



## **For Immediate Release**

### **International Production & Processing Expo**

USPOULTRY Contact: Gwen Venable, 678.514.1971, [gvenable@uspoultry.org](mailto:gvenable@uspoultry.org)

AFIA Contact: Victoria Broehm, 703.558.3579, [vbroehm@afia.org](mailto:vbroehm@afia.org)

NAMI Contact: Sarah Little, 202.587.4263, [slittle@meatinstitute.org](mailto:slittle@meatinstitute.org)

## **Rendering: Recycling, Revenue and Necessary**

ATLANTA, Ga. – Feb. 3, 2022 – “Rendering started in the United States around the 1800s, when there was a rendering company in every town. Today, the North American Renderers Association represents members from the U.S., Canada and Mexico, helping them export their products and by opening new markets overseas,” said Kent Swisher, president and CEO of the North American Renderers Association (NARA), during his presentation at the International Rendering Symposium, held in conjunction with the 2022 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta. The NARA and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association sponsored the program.

In his opening remarks, Swisher provided an overview of the work conducted by NARA. Swisher expressed that NARA’s focus is on sustainability and advocacy in both regulatory and legislative areas, the renewal of fuels and international research of fat uses, and also being a supplier of low carbon ingredients to the feed and energy sectors.

Jody Jenkin, product line manager at Smithfield Foods, discussed the value and uses of rendered products. She said, “Rendering is recycling, rendering is revenue, and rendering is necessary.” Jenkin observed that rendering is recycling and revenue because very little is thrown away or taken to the landfills. Among numerous other uses, products from rendering include soaps, candles, creams, cosmetics, cleansers, lubricants, organic fertilizers, biofuel, animal feed and products used in aquaculture. The sale of rendered products provides an economic contribution of \$10 billion annually in the United States.

Jenkin continued by remarking that rendering is also necessary. “In the U.S., 50% of the animal is eaten. If the other 50% is not rendered, it would be kept in our environment or go to the landfills. If there were no recycling plants in the U.S., the landfills would fill up in four years,” she said.

Dr. Annel Greene, professor at Clemson University, provided a research overview on the future of rendered products. She discussed projects that have been chosen for funding, including one that provided an on-site demonstration of electrocoagulation treatment of rendering wastewater, which is a different way of cleaning water. Another research project resulted in an instructional video being created on environmental sampling for pathogenic microorganisms in rendering plants for use in educational programs by the Animal Protein Producers Industry and individual companies. Dr. Greene

commented, “A total of 157 research projects have been conducted or are on-going, and 54 faculty are directly involved in conducting the studies. More than 82% of funded projects have been conducted by faculty who have been at Clemson less than 10 years, and more than 2,800 undergraduate students have been introduced to the rendering industry.”

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**Photo caption:** Kent Swisher, president and CEO of the North American Renderers Association, speaking at the International Rendering Symposium during the 2022 IPPE.

#### **ABOUT IPPE**

The International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) is a collaboration of three shows - International Feed Expo, International Meat Expo and the International Poultry Expo - representing the entire chain of protein production and processing. The event is sponsored by the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), North American Meat Institute (NAMI) and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY).

#### **ABOUT AFIA**

Founded in 1909, the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), based in Arlington, Va., is the world’s largest organization devoted exclusively to representing the business, legislative and regulatory interests of the U.S. animal food industry and its suppliers. The organization’s membership is comprised of more than 650 domestic and international companies that represent the total feed industry—manufacturers of commercial and integrated feed and pet food, ingredient suppliers, pharmaceutical companies, industry support and equipment manufacturers. AFIA members manufacture more than 75% of the feed and 70% of the non-grain ingredients used in the country. AFIA is also recognized as the leader on international industry developments and holds membership in the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF).

### **ABOUT NAMI**

The North American Meat Institute (NAMI) is the leading voice for the meat and poultry industry. Formed from the 2015 merger of the American Meat Institute (AMI) and North American Meat Association (NAMA), the Institute has a rich, century-long history and provides essential member services including legislative, regulatory, scientific, international and public affairs representation. NAMI's mission is to shape a public policy environment in which the meat and poultry industry can produce wholesome products safely, efficiently and profitably. Together, the Institute's members produce the vast majority of U.S. beef, pork, lamb and poultry and the equipment, ingredients and services needed for the highest quality products.

### **ABOUT NARA**

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use of animal byproducts, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. In addition to its U.S.-based headquarters, the association maintains offices in Mexico and Hong Kong, and has market consultants in strategic locations around the world. NARA publishes a bi-monthly trade magazine, *Render*. For more information visit [www.NARA.org](http://www.NARA.org)

### **ABOUT USPOULTRY**

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the All Feather Association progressively serving its poultry and egg members through research, education, communications and technical services. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Georgia.