

November 12, 2012



# ADSA Dair-e-news

News of the Industry



Provided by the American Dairy Science Association® (ADSA®) in cooperation with Feedstuffs / Feedstuffs FoodLink

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Opinion and editorial content included in the *Dair-e-news* represent the views of the authors. Publication does not represent endorsement of any position by the ADSA. Ken Olson, Ph: 630-237-4961, [keolson@prodiqy.net](mailto:keolson@prodiqy.net)

## Merger spree on horizon?

Corporate coffers are stuffed to the gills with uncommitted capital, foreshadowing a surge of mergers and acquisitions on the short-term business horizon.

Peter Ricchiuti, a professor with the Tulane University A.B. Freeman School of Business, told agricultural bankers last week that the biggest business headlines of the next year will likely center on how companies spend the massive amount of cash they have sitting on the sidelines.

"You're going to see, in the (next) 12-18 months, so much merger and acquisition activity that your head is going to spin right off your shoulders," Ricchiuti told the American Bankers Assn.'s Agricultural Bankers Conference. "The reasons are that U.S. corporations are so full of cash right now -- about \$3 trillion of unused cash."

Ricchiuti explained that the way entities handle cash in challenging economic conditions is fairly intuitive.

"If you're an individual and you're afraid of the future, you can pile money away; that's okay," he said. "If you're a private company, you can stockpile money in sandbags and make a levee for yourself or whatever. (However,) if you're a public company, you can't do it very long, because at some point, somebody comes in and does a leveraged buyout on you."

Ricchiuti said the prospect of a corporation being acquired, essentially with its own money, will push directors and executives to put their cash reserves into play.

"It's already happening (to some extent), but the speed is going to be blinding when it happens because the stock market is still pretty cheap," he explained. "Even after this weird run-up, it's selling less than 14 times earnings, interest rates are very low, money is very easy to get on the corporate side and the dollar is weak against other currencies."

[Read more](#)

## Consider options for feeding challenges

The full effect of this year's drought has yet to be calculated, but reports of hay and forage shortages swirl throughout the industry, and producers in nearly every region of the country are concerned about feed costs, quality and availability.

Tight corn supplies and the resulting higher prices per bushel are expected to force dairy producers to explore alternative feed energy sources, according to an announcement from Arm & Hammer Animal Nutrition.

This year's corn silage crop is also expected to be plagued by quality issues that negatively affect cow health and performance, including higher-than-usual nitrate and mycotoxin levels.

Also, alfalfa hay production is forecasted to be 54.9 million tons, down more than 10 million tons from last year. Based on early-August crop conditions, yields are expected to average 2.92 tons per acre, potentially the lowest alfalfa yield since 1988.

This scenario means dairy nutritionists and producers will need to be at the top of their game when it comes to feeding this year's crop and utilizing alternative feedstuffs and ingredients, said Dr. Elliot Block, senior manager, technology, with Arm & Hammer Animal Nutrition. Regardless of the feed source, quality and availability, it is critical to maintain production to generate optimal income, he noted.

[Read more](#)

## Antibiotic resistance a hot topic

Washington State University announced Nov. 1 that molecular epidemiologist Doug Call of the university's Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health has received nearly \$1.9 million from the National Science Foundation to conduct research looking at the ecological and socioeconomic factors behind antibiotic resistance.

Call will take a large view, comparing the genes of bacteria to the landscapes in which they live to the pathways by which they travel through people and animals. His research will take place in 30 villages across three ecological zones of the greater Serengeti ecosystem of Tanzania.

Call chose Tanzania in part because East Africa is a focus of the school but also because of the relatively self-contained interactions among its people and domestic and wild animals; in the U.S., in contrast, pathways between people and their food are much more distant and complicated to track, typifying the ease with which bacteria spread around the world via international travelers and global trade, the announcement said.

[Read more](#)

### RELATED ARTICLE

[Diamond V, USDA to explore antibiotic alternatives](#)

Food & Farm with Ray Bowman

Food & Farm is dedicated to providing fact-based information about your food and those that produce it.

