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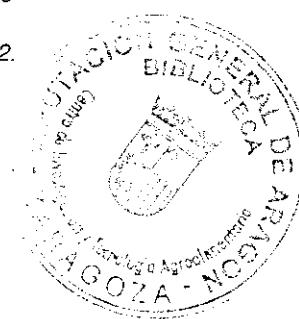
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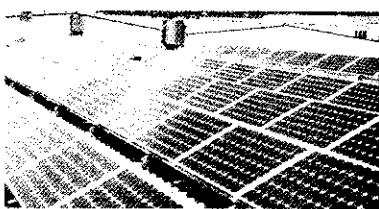
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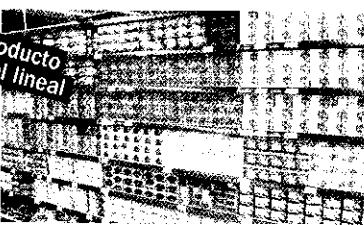
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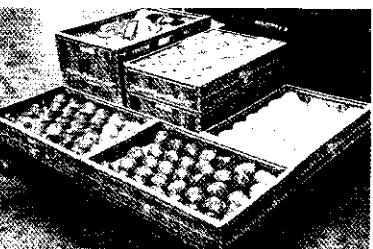
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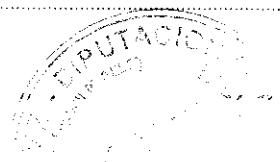
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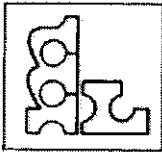
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SEMANAS 32-33/2008

HECHOS PRECIOS

SIN RESTITUCIONES AL PORCINO.

El primer Comité de gestión de la OCM única, celebrado el 7 de agosto en Bruselas, ha aprobado, respecto al sector del porcino, dejar de conceder ayudas a la exportación de canales y piezas, a partir del viernes 8 de agosto.

Las restituciones para canales y piezas quedan sin efecto a partir del 8 de agosto. Permanecen sin cambios las restituciones a productos transformados y preparados.

[Ver página 4](#)

MÁS CEREAL.

La Comisión Europea, en su última previsión de agosto, estima para el 2008 un aumento de la cosecha de cereales del 16% en relación a la del año anterior y del +9% en comparación con la producción media del último quinquenio. Unas condiciones climáticas favorables junto con un aumento de los terrenos de cultivo hace augurar una producción de 301 millones de toneladas en la cosecha del 2008, lo que supone 43 millones de toneladas más que el año anterior.

[Ver página 13](#)

VACACIONES DE VERANO

El Boletín Agropecuario Mercolleida suspende su publicación, a partir de este número, durante dos semanas.

Reaparecerá en la cuarta semana de agosto.

Los usuarios de Lonja acreditados podrán solicitar los servicios del mercado que precisen al teléfono 973 24 93 00.

Las sesiones de lonja se celebrarán en sus días y horas habituales.

Las cotizaciones estarán disponibles en los contestadores automáticos:

807 11 70 49
807 11 70 52
807 31 72 14

Se mantienen con normalidad los servicios de información por fax, correo electrónico y SMS.

CERDO CEBADO: 1,310 (=).- La tablilla repite cotización por segunda semana consecutiva, y ya constituye noticia en sí, que para llegar a este acuerdo no haya sido preciso acudir a la Junta de Gobierno. La Mesa ha llegado a este acuerdo después de manejar los parámetros objetivos sobre la situación del mercado. [/página 3](#)

AÑOJO MACHO 331-370 KG "R": 2,94 (+0,06).- Empieza a reaccionar el precio del ganado macho cruzado, con una subida de 6 céntimos en el ganado de más y de menos del año, pero no así el de las hembras, para las que se mantiene la situación de flojedad, en base a una oferta que se manifiesta por encima de la demanda. [/página 11](#)

GRANULADO ALFALFA 2^a: 180,00 (=).- Repetición generalizada de la tablilla de precios en el forraje. Se continúa apostando por un nivel de cotización que cada vez se circunscribe más a las partidas con calidad muy definida. El gran volumen de materia prima que se halla situado en el límite de la indefinición de calidades, enmascara operaciones por debajo de cotización de tablilla, con el justificante de que se trata de género cuya calidad no coincide con la categoría correspondiente. [/página 14](#)

