

LIVESTOCK

Sorting Pen

Biodiesel coproducts targeted for livestock feedstuffs

Coproducts from the biodiesel industry may prove to be valuable alternative sources of protein for livestock producers.

The first step in producing biodiesel is to extract the oil from crops such as soybeans, sunflowers, canola and other oilseeds, says Greg Lardy, North Dakota State University animal scientist.

"In commercial operations, this is accomplished through a combination of expeller and hexane extraction. Once

the oil has been extracted, biodiesel is produced. This process separates the glycerol backbone from the triglyceride and converts the fatty acids to methyl esters. Glycerol is a byproduct that has historically been used in the cosmetics industry, but limited research has evaluated its usefulness as a feedstuff," Lardy explains.

Some companies are marketing on-farm biodiesel production units. These small-scale systems typically utilize a screw press. This leaves more oil in the meal, which increases its energy content for use in animal feeds.

The residual meals from biodiesel production are useful as protein supplements. Soybean meal is typically used in the swine and poultry industries, due to its superior digestibility and amino acid profile. Sunflower meal and canola meal can be successfully used in a variety of beef cattle diets, including backgrounding and finishing rations and cow supplements.

Missourian promotes Certified Hereford Beef

Certified Hereford Beef LLC has selected Anna Rhodus, Greenwood, as

the 2007 CHB ambassador. She will assist CHB LLC staff at promotional events throughout the year as volunteer spokeswoman for CHB products and the breed behind the brand.

This is the first year for the CHB Ambassador Program, which is coordinated by CHB LLC, the National Organization of Poll-ettes and the American Hereford Women.

■ To learn more about the ambassador program and Certified Hereford Beef, check out the Web site www.hereford.org.



MU mule team gets extra support

The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine has received a \$420,862 gift from the Virginia Etheridge estate to supplement an existing Kahrs Family endowment for the mule team and its public relations efforts.

The money will be handled as an endowment, with interest used for the team's travel expenses, care and feeding, passenger-wagon maintenance, and a truck and trailer. Funds will also support veterinary students who care for the mules and take them to events across Missouri, providing rides and a glimpse back to the time when these animals were the backbone of the state's economy.

"Mrs. Etheridge's gift insures the legacy of Bob and Evelyn Kahrs and their passion for the mule team and our students as ambassadors of the college," says Cecil Moore, College of Veterinary Medicine interim dean.

The mascot mules have represented the MU College of Veterinary Medicine and the state of Missouri since 1982.

Our brand at pre-breeding makes your brand look its best.

Now with *L. hardjo-ovis!*



This year at pre-breeding, protect your brand with our brand: new **Vira Shield 6+VL5 HB**. It's the first and only inactivated viral vaccine with vibrio and *Lepto hardjo-ovis*, the leptospire that can clobber conception rates. Vira Shield 6+VL5 HB is:

- The only vaccine with three BVD isolates
- The only inactivated product with *L. hardjo-ovis*, vibrio and Type 2 BVD in the same bottle
- Backed by research that demonstrates this Type 2 BVD protection remains strong for 11 months – well beyond the breeding season!

Boost your cow herd's immunity before the breeding season with Vira Shield 6+VL5 HB. You'll ensure healthy cows that drop healthy calves – calves that boost your reputation as a quality cattle producer.

Beef Briefs

Distillers grains a draw for cattle producers

"Cattle numbers in Iowa are increasing, and that's due to distillers grain," Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey told the "Managing Distillers Grains in Cattle Feeding" workshop. Dan Loy, an Iowa State University beef nutritionist, said 75% of Iowa cattle feeders currently use ethanol coproducts to benefit from the protein, energy and phosphorus content.

Summer vs. spring calving

A University of Nebraska study suggests that moving early spring calving to early summer helps reduce feed costs and increases profit potential by taking advantage of grazing resources for lactating cows. This timetable also allows for fewer calf losses and sicknesses, less labor during calving due to calves weighing less at birth, and reduced use of harvested feeds. There are also different market alternatives for calves, cull cows and bulls.

1. Chase C. Protection with an inactivated vaccine against IBR, BRSV and BVD. Paper presented at: Annual Meeting of AABP, 1995; San Antonio, Texas. Vira Shield has no approved claim for duration of immunity to Type 2 BVD.

