize the Program Planning Committee for our Joint Meetings. Largely thanks to him, everything is progressing smoothly. We will have an excellent program this year judging from the symposia that have been proposed. Over 20 symposia with many international speakers are being planned covering a broad range of topics in dairy foods and production. A first this year: all symposia will be published online immediately following peer review; also, interpretative summaries will appear online prior to the meeting. Further, laptop computers and liquid crystal display projectors will be available to speakers upon request. Thus, ADSA will enter the 21st century with a full complement of technological support for scientific presentations.

A first for the Dairy Foods Division: a Pre-Meeting Workshop in the general area of cheese flavor development will be offered to graduate students, professional members and industry personnel. Graduate

students and industry scientists will not want to miss this opportunity to learn from the leading world experts in this fast-changing field.

A majority of Board activity during the October meeting was devoted to developing strategic plan action priorities relating to publications, meetings, membership, online activities and fund raising efforts. For example, print-on-demand publications from our electronic information base as well as new articles, reviews, etc. on timely topics will be collected, bound, and marketed to member and non-member scientists. The Discover Conferences have been a great success and a number of new meetings on both dairy foods and production topics are in the planning stages. We will encourage further development of pre-meeting workshops and, in addition, explore offering ADSA educational workshops with allied scientific organizations.

We are pushing forward with electronic scientific communications and we intend to be at the cutting edge of these opportunities. For example, we hope to develop electronic chat rooms in various topic areas where graduate students and professional members can raise questions and exchange information and we are developing a search engine to help researchers explore *JDS* and other scientific periodicals more efficiently.

As you can see, we have a very ambitious agenda and I hope you will share in the excitement that I have for the future of ADSA. We welcome your suggestions and need your full support.

Why ADSA Today?

As it becomes easier to create and transmit information electronically, we see more and more print publications “going online”. In the case of our ADSA newsletter, switching to an electronic format offers several advantages:

✓ **More frequent updates.** Because it is relatively simple and inexpensive to update an online newsletter, we can actually carry timely information that qualifies as “news”. New features in the online newsletter will include grant and public policy updates, job announcements, meeting notices, and deadline reminders. To get the word out, members will receive a brief email message highlighting new information and inviting them to go to the ADSA website (www.adsa.org) to read the latest news.

✓ **Greater flexibility.** Members who want a print version of the newsletter can simply send it to print from their own computer, or request a print version from headquarters. Also, online links to other web resources will make it easier to get to useful information off the ADSA website, and internal links to information about the annual meeting or JDS for instance should help make our website more valuable to you.

✓ **Cost Savings.** By avoiding the expense of paper, print, and postage for most subscribers ADSA will save more than \$10,000 in annual newsletter expense. That’s a substantial savings and is particularly welcome since membership service can

actually be enhanced through an online newsletter.

We need your input for *ADSA Today* to be successful. Please send in news regarding articles of interest, changes in your professional status or that of a colleague, or any other items you would like to see in the newsletter to ADSA Today, 1111 N Dunlap, Savoy IL 61874.

New Services & Opportunities

Special report publications, Discover Conferences, joint meetings, enhanced journal search engines, online chat rooms, CD-Rom collections of past *JDS* issues, broader library access through computer networks, pre-meeting workshops and short courses...the list of new or expanded services that are being developed for ADSA members is dazzling. And with these new services come more opportunities for member involvement. More than ever, your help is needed to build our organization and our profession. Here’s a quick list of ways you can help shape ADSA’s future:

* **Renew Your Membership for 2000.** As a member, your voice will be heard when new programs and services are designed or customized to meet changing needs. You can renew instantly online by clicking on the “Join or Renew Membership” button at the ADSA website and forwarding your credit card across our secure web channel. Or you can send in the printed renewal invoice you should have received through the mail, call the headquarters office to renew (217-356-3182), or fax in your renewal order (217-398-4119).

* **Fill in/Update Your Membership Profile**

Most members received an ADSA Member Profile form when they joined. It profiles your professional experience and interests, and helps drive new product development. If you don’t recall filling one of these out or if your professional situation has changed, please click here to fill in a form on our web site. This information is secure and will be stored in your permanent member record..