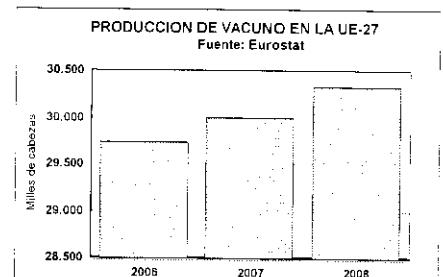
PERA BLANQUILLA 58+: 0,50 (-).- Empieza la recogida de nuevas variedades de pera y de manzana. En la semana actual, ha sido la Blanquilla y la Williams en pera, y la Gala en manzana. Todas ellas abren la primera cotización de la campaña con unos precios muy similares a las primeras referencias recogidas la campaña anterior, al tiempo que, como ya es habitual en todo inicio de campaña, su andadura viene marcada por un volumen reducido de operaciones. [/página 15](#)

DATOS

MÁS PRODUCCIÓN.

La producción indígena bruta (disponible para matadero) en la UE-27 en 2008, apunta un incremento del 1,1%, para situarse en 30,3 millones de cabezas. Se confirmaría así las previsiones al alza previstas para este año, de la mano de un aumento de los sacrificios de terneros (+3,4%), y de vacas (+3%), mientras que retrocede la de toros y bueyes, y la de novillas (un -0,5% y -1,33%, respectivamente).

Estas previsiones de producción al alza, se corresponden con los datos cerrados en el último censo de diciembre de 2007, en los que se apuntaba una recuperación de la cabaña de vacuno un 0,7% por encima del año anterior, hasta un total de 89,049 millones de cabezas en la



Los sacrificios de ternero aumenta en Francia (+2,1%), Holanda (+12,7%) y el Reino Unido (+32,1%), pero desciende en Alemania (-1,1%), Polonia (-3,4%), y España (-0,7%). Una tendencia similar se apunta en las vacas, con aumentos en Francia (+0,2%), el Reino Unido (+33,5%) y Holanda (+4,5%), y descensos en Alemania (-1,1%), Polonia (+13,6%), y España (-0,9%).

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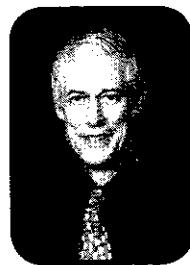
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The Exchange

The newsletter of the American Agricultural Economics Association

From the President

A Final Note



When you see me in Orlando, I will be handing over my responsibilities to President-elect Richard Just. Richard has been very much involved in everything we have had to do over the past year. The troika arrangement we have at AAEA has real advantages. The President-elect is well experienced by the time the responsibilities of President roll around. The Past President (my job starting in a few weeks) keeps institutional memory and tries to encourage and bring to fruition those things initiated during the presidential term. This all seems to work very well.

Volunteer organizations are extremely fragile. They fail quickly unless talented folk volunteer for leadership positions. We had an excellent slate of people running for our Executive Board and for the President's position. We could not have gone wrong no matter who was elected. We are incredibly fortunate! Nominating good people and having good people willing to serve, as officers,

leaders, or worker bees, is the lifeblood of AAEA or any other volunteer organization. Please continue to do it.

I have a couple passing thoughts from the perspective of an applied economist. First, agricultural and applied economics matters. When writing this I had just heard two Congressional Representatives explain in a sound bite about how we were going to solve high food and gasoline prices with simple sleight-of-hand. I flinched. The lack of understanding of the trade-offs, opportunity costs, and generational impacts surrounding policies pervades the national economic debates. We have our work cut out for us in the coming presidential campaign, to try to improve the quality of understanding of economic fundamentals—at the least, to try to mitigate economic sleight-of-hand by the candidates.

Second, we not only have an obligation to improve the quality of economic debate, but we also have a responsibility to try to ensure some of it actually takes place. I find that in many discussions there are one or more elephants in the room that are uniformly

ignored. Whether one wants to raise taxes or cut expenditures, how can one push large expensive efforts without even mentioning how one pays for them? Much of the pain from economic sin in the public or private sector seems to be off limits for discussion. I admit, it is daunting to be the one individual in the room trying to get others to acknowledge the elephant, but there are those of us protected to some extent by age, position, experience, or tenure who should make the effort to do so.

Finally, one thing a professional association should do is provide a cohort of individuals to give encouragement and/or cover for doing the right thing professionally. I hope that AAEA continues to provide that in important instances for its members.

