

## WATT feed newsletter increases frequency

WATT Feed eNews increases its publishing frequency beginning this month, going from once to twice monthly. Feed eNews will be published the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning in JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009. The increase in frequency will allow WATT to serve readers with even more timely information and in a new format that will make the articles easier to access and read. In the newly designed format, the articles in each issue will be even more targeted and accessible for readers.

## MARKET WATCH

**The Brazilian feed industry association**, Sindiracoos, expects domestic animal feed production to have grown in 2008 by 10.2% and amount to 59 million tons. Additionally, the association predicts Brazil will have spent more than US\$1.2 billion in feed additive imports in 2008. The feed industry body anticipates 2008 raw material sales to total US\$ 20 billion, which would be up from the US\$13 billion recorded in 2007. This is mainly due to the additional amount that will be produced (an extra 6 million tons), the true increasing costs of feed, and the devaluation of the US dollar.

**The continued lack of spring** rainfall in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia has resulted in significant abandonment, haying, and declining yields, according to reports made in late November following a USDA crop assessment tour of the region. The majority of the wheat growing regions in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia experienced well below average rainfall in September and October at a time when rainfall is critical to wheat production in these regions. In addition, while there may be some crop losses in Western Australia due to late frost, the overall crop prospects are promising to be above average. Queensland is also expected to have higher yields and production compared to last year.

**On December 2, 2008, private** exporters in the U.S. reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 330,000 metric tons of corn for delivery to Mexico. Of the total, 120,000 metric tons is for delivery during the 2009/2010 marketing year and 210,000 metric tons is for delivery during the 2008/2009 marketing year. They also reported sales of 120,000 metric tons of corn for delivery to Egypt during the 2008/2009 marketing year.



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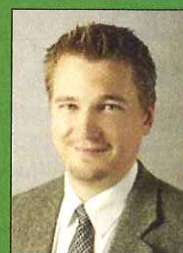
In Saudi Arabia, Aimco is currently active in feed production and is one of the main importers of feed raw materials and feed additives. The building of the premix factory of Saudi Feed Mix will start in 2009 and is expected to be running in October 2009.

## Trouw Nutrition, Aimco sign cooperation agreement

Trouw Nutrition International and the Arabian Integral Ministration Company (AIMCO) and its branches announce their agreement for a strategic alliance in the field of premix production in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and sales of feed additives and feed specialities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The alliance will consist of a technology transfer agreement regarding the production, quality control, sourcing of raw materials, optimization of premixes and a distribution agreement for a number of Trouw Nutrition's well-known branded feed additives and specialities. For the production and sales of Aimco's premixes, a new dedicated company, Saudi Feed Mix, will be established and a brand-new state-of-the art premix plant will be built at nearby Riyadh. Saudi Feed Mix will be able to apply the technology and to use the main premix brand FARMIX of Trouw Nutrition. The cooperation includes the system of quality assurance and the supply of ingredients for premix production and the necessary technology to guarantee the production of high quality premixes in the market.

## AB Vista appoints new research and development manager

AB Vista, an international supplier of new generation micro-ingredients for the animal feed industry, announces the appointment of Dr Aaron Cowieson as senior research and development manager. The appointment of Aaron Cowieson into a newly created position reflects AB Vista's ongoing success and supports the company's ambitious growth plans to be a top player in the global micro-ingredients business. As senior research and development manager, Aaron will be responsible for the planning, execution and reporting of key AB Vista enzyme projects. He will split his time between the management of research and development projects and technical support of products in the marketplace. Dr Cowieson has held a number of senior positions in scientific research and development within the animal nutrition industry, specialising in ingredients for poultry nutrition. He previously worked for Danisco Animal Nutrition where he was responsible for driving new product development in nutritional research.



Aaron Cowieson

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## Obama taps Vilsack as U.S. ag secretary

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama named Tom Vilsack, a former governor of the state of Iowa, as his choice for agriculture secretary. At a news conference following the announcement, Vilsack cited a number of issues in order of importance: improving profitability for farmers, the need for sustainable practices and fighting global climate change, and the centrality of good nutrition in feeding programs. Both Vilsack and Obama have been strong supporters of ethanol, and one of their first decisions after taking office is whether to support the ethanol industry's request for billions of dollars in federal aid in the economic stimulus bill. Iowa is the leading state in U.S. ethanol production. Vilsack, like the president-elect, is recognised as a strong advocate of combating global warming and developing alternative sources of energy. Another issue requiring attention by the new secretary will be overseeing the development of regulations for the 2008 farm bill.



Tom Vilsack



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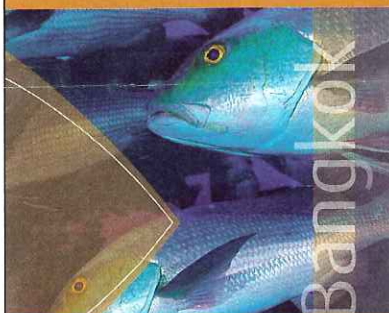
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## Contaminated feedstuffs lead to Irish pig meat recalls

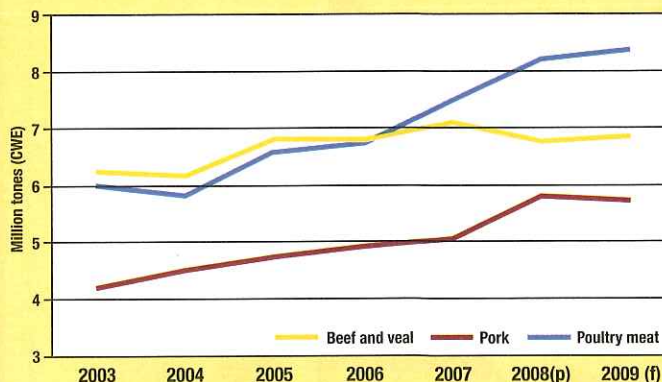
Irish pig meat contaminated with toxic dioxins could have been exported to as many as 25 countries, Irish government officials said in December. European Union food safety experts have joined investigations in Ireland into how ingredients contaminated with dioxins found their way into feeds supplied to pig units in the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland. This follows the decision of the Irish government to order the recall of all pork products processed in Ireland since 1 September 2008 for domestic and export markets. In a statement to its membership, Deidre Webb, director of the Irish Feed and Grain Association, said that the government has assured the association that the contaminated feed was waste bread originating from a food recycling business and not from a commercial feed manufacturer, but that there had been no reporting of that fact by journalists or in statements from government officials. Ireland's exports of 129,000 metric tons of pigmeat last year were worth about €370 million and destinations included the UK, Japan, Germany, Russia, France, China and USA. A complete recall covering product from all 400 pig units in the Irish Republic had to be ordered because of the near-impossibility of tracing pork back to the farm of origin, although dioxins were detected only in pigs from nine farms accounting for about 10% of national production.



**Contaminated feed caused recalls of Irish pork dating as far back as September for domestic and export markets.**

# NUMBERS

## Global import demand for meat and poultry, estimated 2009



Red meat and poultry (broiler and turkey) imports are forecast to rise 1 percent to 21.0 million tons in 2009. Both beef and poultry imports are expected to expand by nearly 2 percent. The rise in beef is a reversal of the previous year's expected decline. Poultry import growth slows compared to the previous 2 years. A one percent decline in pork imports is anticipated – the first decrease since 1997. Source: USDA-FAS.