* **Submit a meeting abstract.** Abstract forms were mailed in late November for the joint ADSA/ASAS meeting in Baltimore, but you can also pick one up by clicking here.

* **Suggest Ways We Can Reach Out.** Can you think of companies, institutions, or other non-profit organizations that might benefit from programming or publications produced by ADSA? Can you think of other organizations that might want to support or link to initiatives that ADSA currently sponsors or offers? Share your suggestions by contacting an ADSA board member or our executive director (217-356-2426. Ext.13 or kentw@assoqh.org).

* **Volunteer to Serve on an ADSA Committee.** ADSA maintains numerous committees on the national and divisional levels (e.g., production, dairy foods) to work on matters like awards selection, international relations, liaisons to other groups, and education. If you are willing to serve in this type of capacity, let a board member or the executive director know and they will try to match your interests to volunteer opportunities as they arise.

***Get Students or Colleagues Involved.** Make sure that your professional colleagues or students know about our joint annual meeting in Baltimore and new membership services. Students and those early in their career are our future, and the ADSA network is built by committed members who invite new scientists into the organization.

If you need informational materials, forms, or background on any ADSA service, you should be able to find and download what you need from www.adsa.org. Feel free to call Kent Williamson or Joanna Wisniewski at 217-356-3182 if you don't find what you need, or if you want them to assist in following up with prospective members. With dairy scientists from across the globe working together, the future of ADSA looks bright.

Renewal Deadline Approaching

As the year ends, the academic semester winds to a close, and the holiday season is upon us, it's easy to overlook your ADSA renewal order. Please don't. If your order hasn't reached the Headquarters office by December 23, your online access and journal subscription will lapse. But once your renewal has been processed, you will be assigned a new password and full online access to current JDS issues, as well as the online archive of back issues (all since August, 1995), will be restored.

To renew, simply send in your printed renewal invoice with payment, renew online with a credit card at www.adsa.org, or call the headquarters office (217-356-3182) and give your renewal instructions to a membership

service representative. And as you renew, let the ADSA staff know what the organization can do to better serve you. It's never too late to get back on the active membership roster, but the best alternative is to never leave it!

Third DISCOVER Meeting a Success

Animal agriculture in the United States is lagging in its efforts to make preservation of genetic resources a priority. ADSA, with leadership support from from USDA and cooperation from corporate and institutional partners, was pleased to present the Third DISCOVER Conference on Food Animal Agriculture, "Preserving Animal Germplasm Diversity - A Call To Action" to address this critical and complex issue.

The intent of this DISCOVER conference was to assess the current situation both nationally and globally, discuss different perspectives on germplasm preservation, and arrive at some basic steps for implementing a national program for each of the major species (beef, dairy, swine, poultry, sheep and small ruminants.) Participants in this unique conference shared a common concern about the future of animal diversity, and came prepared to provide input toward the development of a framework for a national program to preserve animal germplasm.

After a series of speaker presentations describing the current situation, participants were divided into workgroups to collect information by species and develop a plan based on the following:

- summarize biodiversity needs of each specie;
- review current technology for preserving germplasm and develop list of research priorities for further technology development;
- assess status of evaluating the genetic merit of existing germplasm and establish priority needs for additional genetic evaluation;
- develop specific criteria for approving the inclusion of a particular population in a germplasm preservation program, and
- create guidelines to establish a committee.

While the results of the workgroups varied and were rather specific to each species, some common themes appeared among all species:

- the domestic focus on germplasm preservation needs to be heightened;
- germplasm populations need to be increased,
- genetic diversity among species needs to be maintained for economic production under diverse environmental and production conditions;
- a national germplasm program needs to be established.

Seventy-four participants registered for the conference representing an exciting array of expertise and interests: Academic, 44%; Government agencies, 26%; Companies, 12%; Other (trade and commodity organizations, producers), 18%. Both the public and private sectors were well represented, as were researchers and other users of the information. Registrants came from more than 25 states in the US and from Canada, Mexico, Italy, Ireland, and The Netherlands.

This program was possible due to the generous support of the following companies and institutions: USDA-ARS, DeKalb Swine Breeders (A Unit of Monsanto Company), University of Minnesota Department of Animal Science, Cobb-Vantress Inc., Arbor Acres, Inc., Hy-Line International, National Association of Animal Breeders, PIC USA, and the ADSA Foundation.