I appreciate your confidence in me to have given me this job. Steve Buccola and then I struggled hard to do the best we could at it. I know that Richard and then Ron Mittelhammer will do the same.

Otto Doering

AAEA President

2009 AAEA Executive Board Announced



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2008 AAEA Executive Board election. The election opened on April 15, 2008 when AAEA emailed 1983 electronic ballots and mailed 69 paper ballots for a total of 2052 ballots. 826 members placed their votes before the May 15th deadline resulting in a new President-elect and two new Directors on the AAEA Executive Board. Please welcome Ronald Mittelhammer as the new President-elect and Barry Goodwin and

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Feedstuffs

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THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR AGIBUSINESS

July 2008

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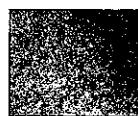
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FDA handling of tomato incident creates doubts
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Supermarket top 25 list changes dramatically
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Good feed

Pigment in cotton plants has anti-cancer qualities
Page 9



Reduce

Simple steps help reduce feedyard energy usage
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Ohio Fresh keeps permits but closely watched

By ROD SMITH

THE Ohio Department of Agriculture has decided not to appeal court ruling that has permitted Ohio Fresh Eggs to keep open and running, ending its two-year effort to revoke the company's operating permits and shut it down.

However, agriculture director Robert J. Boggs said the department is tightening the existing permitting process, noting that the company must renew its permits this year.

Ohio Fresh, headquartered in Croton, Ohio, is the largest commercial egg produc-

Key Points

- State ag director stops court proceedings.
- Ohio Fresh invests heavily to improve environmental management.

er in Ohio and the eighth-largest in the U.S., housing 7 million hens in layer houses in three central Ohio counties.

It was founded as Croton Egg Farm in 1983 and was a model operation that pioneered the concept of in-line production. However, after being acquired by German

interests, it became an environmental nuisance, with a history of fly and rodent infestations, odor, wastewater spills, contamination of rivers and fish kills.

Neighbors brought several civil lawsuits against the company, sometimes winning financial rewards.

The company, which had been renamed Buckeye Egg Farm, was acquired by Orlando Bethel and Don Hershey in 2004 after the agriculture department ordered Buckeye to close down due to continuing environmental law violations (Feedstuffs, March 8, 2004).

Bethel and Hershey applied for and received the necessary operating permits and renamed the company Ohio Fresh.

However, state officials subsequently discovered that Austin "Jack" DeCoster — who had his own history of environmental abuse at his egg and swine operations in Iowa and Maine, having been named a "habitual violator" of environmental laws by the state of Iowa — was the largest investor in Ohio Fresh but was not identified in the applications for the operating permits.

■ Continued page 5

G8 pushed to act on food crisis

By SALLY SCHUFF

PRESSURE mounted on President George Bush last week to urge other G8 leaders at the Group of Eight summit to seek solutions to the world food crisis.

Sen. Dick Lugar (R., Ind.) wrote to the President to say global help to fight food inflation must go far beyond emergency food assistance.

"We must look beyond today's situation to establish a solid basis for global food security," Lugar said.

Lugar, an advocate for biofuels and fighting hunger, listed four major policy recommendations to address the food crisis (story, page 4).

In his letter to Bush, who joins leaders of the world's richest nations this week in Hokkaido, Japan, Lugar said, "G8 nations must take concerted action to devise better responses to emerging crises and to provide leadership on policy matters that will promote global food security."

He urged Bush to push for a strong statement from the summit.

Also on Lugar's side is World Bank president Robert Zoellick, who formerly served as the Bush Administration as U.S. trade representative and deputy secretary of state.

In June, Zoellick said an international assessment showed that 20 countries would require "immediate assistance" to bolster nutrition programs by the time of the G8 meeting.