Here are this week's segments:

Joni Mitchell lamented "They Paved Paradise, Put Up A Parking Lot." Now, that parking lot's abandoned - but Joe Kovach is using it for a garden. [Click here to listen](#)

The GMO labeling bill was defeated in California on Tuesday. We talk with Kathy Fairbanks about why it was voted down. [Click here to listen](#)

There's gold in them thar Green Acres as farmland prices set new records. Brent Gloy from Purdue University explains. [Click here to listen](#)

'70s rockers Three Dog Night said "One Is The Loneliest Number," but more and more people are eating by themselves. We discuss that and other food trends. [Click here to listen](#)

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## Consumer prices head higher

Last summer's drought that -- like an epidemic -- spread very fast from one section of the country to another has had dramatic, if not traumatic, consequences for livestock and poultry producers and also will, in the coming months, for consumers.

The drought, which meteorologists said was the most severe and widespread in more than 50 years, damaged or destroyed corn and other crops across the Midwest and into the near-western and southwestern states.

"A striking aspect" of the drought is how rapidly it started and spread from mid-July into mid-August, a period that's especially important to crop development, according to an analysis by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service (ERS).

In mid-June, just 16% of farms and 20% of acres of cropland were experiencing severe or worse drought, according to the analysis; by mid-July, these conditions had reached 40% of farms and 51% of cropland, and by mid-August, the drought had spread to 43% of farms and 57% of cropland.

[Read more](#)

## News and Commentary

[GMO measure defeated in California](#)

[Bearish November reports belie tight stock figures](#)

[World food price index drops](#)

[Metz adopts stall-free deadline](#)

[MF Global customers file class action suit](#)

[Election is over: Now what?](#) - commentary by Dr. Richard Raymond

[Consumer education provides solid foundation](#) - commentary by Dr. Nevil C. Speer

## ADSA and Related Happenings

### Cal Poly Dairy Products Technology Center Celebrates 25 years of Excellence

San Luis Obispo, CA. The Dairy Products Technology Center (DPTC) celebrated its 25th Anniversary October 25-27, 2012. Originally established in 1987, the DPTC is now recognized globally as a Center of Excellence that supports the premier dairy region of the world. "The DPTC wanted to take some time from our busy schedules to hold this celebration to acknowledge those who have contributed to the success of the DPTC over the last 25 years and to launch the next 25 years of education, research and outreach for a global dairy industry", according to DPTC director Phil Tong. The celebration kicked off on Thursday, October 25th with a mini-symposium on Dairy Products Technology and Future Innovation Opportunities. [\(More\)](#)

### Dairy Research Institute Launches Open Innovation Program

**ROSEMONT, Ill.** - The Dairy Research Institute<sup>®</sup>, established under the leadership of America's dairy farmers, today announced the launch of an open innovation program. The new program and associated submission site, [DRIRResearchSubmission.com](#), seek existing solutions and technologies from within and outside the dairy industry to help accelerate research and meet specific dairy industry needs. The program aims to discover solutions to challenges that may already exist in other industries; reduce research time and dollars spent to solve industrywide issues; and decrease time to activation.

"While the dairy industry has always been receptive to outside innovation, this effort formalizes the process to encourage the exchange of new ideas and partnerships with other industries," said Beth Rice, Ph.D., manager, Scientific Affairs, Dairy Research Institute. "Someone from a different field could have an existing solution to a dairy-specific challenge that we might not find without looking beyond our own industry."

The site is currently accepting submissions on the following topics:

- [Identification of a biomarker for dairy food intake](#)
- [Novel methods to further improve quality of fresh or low-sodium cheeses](#)
- [Methods to prevent biofilm formation in dairy processing equipment](#)

The Dairy Research Institute will conduct a technical review of all submissions and evaluate each for potential scalability, pilot testing and application to the dairy industry.

According to Rice, the short-term benefit of submitting a potential solution is the possibility for funding research to determine how the technology applies to the dairy industry. The long-term benefit could be even greater.

"Applicants have the possibility to gain access to an entire industry that they may not have had a connection with before," she said. "This could open doors to build new partnerships within the dairy community for long-term success."