A special thank you to Conference Coordinator, Bill Baumgardt, DISCOVER Opportunities; and Program Chair Larry R. Miller, USDA-CSREES. Additionally, ADSA thanks program committee members Caird E. Rexroad, USDA-ARS; Mary Erin Delany, University of California - Davis; Larry V. Cundiff, USDA-ARS; Richard R. Frahm, USDA-CSREES; Robert Godke, Louisiana State University; Lawrence A. Johnson, USDA-ARS; Rodger K. Johnson, University of Nebraska; David R. Notter, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Year-End Charitable Giving Ideas

Another year is coming to a close. Year-end marks a time when many people review their financial affairs. It is also an excellent time to review gifts you may make to charities and the financial benefits of this giving. Sound financial planning in your charitable giving will help you provide maximum benefits to others while also being fair to yourself. If you are thinking about making charitable gifts before year-end, we hope the following information will be a helpful reminder for you. We also hope you will consider a gift to the ADSA Foundation should charitable giving be part of your plans.

The Foundation receives funds from corporate sponsors and individual members to support many activities. We would like to increase substantially the funds for the annual meeting along with programs personal contributions you may make in support of Foundation-sponsored activities.

DEADLINE FOR 1999 GIFTS

Gifts must be made by midnight on December 31 to affect tax savings for 1999. You may give cash, securities, or other property. which encourage young members to become involved in ADSA. Gifts from individuals make up a majority of the support our Foundation receives, and the information that follows can help as you plan any

IMPACT ON TAXES BY GIVING

Gifts by individuals who itemize can result in tax savings next spring. Your tax rate determines how much you save. Examine the following table:

If you itemize and your taxable income is...

You will save

<u>SINGLE</u>	<u>MARRIED</u>	
Up to \$25,750	Up to \$43,000	15%

\$25,750- \$62,450	\$43,000- \$104,050	28%

\$62,450- \$130,250	\$104,050- \$158,550	31%

\$130,250- \$283,150	\$158,550- \$283,150	36%

\$283,150+	\$283,150+	39.6%

Gifts of cash are generally deductible in amounts of up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. Any unused deductions from 1999 can be used in as many as five future tax years.

If you do not have enough deductible expenses to allow you to itemize, consider "bunching" your tax-favored expenditures into one tax year. This may allow you to itemize in some years. Consider making larger charitable gifts in particular tax years when they will be deductible.

GIVING OTHER ASSETS

The substantial economic growth in the last decade has, in all probability, increased personal value of stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other properties to the point of a substantial tax liability should you choose to sell any of these holdings. Because of this appreciation of personal assets, many individuals choose to make their gifts in the form of these assets. Gifts of qualified assets that have been held more than 12 months can yield extra tax benefits. Not only are these gifts generally deductible from income tax at their full value, but they also avoid capital gains tax that otherwise would be due on a sale.

If you have investments that have decreased in value since you have owned them, consider selling

them, thereby creating a loss you may be able to deduct, and giving the cash proceeds. Using this procedure, you may actually be able to deduct more than the current value of the investment while minimizing the impact of the loss.

ANOTHER CONSIDERATION

If you have retirement accounts and are over the age of 59, you may want to take withdrawals sufficient to fund your charitable gifts. This allows you to report the income on your tax return while taking a corresponding deduction for your gifts. Usually this will be way to assure that you won't have to pay income, gift, or estate taxes.

FUTURE CONSIDERATION

The above suggestions reflect an annual review of your financial condition and a review of your charitable giving. This is also a time to reflect how you may want your assets distributed in the long term. If you have a charitable intent, you may want to visit with your financial consultant to explore:

- ✓ A gift through your will or living trust
- ✓ Beneficiary designations of life insurance and retirement plan proceeds
- ✓ Gifts with retained income for you or others.

There are many ways in which an individual can make giving part of their estate and, at the same time, realize some tax advantages. It is suggested that you work with personal tax advisor to explore the many possibilities which are available to you. ADSA is also happy to provide more information to you or your advisor as your work to complete your estate plans, either for 1999 or for the long term.

Who do I call with questions about...