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rbST cuts carbon 'hoofprint'

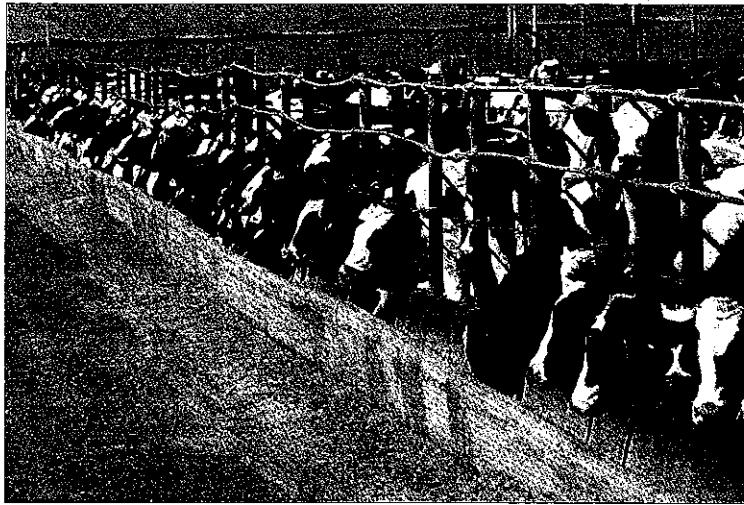
By SARAH MUIRHEAD

MODERN dairy practices can dramatically reduce the carbon footprint of farms, according to a new study featured in the latest edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The study, "The Environmental Impact of Recombinant Bovine Somatotropin (rbST) use in Dairy Production," demonstrates that the use of rbST reduces the carbon footprint of milk production, according to its authors.

With Food & Drug Administration approval, rbST is a proven-safe biotechnology that increases milk production and allows cows to use nutrients more efficiently by diluting maintenance feed requirements over more units of milk.

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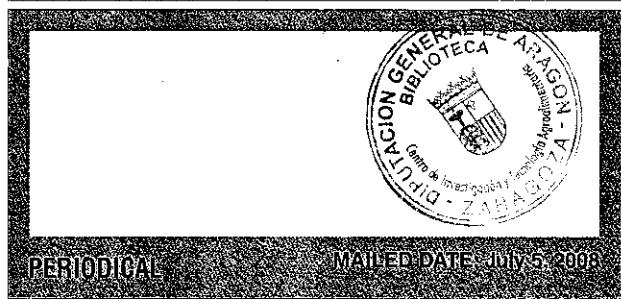
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Comment

Industrial organic symbiosis

My blog on AllAboutFeed.net called "Going organic is a dead-end street" received a lot of comments, mostly telling me that I didn't know what I was talking about. However, the FAO backs my conclusion. In a statement it said: "FAO has no reason to believe that organic agriculture can substitute for conventional farming systems in ensuring the world's food security." Should we continue on the same path as we did the last decades? Answering that question I would say - no. In April a 2,500 page report was presented in South Africa called "International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development", which advocates a new way of farming using modern technology in small scale farming. The authors say GM technology is not a quick fix to feed the world's poor and argue that growing crops for car fuel threatens to increase worldwide malnutrition. The use of GM crops, where the technology is not contained, is contentious, the UN says. The scientists said they saw little role for GM, as it is currently practised, in feeding the poor on a large scale. "Assessment of the technology lags behind its development, information is anecdotal and contradictory, and uncertainty about possible benefits and damage is unavoidable," said the report. Data on some crops indicate highly variable yield gains in some places and declines in others. The GM industry, despite being a sponsor of the report, disagrees and abandoned talks last year on this subject. Environment and consumer groups stated: "This is a sobering account of the failure of industrial farming. Small-scale farmers and ecological methods provide the way forward to avert the current food crisis and meet the needs of communities." This conclusion in my view is far too short-sighted. Industrialised countries cannot go back to small-scale farming, however, exploiting farming in developing countries needs to be put to a halt. Subsidies distort the use of resources and benefit industrialised nations at the expense of developing countries. I think both industrial farming and small-scale farming can survive next to each other and even can profit from each other. But developing countries must exercise their right to stop the flood of cheap subsidised products to protect their own farming sector. On the other hand industrialised countries need to stop sucking out resources in developing countries and be creative in growing alternatives.



 <http://www.AllAboutFeed.net>

More opinions and discussions can be viewed at www.AllAboutFeed.net/blogs

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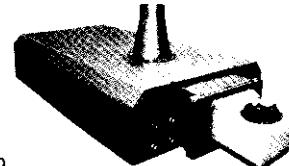
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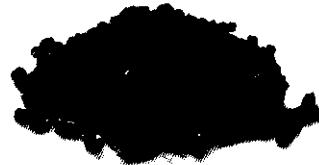
A new technology for measuring a number of essential parameters after extrusion provides new opportunities for producers of extruded feed and food products. The new measuring technology can allow for full automatic control of the extruder without interference from the process operator. This reduces labour and improves profitability.