The Dairy Research Institute conducts research on behalf of partners, including the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy<sup>®</sup>, which also will be able to use this resource to address new dairy innovation challenges. To submit a solution application or learn more about open innovation, visit [DRIRResearchSubmission.com](#). For additional information on the Dairy Research Institute and its research priorities, visit [USDairy.com/DairyResearchInstitute](#).

### Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) in the European Union -

The European Food Safety Authority has scheduled its sixth meeting with representatives from environmental and consumer non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on the subject of GMOs for November 27, 2012 in Parma, Italy to "... update participants on EFSA's ongoing activities in the area of GMOs, and provide greater detail on the work EFSA carries out on the risk assessment of herbicide tolerant GM plants and related herbicides. During the meeting EFSA will also discuss both its draft 'Guidance Document on the Environmental Risk Assessment of Genetically Modified Animals' and the comments received as part of the public consultation on the guidance which ran until the end of August 2012 ..." If you are interested in the meeting the registration deadline is November 12, 2012. For more information on the meeting and registration, please visit <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/121127.htm>

If you are interested in the documents being discussed, the June 2012 EFSA draft 'Guidance Document on the Environmental Risk Assessment of Genetically Modified Animals' is posted at

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultationsclosed/call/120621.pdf> Information about the EFSA Panel on

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) is posted at

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/panels/gmo.htm>

### REMINDERS

**Special Membership Offer** - Now you can join ADSA as a Professional Member during the fourth calendar quarter and through the end of 2013 for 125% of annual dues. If you have been waiting until January to join, to get a full year's worth of value, wait no more. By joining today, you can access all 2012 JDS articles, without paying full year dues. But hurry, at 7,400 pages, you have a lot of quality reading to catch up on!  
<https://secure.fass.org/dues.asp>

**Still seeking your input for the Dairy 2014 Study** - The USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) is seeking input from stakeholders of the U.S. dairy industry on priority issues for the industry that will be used to help develop objectives for Dairy 2014, NAHMS fifth national dairy study. You can provide input by completing a 5-minute survey at: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NAHMS\\_Dairy2014](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NAHMS_Dairy2014). Surveys must be completed by December 14, 2012. Previous NAHMS studies are available at: <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov>. Comments and questions:

Dr. Jason Lombard at 970-494-7245 or [Jason.E.Lombard@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Jason.E.Lombard@aphis.usda.gov)

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**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2013 ADSA AWARDS** - Submit your nominations at <http://www.adsa.org/newawards/nominator.asp>. Initial nominations (part 1 of the nomination process) are **due January 18, 2013**. If you want to re-nominate someone, you may log in to your account and re-submit the information with any necessary modifications. Communication with nominators and nominees will be done via e-mail, so accurate e-mail addresses are necessary. Nominators will be notified by e-mail after initial verification of the nominee is completed in January 2013, so that the biographical and supporting materials (part 2 of the process) can be submitted by the second deadline of February 11, 2013. If you need any assistance at all, please contact Cara Tharp (phone: 217-356-5146, ext. 141; e-mail: [carat@assoqh.org](mailto:carat@assoqh.org)). Thank you for your continued support of the ADSA Awards Program.

**2013 ADSA® - ASAS Joint Annual Meeting Call for Abstracts** - All the information needed to submit an abstract for the 2013 JAM is posted at <http://www.itmtq.org/2013/call.asp>. The deadline for abstracts is **February 13, 2013**. If you prefer to have the call for abstracts information mailed to you, please send a request via e-mail to [abstract@assoqh.org](mailto:abstract@assoqh.org) or call 217-356-3182. Visit the meeting website, <http://www.itmtq.org/2013>, often for the latest meeting information. The submission of abstracts by our members is the starting point for the success of our meeting! Thank you!

The **ADSA® Linked In group** now has 374 members from around the world. Are you one of them? Click [here](#) to check it out and join the group. It is another way to network with dairy professionals from around the world.

The **2013 ADSA®- ASAS Joint Annual Meeting special events** web page is now open and accepting submissions. Please click on the link below to submit your request if you would like to hold an event at any of the venues in Indianapolis this year. Please remember, a special event is any type of committee meeting, board meeting, or any other type of event that will require meeting space at the JAM. Please get your requests in early so that we can accommodate your preferred meeting location and time!