Generally, you can call the ADSA number (217-356-3182), send an email (adsa@assoqhq.org), or fax a question (217-398-4119) about any matter related to your membership or an ADSA activity and expect an answer by the close of the next business day. But if you want to go straight to the staff member who is best qualified to provide a specific answer in their areas of expertise, use this list:

Who to Call at ADSA

Abstract submissions.....	Joanna Wisniewski (ext. 12)
ADSA Policies, Board Activities...	Kent Williamson (ext.13)
Annual Meeting Program Schedule, Registration	Joanna Wisniewski (ext. 12)
Annual Meeting A/V arrangements, exhibits/trade show, lodging, special events, tours	Lorena Nicholas (ext. 27)
Awards programs.....	Joanna Wisniewski (ext. 12)
Discover Conferences--registration, general information	Joanna Wisniewski (ext.12)
Financial Matters.....	Kent Williamson (ext. 13)
Foundation auction, special events	Joanna Wisniewski (ext 13)
Foundations bequests, contributions, policies	Kent Williamson (ext. 13)
<i>Journal of Dairy Science</i> manuscript status, editorial matters	Jean Rice (ext. 17)
<i>Journal of Dairy Science</i> page charges, subscriptions, on- line access, reprints.....	Joanna Wisniewski (ext. 12)
<i>Journal of Dairy Science</i> journal policies, permissions to reprint	Kent Williamson (ext. 13)
Membership enrollments, passwords, service inquiries	Joanna Wisniewski (ext.12)
Newsletter	Kent Williamson (ext. 13)
Publications orders	Joanna Wisniewski (ext. 12)
Suggestions, questions, other requests from ADSA	Kent Williamson (ext. 13)
Student Affairs Division activities.....	Janet Brown (ext. 24)
Web site links, suggestions, Inquiries	Kent Williamson (ext.13)



**Donate an Item to
the Eighth Annual
Foundation Auction**

**Item Donation Form
2000 ADSA Foundation Auction**

July 26, 2000
Hyatt Regency Baltimore
Baltimore, Maryland

Be a part of the eighth annual ADSA Foundation Auction, July 26, 2000 during the ADSA-ASAS Joint Meeting in Baltimore. Scheduled in conjunction with the annual Ice Cream Social and immediately after the annual Awards ceremony, the Foundation Auction will cap an evening of ADSA-focused activities.

Last summer's event reached a new record of \$14,187.00, thanks to both the donors and the bidders on more than 60 items that were put on the auction block. Proceeds are used to fund activities such as the ADSA Foundation Scholar Awards, the Genevieve Christen Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award, and high quality programs at the annual meetings.

If you'd like to contribute an item to the auction, simply complete the accompanying application and mail it to ADSA Headquarters. You'll be notified later when and where to send the item. You may enjoy a tax deduction for your donation. Consult your tax advisor for specific details.

Among the items donated are dairy primitives and collectibles, industry memorabilia, antiques, handmade art, crafts, tickets to sporting events, and use of vacation time shares.

The 2000 Auction Committee includes Lee Majeskie, University of Maryland, Chair; Darwin Braund, Penn State University; Ken Cummings, Church & Dwight Company; Monty Montgomery, University of Tennessee; George Muck, Dean Foods; Bill Sandine, Oregon State University (retired).

Your Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Company/University: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Description of auction items: (Be as specific as possible. List expiration dates, restrictions, etc.)

Estimated value: \$ _____

So that we may properly recognize your contribution, please indicate if this item being given by:

a company an individual

(We kindly request minimum \$100 value for company donations, \$50 for individuals.)

Deadline: April 1, 2000

Return to: ADSA Foundation
1111 North Dunlap Avenue
Savoy, IL 61874
217/356-3182, FAX: 217/398-4119
E-mail: kellymt@aol.com

Annual Meeting Update

www.baltimore2k.org. has all the answers....

If you haven't gotten the Call for Abstracts mailing that was sent at the end of November or have mislaid a form, don't worry! Everything you need can be found on the annual meeting website (<http://www.baltimore2k.org.>). Among the items you can read and print there:

- ✧ Quality Standards for Abstracts
- ✧ Instructions for Paper Presentations
- ✧ LCD Presentation Information
- ✧ Slide Preparation Guidelines
- ✧ Special A/V Request Forms
- ✧ Special Event Scheduling Request Forms
- ✧ Graduate Paper Contest Information
- ✧ Undergrad Paper Contest Information

...and much more including a map and hotel information, a general program outline, and information about exhibitors and sponsors (updated as commitments are made).