Aquafeed

12 Modified lecithin prevents medicine losses in pellets

To administer medicines or vitamins to shrimps, the feed pellets are often soaked in a medicated oily mixture. However, substances are easily lost in the water and can therefore not fully absorbed by the animals. New insights show that if the pellets are wetted in an emulsion of fish oil, modified lecithin and the medicine, the losses are much lower. Here we explain what it holds.



Processing

15 Less operational problems with the 'Olds elevator'

Bucket elevators are used extensively to elevate bulk materials in the feed industry. However, they can also experience a wide range of maintenance and operational problems and generate plant hazards, such as dust emissions and dust explosions. A new type of elevator, called the 'Olds Elevator', has been developed recently to overcome many of these problems.

Processing

18 Odour emission control with Direct Cold Plasma

Odour emission during the production or processing of food and feed is often an unwelcome side effect. However, by using cold plasma technology, the smell can effectively be reduced up to 95%.



Colophon

Feed Tech is published by Reed Business bv,
International Agri- & Horticulture, the Netherlands

Management

21 Risk management crucial as feed prices soar

With a recession underway driven by record oil and crop prices, feed markets are experiencing a historical moment. Feed Tech spoke with sources who say inept public policy and laissez-faire risk management in the United States have contributed to some dramatic losses.



Raw materials

24 Phytase corn saves costs and the environment

In 2009, Origin Agritech Limited will commercially launch a new genetically modified corn in China. This new corn variety will reduce the need for such phosphate supplements and reduce feed costs.

Review

26 Going green

Green – the name itself already causes a lot of different interpretations. From an emphasis on biofuels or how do reduce methane emissions from cows. To discuss this emerging issue, almost 1,700 people came together in Lexington, USA. One thing is clear: green is the way to go.



Regional focus

29 Feed milling in the Philippines

The company Agrichexers Corp. has recently opened a brand new feed mill just outside Manila in the Philippines.

Feed Tech correspondent Stuart Lumb went down to visit this €241.5 thousand facility and reports on how they manage the plant.

Business briefs/People

32 Latest business developments and people movements

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Nuestro Sector

"Sabor de Verano", campaña de promoción de las frutas de verano. La Confederación de Cooperativas Agrarias de España, el Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación, la Federación Nacional de Detallistas de Frutas y Hortalizas y el resto de asociaciones de distribución alimentaria están realizando una campaña de promoción de las frutas de verano tradicionales: **melón, sandía, albaricoque, cereza, ciruela y melocotón.**

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Entrevista

José Joaquín Pérez de Obanos, presidente de la Confederación de Cooperativas Agrarias, asegura que desde la Confederación se está presionando para que estas normas de comercialización se mantengan en unas condiciones estrictas para evitar que salga fruta al mercado de mala calidad que a la larga incide en un descenso del consumo.

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Producto MELOCOTÓN

En España se pueden encontrar alrededor de 300 de las más de 2.000 variedades de **melocotón, nectarina y paraguaya** que existen en el mundo. La producción de melocotón es muy importante y la exportación todavía más.

La investigación se centra en la introducción de variedades extranjeras y en adaptar las variedades autóctonas a las exigencias de los mercados actuales.

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Reportaje

Evolución histórica de los mercados municipales y de barrio. El mercado municipal o de barrio hunde sus raíces en la historia misma de España y se convierte en un instrumento permanente de dinamización de las ciudades.

Las referencias históricas sobre ferias y mercados que han llegado a nuestros días se encuentran en los legajos antiguos que relatan los privilegios, franquicias y exenciones que los Reyes otorgaron a las ciudades que se creaban en los territorios ganados a los árabes.

28

Producto SANDÍA

Es la fruta más grande de la naturaleza y de consumo tradicional durante el verano. Se produce sandía en muchas partes de España pero es en Andalucía y en Levante donde se concentran las mayores plantaciones.

Por lo general la producida al aire libre cubre el mercado y la demanda nacional, mientras que la de invernadero, se destina al mercado exterior.

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Zumos y combinados

Los **zumos de frutas, verduras y hortalizas frescas** son la mejor forma de combatir el calor y contrarrestar el deterioro físico que produce el sol y los excesos del verano.

