Optimism abounds at World Pork Expo

Optimism was the underlying tone reflected throughout this year’s World Pork Expo. More than 20,000 producers and ag professionals, including 1,100 international guests from 35 countries, convened at the state fairgrounds in Des Moines, June 8-10.

Presented by the National Pork Producers Council, the 28th annual Expo featured the world’s largest pork specific trade show, a range of educational seminars and issue updates, and another Junior National swine show that filled the barns to capacity.

“World Pork Expo is a place where pork producers can network and share ideas, see the latest innovations for their businesses and broaden their expertise through a range of educational seminars and updates,” says John Weber, NPPC president and pork producer from Dysart, Iowa. “U.S. pork producers are optimistic by nature and are looking forward to new packing capacity coming online. Some are upgrading facilities and expanding production, and all are hoping to continue to supply high-quality pork to the world through further export growth.”

The World Pork Expo trade show involved 435 commercial exhibits from companies based in the United States, Canada, the UK, Spain, Singapore, Mexico, South Korea, Denmark, China, and Australia. There was good traffic flow of producers who were upbeat and shopping for new products as well as upgrades for existing facilities.

“The Producers we spoke with all seemed optimistic,” says Ross Thurston, “Farmers are known for their consistent approach to their business and are always looking for ways to get the most out of their barns and animals. They come to the Expo to see new innovations, to check out what’s new and to learn how exciting technologies like the LWR System can help them maximize their efficiencies,” he adds.

“We had some very good conversations with people, developed more awareness of our technology, and received a ton of positive feedback. We are always excited when we can expand our contacts; and will be back again next year.”

Source: NPPC
Nebraska Dairy Farm Adds LWR System to Improve Their Composting Operation

Prairieland Dairy, a 1400 cow flush flume dairy and one of the largest composting operations in Nebraska, will become the first dairy in the state to install the LWR manure treatment System.

Prairieland Dairy is owned by the Obbink, Rice, Eickhoff and Goosen families, and is a different kind of dairy farm; one dedicated to sustainability and transparency. Located right next to the dairy is a compost facility that turns the farm’s organic waste into nutrient rich compost called “Prairieland Gold”. The compost is cultivated from cow manure and food waste from local communities, schools and sporting arenas, and even waste from the local Nestlé Purina manufacturing facility in Crete, Nebraska. Made from decayed organic material, the compost looks like soil and is sold to other farmers, gardeners and greenhouses as fertilizer. Prairieland Gold is also used on Prairieland crops. It is spread on fields to minimize the use of commercial fertilizer. The LWR System will provide the additional moisture required in the composting process while eliminating odor associated with composting raw manure.

Prairieland Dairy also understands the value of water and has been recycling water around the farm for years. With the LWR System, they can truly recycle and re-use water at every stage of their operation. The water recycled through the LWR System will be used to clean and sanitize the facilities, irrigate crops, and provide the moisture needed to make Prairieland Gold compost.

"In my mind, it's the right thing to do for the environment," says Dan Rice, general manager of Prairieland Dairy. “We will continue to improve the efficiencies of our composting operation, while reusing water, reduce the volume of manure we have on site, and concentrate the valuable manure nutrients.”

Ross Thurston, President of LWR adds “At the foundation of this farm is four incredible families and their dedication to sustainable farming. The addition of the LWR System to their operation sets them up very well for future generations of farmers.” Prairieland dairy will recycle more than 36 million gallons of liquid manure annually.

Visit them out online at www.prairielanddairy.com

Off to Indiana

In June, the hard working crew in our manufacturing plant shipped a system to a hog farm in Orleans Indiana.

River View Farms, a diversified, multi-generation, family-owned business centered in southern Indiana, produces chickens to replace hens in laying farms, farrow to finish hogs, and turkeys. They also grow corn, soybeans, and wheat crops.

The future of manure management.
It isn’t every day that a third generation dairy farmer decides to up and move their entire operation to a new country and not just succeed, but thrive and expand. That is exactly what Gordon and Cathy Speirs did in 2003. Not only did they move from Canada to the United States, they moved to the Dairy State, where standards are high and competition, fierce.

Today, Gordon is the farm’s general manager, and president of the Wisconsin Dairy Business Association. Cathy is the farm’s manager of maternity, baby calves and genetics. She also shares her successes in calf genetics at speaking engagements in the U.S. and abroad. Sons Travis and Tyler, the fourth generation, both have management roles in running the farm.

When they moved to Wisconsin, the Speirs intended to start milking 600 cows, and hoped to one day grow that number to 1,200. Today, Shiloh Dairy milks 2,100 cows, raises all young stock onsite, and cares for 4,450 animals in total. The Speirs family searches out innovative methods in every aspect of their operation, and is known for being the first dairy in the state of Wisconsin to install the LWR Manure Treatment System. They host visitors from around the world who come to observe the advanced technology and protocols the farm has established.

“We consider Shiloh Dairy as one of our Legacy Clients,” says LWR President Ross Thurston. “They are true innovators who took a risk by investing in a new technology that they believed would help protect their family farm for years to come. Because of their leap of faith, they have helped other dairies - not only in Wisconsin, but throughout the US - see the results of sustainably managing manure in a different way. They are leaders in their industry, and are very deserving of this recognition.”

McCORMICK FARMS FEATURED ON THE COVER OF DAIRY HERD MANAGEMENT MAGAZINE

In the May edition of Dairy Herd Management magazine, Nate Hartway of McCormick Farms gives us an inside look at how their LWR System has made life a whole lot easier for them - including taking 500 tucks off local roads!

Read the article here
On April 22 we celebrated Earth Day with earth shaped pizza, earth colored cupcakes, earth day trivia and we finished off by planting our summer salad garden! We are proud that our work helps farmers protect the environment, and we are just as proud of our eco-friendly office and eco-savvy co-workers!

LWR INNOVATION CENTER TEAM KICKS OFF SUMMER WITH A TEAM BBQ AND BEAN BAG TOSS COMPETITION

RESEARCH GRANT BRINGS NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS TO LWR INNOVATION CENTER

LWR’s Innovation Centre has welcomed two fresh faces this summer as part of a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) student training grant involving the University of Calgary. The Industrial Undergraduate Student Research Award is designed to stimulate student interest in research in natural sciences and engineering. It is also meant to encourage students to undertake graduate studies and to pursue a research career in specific fields.

Pankti Shah and Maya Schuller started in the LWR Innovation Center in June and will end their work term in September just in time to return to the University of Calgary for fall semester.

“We are committed to R&D and continue to look for different ways to innovate” says Brooks. “Employing technology is the key to managing manure effectively, and these students are the future of our industry. Collaborations like this will help evolve a new standard in the way manure is managed in the future.”

UP NEXT: JOIN US IN OHIO AS ROSS PRESENTS SEMINAR AT THE NORTH AMERICAN MANURE EXPO

Not only will LWR be exhibiting at the North American Manure Expo August 3 & 4th in London, Ohio, but Ross will be presenting a seminar on Wednesday afternoon. Please join us to learn more about the LWR System, and specific results of how the System is impacting dairy and hog operations across the US.

The Manure Expo has grown to be an annual educational and demonstration event.