The 2000 meeting is shaping up as one to be remembered. The theme, "From Research to Innovation", will carry through more than 20 symposia, an eventful Industry/Tech Forum day, the Cybercafe computer center, and a special online Symposia Papers issue available to members only (with Interpretive Summaries of symposia papers available in advance of the meeting). There will be a strong international flavor to this year's meeting, with presentations by foreign scholars sponsored by the European Association of Animal Production and an International Reception. The Dairy Foods Division will sponsor several intriguing programs, including a special pre-meeting workshop on cheese flavoring for grad students and foods specialists who want to hear from leading experts on this topic. And of course, there will be plenty of fun at the ADSA Foundation's Annual Auction.

Stay tuned to the baltimore2k website for additional details as the meeting approaches. The Baltimore Convention Center will provide an excellent, spacious modern meeting venue,

and the Baltimore Hyatt-Regency is a first-rate ADSA headquarters hotel, so plan now to attend!

Sponsorship Update

This year ADSA and ASAS are attempting to become more systematic in providing sponsorship opportunities to potential supporters. We are matching members with the closest ties to each industry partner to one primary company contact person and are attempting to coordinate our support requests so that companies are not besieged with too many "asks". We also are trying to match events to the specific interests of industry supporters and to recognize sponsorship prominently during the meeting. If you represent a company that would like to play a role in the meeting or if you are a member who has ties to a potential sponsor, please contact Kent Williamson at ADSA headquarters (kentw@assochq.org., 217-356-2426). Also contact Kent before contacting a company on your own to ensure that your efforts are coordinated with those of other ASAS and ADSA members.

Baltimore 2K Notes

Did you know...

...the Baltimore Orioles are at home playing the Yankees and Indians at Camden Yards during the week of our annual meeting? That means you'll be a short walk away from some of the hottest baseball of the summer. For more information, please visit <http://www.theorioles.com>.

...the Baltimore Inner Harbor area where our meeting will be held is recognized as one of the most successfully redeveloped urban areas in North America. With the National Aquarium, countless restaurants and stores, and Camden Yards within walking distance, and Washington D.C., USDA, Gettysburg, the Naval Academy, and historic Harper's Ferry a short drive away, you may want to plan extra time to tour the area before or after the annual meeting.

INSTRUCTIONS

To reserve a room for the ADSA-ASAS Convention choose ONE of the following methods:

By Internet

Visit either the ADSA, ASAS or FASS web sites or go to <http://www.pkghlrss.com/events/adsa/adsa.html>

By Telephone - (after March 18, 2000)

Call the ADSA-ASAS Call Center Monday-Friday, 9am-7pm Eastern Time **800-977-1563** (toll free U.S.)

416-385-9258 (international)

By Fax

Fax a completed Housing Form to: **416-443-6818**

CONFIRMATIONS

The ADSA-ASAS Call Center will send you a confirmation. Review it carefully for accuracy. If you do not receive a confirmation via e-mail, fax, or mail within 14 days after sending request, please contact the Call Center at 800-977-1563 **after 9am beginning on March 18, 2000.**

ROOM RATES/TAXES

In order to take advantage of the special ADSA-ASAS Convention rates, be sure to book your reservation by Friday, June 17, 2000. After that date, the official ADSA-ASAS blocks will be released and the hotels may charge significantly higher rates.

All rates are per room night, for up to two guests, and are subject to a 12.5% tax (subject to change). Some hotels may charge additional fees for rooms with more than two occupants. When making reservations, please provide room and bedding preferences in the Special Needs section of the Housing Form. The hotels will assign specific room types upon check in, based upon availability.

DEPOSITS

All hotels require a credit card guarantee or a deposit of US \$150 with each reservation request. Requests received without a guarantee or a deposit will be returned. Please fill out the credit card information entirely or mail a check made payable to the "ADSA-ASAS/BACVA Housing Bureau" (in Baltimore).