Además de una magnífica forma de que los niños coman verduras y hortalizas.

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"bonÀrea", alimentos saludables y seguros

¿Siente que los productos que da a su familia son seguros?
 ¿Qué garantías le ofrecen las tiendas o supermercados en los que realiza su compra?

Todos los productos que se compran en las tiendas "bonÀrea" tienen la **garantía y el compromiso del Grupo Alimentario Guissona**.

Nuestro consumidor ha de saber que la amplia oferta de productos cárnicos que ofrece "bonÀrea" en sus tiendas es saludable y segura, gracias a que el Grupo Alimentario Guissona **realiza y controla todas las fases del ciclo productivo y comercial**; el primer punto es la producción ganadera, después la transformación cárnea y finalmente la distribución y comercialización, llegando de este modo directamente al consumidor sin intermediarios.

- La **cría y engorde de aves y ganado** se realiza en las **explosaciones ganaderas de nuestros socios**, en todo momento asesoradas por un extenso equipo veterinario.
- La elaboración de nuestros productos cárnicos se realiza en las instalaciones de nuestro **Complejo Cárneo situado en Guissona**, donde se lleva a cabo íntegramente todo el proceso (sacrificio, despice, elaboración y expedición de toda la extensa gama de productos).
- Controles sanitarios y calidad certificada **ISO 9002** de todos los procesos, desde la producción hasta la comercialización.

- Certificado **ISO 22000** que, mediante un sistema de gestión de la inocuidad de los alimentos, garantiza que los productos cárnicos producidos y comercializados son 100% seguros.

- **Control de todo el ciclo productivo**, desde la granja al consumidor en 24 horas, sin romper la cadena de frío y asegurando la mejor calidad.

- **Producto fresco cada día**. Con nuestra flota de camiones realizamos un servicio diario a nuestras tiendas.

- **Envases y etiquetas** de los productos con la información detallada para su identificación.

- Implantación de la **trazabilidad** que garantiza el origen y la procedencia del animal.

- Elaboración de productos con **niveles de sal reducidos**, obteniendo una carne con sabores naturales y más saludables.

Todo ello con la garantía de la marca "bonÀrea", que hará que usted pueda comprar y consumir productos saludables y seguros.



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Kverneland presenta sus nuevas macroempacadoras y encintadoras Vicon.

Décadas de experiencia Vicon en la fabricación de empacadoras y maquinaria de forraje le dan al grupo Kverneland el respaldo para situarse en la vanguardia tecnológica en estos equipamientos de los que son un buen referente los nuevos modelos presentados al mercado y que se exponen en estas páginas. ☺

54

New Holland presenta su nueva serie de tractores T6000-Grande a los agricultores españoles.

Con el objetivo de dar a conocer a nuestros agricultores las grandes posibilidades de trabajo de sus nuevos tractores T6000-Grande, NEW HOLLAND ha llevado a cabo un interesante demotour por la geografía española durante los meses de junio y julio. Han sido ocho demostraciones durante las que un equipo técnico de la marca, formado por catorce especialistas, asesoraron a los más de 1.500 agricultores invitados a estas jornadas acerca de la extraordinaria capacidad de trabajo de los nuevos tractores. ☺

**26**

El Parlamento Europeo aprueba la Directiva sobre la edad de los agricultores.

La presencia de este colectivo en el campo es más necesaria que nunca, ya que más de la mitad de los propietarios de las explotaciones agrarias de la UE cuentan con más de 55 años de edad y un 25% supera los 65 años. ☺

46

Fendt fomenta nuevas oportunidades de negocio para su red.

La Conferencia de Prensa anual que organiza Fendt ha tenido lugar este año en la localidad checa de Ostrava y durante ella los responsables de la marca bávara dejaron bien claro su propósito de abrir nuevas vías de negocio interviniendo con su maquinaria en sectores independientes del exclusivamente agrícola. ☺

58

Massey Ferguson lanza su nuevo tractor MF 370 en Innov-Agrí.