CHANGES/CANCELS/REFUNDS

Changes and cancellations should be made through the ADSA-ASAS Call Center until 7pm on Friday, July 14, 2000. After that date, you will need to call the hotel directly. **Your deposit will be forfeited entirely if you do not cancel 72 hours prior to your arrival date.**

Hotel Reservation Form *Baltimore* July 24 - 28, 2000

Map #	Hotel	Single	Double	Triple	Quad
1	Baltimore Hilton Towers	\$165	\$165	\$185	\$205
2	Days Inn Inner Harbor (Student Headquarter Hotel)	\$112	\$122	\$122	\$122
3	Holiday Inn Inner Harbor	\$155	\$155	\$179	\$179
4	Hyatt Regency Baltimore (ADSA Headquarter Hotel)	\$157-182	\$167-192	\$177-202	\$187-212
5	Balt. Marriott Inner Harbor	\$155	\$155	\$175	\$195
6	Omni Inner Harbor	\$129	\$129	\$149	\$169
7	Renaissance Harborplace Hotel	\$170	\$170	\$190	\$190
8	Sheraton Inner Harbor (ASAS Headquarter Hotel)	\$166	\$166	\$181	\$196

Hotel Information:

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Hotel Selection: (List three choices in order of preference)

First _____ Second _____ Third _____

Reservations will be processed on a first come, first serve basis. If all three requested hotels are unavailable, please process this reservation according to:

_____comparable room rate _____proximity to conference site

Room Type:

people to occupy room _____ # beds requested in room _____

(If you wish to book a suite, please call the Housing Manager at 410-659-7310.)

List all room occupants:

____Non-smoking room requested

____Special Needs: _____

Send Confirmation To:

Last name _____ First name _____ MI _____

E-mail Address _____

Fax _____ Daytime Phone _____

(If number is not within the US, please provide the ENTIRE number the US will need to dial to reach you.)

Company/Institution (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City/State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code, Country _____

Deposit Information: All hotels require a credit card guarantee or a deposit of US \$150 with each reservation request. Housing Forms received without a guarantee or a deposit will be returned.

Credit Card-- Type of card:

American Express Mastercard Visa

Account number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name of Card Holder _____

Check enclosed made payable to the "ADSA-ASAS/BACVA Housing Bureau". Do not mail to ADSA/ASAS Headquarters office. Please mail checks with an attached Housing Form to: ADSA-ASAS/BACVA Housing Bureau, 100 Light Street, 12th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Grants, Positions, Professional Opportunities

Meeting Calendar

This section is devoted to upcoming meetings of interest to dairy scientists:

- American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting, January 9 - 13, Houston, TX 847-685-8600
- Annual Florida Ruminant Nutrition Symposium, January 13 -14, Gainesville, FL 352-392-1958
- National Beef Cattlemen's Convention & Trade Show, January 26 - 29, Phoenix, AZ 303-694-0305
- ADSA & ASAS Southern Mtg, January 29 - February 2, Lexington, KY 217-356-3182; www.adsa.org.
- NRAES Dairy Housing and Equipment Systems Conference February 1 - 3, Camp Hill, PA 607-255-7654; www.nraes.org
- Ntl Mastitis Council Meeting February 13-16, Atlanta, GA 608-244-0622
- Southwest Nutrition and Mangement Conference February 24 - 25, Phoenix, AZ 520-626-9108
- ADSA & ASAS Midwestern Meeting, March 13 - 15, Des Moines, Iowa 217-356-3182; www.adsa.org
- New England Dairy Feed Conference, April 6 W. Lebanon, NH 207-622-3940
- American Dairy Products Institute Annual Meeting April 30 - May 3, Chicago, IL 312-782-4888

Recent Job Listings

These positions were recently listed in the FASS Job Resource Center
<http://12.24.208.137/index.asp>

The Feed Applications and Animal Nutrition Group at OmegaTech, Inc., a leader in the development of DHA-omega-3 fatty acid enriched milk, egg, and meat products, seeks an animal scientist for a full-time position. A Ph.D. in Animal Sciences with experience in dairy science and ruminant nutrition or related field is required as well as demonstrated knowledge of animal husbandry and animal production systems. Knowledge of animal product processing is a plus. Applicants must have the ability to interact with a multidisciplinary group within the organization as well as with outside research organizations and commercial operations in the US and abroad. Interested persons should submit curriculum vitae to Dr. Ruben Abril, OmegaTech, Inc., 4909 Nautilus Court N, Suite 208, Boulder, CO 80301. Phone: 303-381-8125; Fax: 303-381-8181. OmegaTech, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

~~

The Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, Mississippi State University, seeks applicants for an Assistant Specialist/Associate Specialist (77% extension, 23% research) in dairy cattle production to develop extension and research programs focusing on all aspects of Dairy Production, including dairy records, nutrition, reproduction, milking systems, and waste management. The successful candidate will develop outstanding extension and research programs that address issues of concern to the dairy industry in Mississippi, will be involved in multi-state programs, and will effectively secure extramural funding. The candidate must work cooperatively with faculty in the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences and in other departments in multi-disciplinary/multi-departmental efforts in dairy record programs (DHIA and PC-Dart), waste management, and assisting with 4-H dairy livestock programs. The position requires a Ph.D. in Dairy Science with expertise in dairy management, knowledge of the dairy industry, commitment to extension programming, experience with information management and transfer, and strong communication skills. Applicants should submit a letter of application, resume, academic transcripts, and have three individuals submit letters of reference directly to Dr. Terry E. Kiser, Head, Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, Box 9815, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (Telephone: (662) 325-2802; Fax: (662) 325-8873; E-mail: tkiser@ads.msstate.edu). Application deadline is January 1, 2000 or until a suitable candidate is found. MSU is an AA/EOE. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Upcoming ADSA Deadlines

- December 31, 1999--ADSA Membership Renewals
- January 11, 2000--Program Chairs' Deadline for Obtaining Funding Pledges
- February 15, 2000--Abstract Submission Deadline for 2000 Annual Meeting

Biotechnology in the Year 2000 and Beyond

The following statement was offered as testimony by Dr. Barbara Glenn, FASS Executive Vice President/Scientific Liaison, at an FDA open hearing on biotechnology in Chicago, November 18

Commissioner Henney, and members of the Food and Drug Administration Listening Panel, thank you for giving the Federation of Animal Science Societies the opportunity to provide comments today on the scientific and safety issues of livestock feeds derived from plants developed using biotechnology techniques. I am Dr. Barbara Glenn, Executive Vice President/Scientific Liaison, Federation of Animal Science Societies. I have conducted research in the area of protein and energy metabolism by dairy and beef cattle for production of milk and meat. I am an expert in the use of numerous feeds by cattle including digestion and absorption of nutrients for milk production and growth.

The Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) is a professional organization made up of approximately 10,000 scientists in academia, government and industry which exists to serve society through the improvement of all aspects of food animal production. FASS represents the combined membership of the American Dairy Science Association, the American Society of Animal Science, and the Poultry Science Association. Commissioner, as you requested, we will comment on newly emerging scientific information related to the safety of feeds derived from genetically modified crops.

It has been estimated that the supply of food required to adequately meet human nutritional needs over the next 40 years is quantitatively equal to the

amount of food previously produced throughout the entire history of humankind! This poses a daunting challenge to the global village for several reasons. First, virtually all land suitable for farming world-wide is being farmed. Secondly, destruction of tropical rainforest or wildlife habitat is not a viable option for environmental considerations. Thus, the only feasible solution is to develop new technologies that enhance food production efficiency.

Genetic modification of crops for livestock has been conducted for many years. Plants to supply feeds for livestock have improved over the years because new plant varieties were developed using conventional techniques of plant breeding and genetic selection. Crops to supply feed for livestock produced through modern methods of biotechnology are emerging from research and development to the marketplace. Crops developed using modern methods of biotechnology are referred to as genetically modified crops as opposed to crops developed using conventional plant breeding. Both conventional and biotechnology techniques have benefited agriculture.

Corn grain, whole-plant chopped corn, corn stover, and soybeans from the current genetically modified crops have been fed to livestock and compared with conventional feeds to determine the effects on feed composition, digestibility, and animal responses. Chickens, sheep, beef cattle, and dairy cattle have been used in this research. These data indicate that chemical composition of the genetically modified and conventional feeds are substantially equivalent and are well within the normal range of values reported in the scientific literature. These data indicate that feed consumed, digestibilities of feeds, nutrient absorption, growth, milk production, milk composition, and health of livestock fed genetically modified and conventional feeds were equivalent. The digestive

process in all livestock breaks down the nutritional components in feeds, including protein into amino acids, and DNA into nucleic acids, which are excreted.