Anticipándose a la futura demanda de aire más limpio, mayor eficiencia en el consumo de combustibles y calidad de ingeniería, Massey Ferguson lanza al mercado el nuevo tractor de 370 CV. ☺

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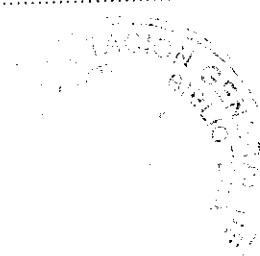
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Cover picture: *Saxifraga oppositifolia* L. (Saxifragaceae) is a perennial, low-mated plant growing on rocky grounds in arctic-alpine areas 1600–3800 m a.s.l. Its purple or pink flowers are among the earliest flowers to be found in these northerly plant habitats. The photo was taken in Abisko National Park (Sweden) at the start point of the Kungsleden (the Royal Track) near Lake Torneträsk. © May 2006, Dr. Markus Braun, IMBIO, Universität Bonn, Germany

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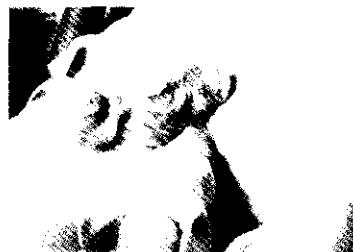
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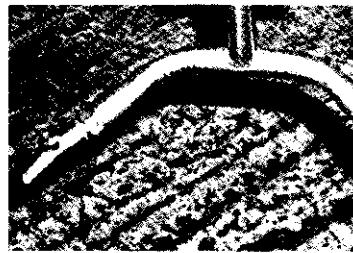
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6 Breeding Piglet vitality: what drives colostrum production?

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**18 Health The problem of lameness in sows**

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**27 Nutrition Trace minerals in pig production****Part 3. The catalyst for sow lifetime performance**

Trace mineral nutrition has been a neglected area of pig science and modern hyper-prolific sows have different requirements than those currently recommended. However, it is not just a question of quantity, but very much a question of the source and bio-availability of the mineral.

**Editorial**

There are many analogies to the famous question 'who came first, the chicken or the egg?' To use this expression for the pig industry, it would be 'who came first, the sow or the piglet?' The reason I ask this question is due to the major theme in several of the articles in this edition of *Pig Progress*. Recently, I have been attending several seminars and symposiums that discussed the issue of piglet vitality, which can be described as 'the piglet's quality to stay alive through birth, lactation and weaning'. In general, there are two factors determining vitality - as mentioned above, the sow and her piglet.

Perhaps it would be strange to say one or the other is more important as both of course play a vital role in the survival of the young animal. Hence, in this issue the topic has been covered by exploring both sides of the story. First, on page 6, Dr Nicolas Devillers, from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, considers the 'sow' to explain more about the latest research on that essential nutrient that gets newborn piglets going in the first couple of days: colostrum. In another article, further down the issue, Dr Egbert Knol from the Institute for Pig Genetics in the Netherlands, takes a different angle on the issue of piglet vitality. He explains more about the role of the piglets themselves, emphasising the need for a breeding focus on uniform litter size.

So, who came first, the sow or the piglet? According to this edition of *Pig Progress*, they arrived at the same time.

Vincent ter Beek, editor, *Pig Progress* (vincent.ter.beek@reedbusiness.nl)

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Reproduction, Fertility and Development

The official journal of the
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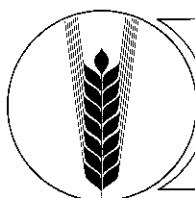
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(Photo G. Skory, Agroscope Changins-Wädenswil ACW)

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I nuovi obiettivi della peschicoltura italiana

*L*a peschicoltura italiana continua a dibattersi in problemi di riequilibrio produttivo, rinnovamento varietale, forte concorrenza commerciale, riaspetto tecnico e qualitativo per garantire maggiore sostenibilità economica ai frutticoltori e maggiore affidabilità ad un consumatore esigente, ma spesso disorientato. Sono problematiche non nuove, per le quali il dibattito tecnico-scientifico continua a proporre soluzioni alternative e che da tempo vedono impegnate sia le forze produttive, singole e associate, sia quelle politico-istituzionali. Né è pensabile che ricette semplici (vedi l'esempio degli espianti) possano risolvere in poco tempo criticità che si sono venute a determinare in seguito alla rapida globalizzazione produttiva e mercantile che ha caratterizzato l'evoluzione dell'intero settore ortofrutticolo nell'ultimo decennio, nel cui ambito il pesco, più di altri compatti, ha risentito degli effetti negativi di una crescente concorrenzialità europea e mediterranea.

Le vie d'uscita per superare una crisi che è più profonda di quanto non facciano capire gli andamenti economico-commerciali degli ultimi periodi, almeno sul fronte tecnico appaiono, oggi più che in passato, quelli del rinnovamento varietale, da sempre l'elemento di maggiore propulsione per ridare slancio alla frutticoltura, e dell'innovazione tecnologica laddove essa si traduce in minori costi di produzione, maggiore razionalizzazione nella gestione dei frutteti, incremento e omogeneizzazione delle rese, innalzamento del livello qualitativo del prodotto. Parallelamente, sul fronte economico-commerciale la via d'uscita sembra quella legata alla capacità di incontrare maggior-

mente il consenso di nuove fasce di consumatori, sia proponendo loro una gamma sempre più differenziata di pesche e nectarine (la ricerca genetica in tal senso è molto propositiva), sia favorendo la penetrazione del prodotto italiano in mercati ancora inesplorati e di potenziale crescita nel prossimo futuro. La forte concorrenza spagnola, del resto, non lascia spazi in tal senso: chi meglio produce e chi per primo riesce ad allargare i propri confini mercantili avrà la meglio.

Come tutti gli anni la Rivista di Frutticoltura dedica un fascicolo speciale al settore del pesco; le tematiche delle scelte varietali, della qualità delle produzioni, delle tecniche per ottimizzarla e monitorarla, ancora una volta trovano spazio e possibili approfondimenti che non mancheranno di essere utili agli operatori del settore, in un'ottica di confronto con le diverse realtà produttive che primeggiano in Italia e in Europa.

Non mancano, a corredo dell'inserto speciale, note tecnico-divulgative che fanno luce su un aspetto della qualità della frutta il cui impatto si fa sempre più determinante: il suo valore dietetico-nutrizionale. Che la frutta fa bene è cosa nota, diverso è sapere il perché, in che misura e con quali criteri di gestione pre- e post-raccolta se ne può preservare il valore funzionale e massimizzarne la fruibilità. Anche da questo, oggi, deve riprendersi il dibattito sui consumi della frutta, perché il loro incremento passa attraverso una difficile, ma non impossibile opera di comunicazione nei confronti dei consumatori. A cominciare dalle pesche!

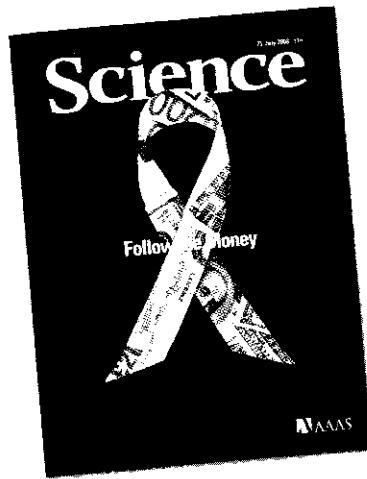
Ugo Palara

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Image: Kelly Krause/Science

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[10.1126/science.1158088](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1158088)



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[10.1126/science.1156121](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1156121)

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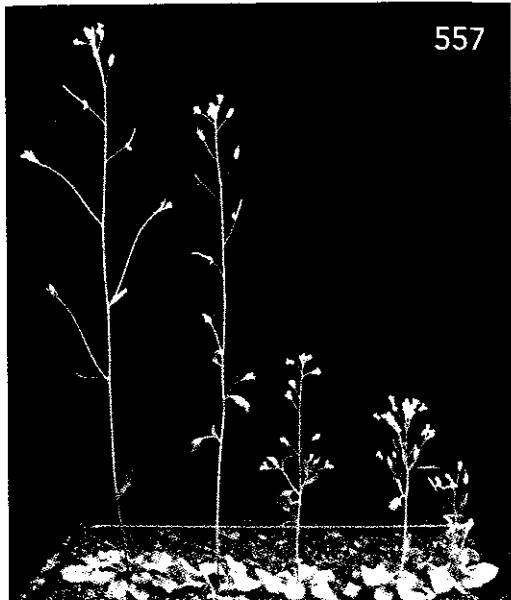
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**Proceedings of the Annual Conference
of the Society for Theriogenology**

August 12–16, 2008

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

**Guest Editor
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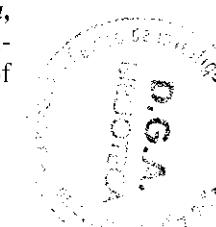
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