Because the nutrients in these feeds are broken into smaller components, the plant proteins have not been detected in milk and the plant proteins would not be expected in meat and eggs. These data and our understanding of nutrient digestion, absorption, and metabolism indicate that these genetically modified feeds are safe for livestock to consume. In addition, the food products from livestock consuming these feeds are safe for human consumption and will be of benefit to the nutrition and well being of the world's population, especially children in developing countries.

In conclusion, FASS strongly recommends that science be the basis for acceptance of genetically modified feeds for livestock. FASS endorses the use of biotechnology techniques to improve agricultural plants and animal products. FASS believes that agricultural biotechnology has the capability to improve the supply of livestock feeds and healthful animal and plant food products, and thereby help to meet the nutritional needs of the world's population.

News and Notes

USDA National School Lunch Program - USDA eliminates serving of whole cow's milk as part of reimbursable meals for infants under one year of age - Instead, schools and institutions are required to serve either breast milk or iron-fortified formula with all reimbursable meals served to those infants - The rule responds to scientific data demonstrating that infants who consume cow's milk during their first year receive an inappropriate level of nutrients and experience more nutrition-related health problems than children who are fed breast milk or iron-fortified formula.

USDA CSREES to Establish a New Competitive Grants Program to Address Water Quality, Food Safety, Pest Management and Related Issues and has set a December 2 Washington, DC meeting to receive public comments on the priorities that should be addressed by the new program - For additional information about the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program and to register to attend, contact CSREES' Terri Joya at 202-401-1761; fax: 202-401-1782; e-mail: tjoya@reeusda.gov - USDA November 19 *Federal Register*: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=1999_register&docid=99-30400-filed

Clean Water Act NPDES Permits for about 11,000 Facilities Classified or to be Classified as Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's) - EPA seeks public comments on an information collection request which the Agency is planning to submit to the White House Office of Management and Budget for review and approval, titled: "*Guidance Manual and Example NPDES Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations*;" EPA ICR No. 1937.01 - The guidance manual is intended to provide clear and concise guidance for permitting agencies regarding the development of effective NPDES permits for Confined Animal Feeding Operations and the development of a comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP) as a special condition of NPDES permits issued to CAFOs - CNMP's typically include manure handling and storage, land application of manure, land management, record keeping, and other utilization options - The guidance also recommends that the permittee maintain records concerning manure generation and disposition,

and summarize this information on an annual reporting form - A copy of the ICR is available from, and questions about it, may be directed to EPA's Charlotte White at (202) 260-8559; fax: (202) 260-1460; e-mail: white.charlotte@epa.gov - Comments due to EPA by January 18 - EPA November 19 *Federal Register*: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=1999_register&docid=99-30234-filed

US Food Industry Supports FDA's Biotech Labeling Program - On November 12, a broad cross section of the food industry wrote President Clinton, requesting that the administration "... *resolutely support the science-based labeling policies of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), particularly as they relate to the labeling of foods enhanced through modern biotechnology.*" The 38 organizations signing the letter commented that: "... *Changing the current policy to require special labeling could impact significantly consumers' perception of the safety of biotech foods and undermine the credibility the FDA currently enjoys. Furthermore, such a change in policy would have the effect of validating the charges and claims being advanced by opponents of modern biotechnology. It would cause a dramatic development in the marketplace that would negatively affect both farmers and consumers. Probably most important, such a change would likely impair the long-term viability of this important technology that has the potential to produce a safer and more nutritious food supply, reduce costs and increase productivity, thereby enabling our ever-increasing world population to be better fed. ... As representatives of the agri-food community with a commitment and duty to market safe foods, we again encourage Administration officials to speak strongly in support of the science-based regulatory systems already in place in the United States. The U.S. regulatory agencies are competent and enjoy the confidence of U.S. consumers. It is the policies and programs of these agencies that assure consumers that biotech commodities and foods are safe and wholesome.*"

✱

These news items were selected from the *Food Environmental Weekly* e-mail newsletter of the Food Industry Environmental Network.