[http://www.itmtq.org/2013/special\\_event\\_request\\_form.asp](http://www.itmtq.org/2013/special_event_request_form.asp) The deadline for ticketed events is December 14, 2012, and April 11, 2013, for all non-ticketed events. Thank you and we hope to see you in Indianapolis!

The **deadline for abstract submission** for the ASAS - ADSA Midwest meeting is November 20, 2012, at 11:59 pm CST. Please submit your abstract at [https://b-com.mci-group.com/AbstractSubmission/ASAS\\_ADSA.aspx](https://b-com.mci-group.com/AbstractSubmission/ASAS_ADSA.aspx).

## DATES AND DEADLINES TO NOTE

Nov 13, 2012 - *Management Success with Robotic Milking Seminar*, Ramada Plaza & Conference Centre, Abbotsford, BC, Canada. For further information, visit [www.bcmilkproducers.ca](http://www.bcmilkproducers.ca) and go to Events or contact Tom Droppo, [Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca)

Nov 14-15, 2012 - *Dairy Facility Design for Improved Cow Comfort, Care, Health and Longevity Conference*, Ramada Plaza & Conference Centre, Abbotsford, BC, Canada. For further information, visit [www.bcmilkproducers.ca](http://www.bcmilkproducers.ca) and go to Events or contact Tom Droppo, [Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca)

Nov 19, 2012, 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Diagnosing Problems in Nutrition Programs Through Records. DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

Dec. 2, 2012 - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals - Multistate Initiative, Chicago Marriott - 540 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL. For registration and more information contact Ken Olson [keolson@prodiqy.net](mailto:keolson@prodiqy.net)

Dec, 2 - 4, 2012 - 2012 Council of Research Workers in Animal Disease (CRWAD) Meeting, Chicago Marriott - 540 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL For registration and additional information click [here](#).

Dec 7, 2012, 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Feeding Systems for Group-Housed Dairy Calves. . DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

Dec. 12 - 13, 2012 - Group-Housed Dairy Calf Systems Symposium, Syracuse, NY, Contact Heather Darrow, [hh96@cornell.edu](mailto:hh96@cornell.edu), 607-255-4478 or visit [www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/calfsystems](http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/calfsystems)

Jan, 6-12, 2013 - Ice Cream Short Course, The Nittany Lion Inn, University Park, for more information please visit: <http://foodscience.psu.edu/events/ice-cream-short-course>

Jan 14, 2012 - 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Potential and Pitfalls for Genomic Selection. DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

Jan. 26-27, 2013 - Ice Cream 101: Introduction to Frozen Desserts, , Food Science Building, University Park, for more information please visit <http://foodscience.psu.edu/workshops/ice-cream-101>

Feb 12, 2013 - 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Better Milk Quality from Better Mastitis Therapy Decisions. . DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

**Mar. 11-13, 2013** - Annual Meeting of the ASAS Midwestern Section and the ADSA® Midwestern Branch, Hy-Vee Hall, Veterans Memorial area in Des Moines, Iowa, for details and registration click [here](#).

Mar. 12-14, 2013 - 48<sup>th</sup> NDHIA Annual Meeting, TradeWinds Island Grand Resort, St. Pete Beach, FL, for more information visit [www.ndhia.org](http://www.ndhia.org)

Mar 18, 2013, 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Far Off to Fresh Cow - Opportunities to Improve Transition Performance. DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

Apr 8, 2013, 12:00-1:00 PM CDT Economic Analysis Tools for Dairy Reproduction Programs. DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

Apr 22, 2013, 12:00-1:00 PM CDT New Tools for Dairy Reproduction Programs . DAIReXNET (national eXtension) Webinars. For details on these webinars [here](#).

May 28-31, 2013 - 25th DISCOVER Conference "New Developments in Immunity, Nutrition, and Management of the Preruminant Calf", Eaglewood Resort and Spa, Itasca, Ill., for more information visit <http://www.adsa.org/Meetings/DiscoverConferences/25thDiscoverConference.aspx>

June 4-6, 2013 - Food Micro Short Course Penn State University, Food Science Building, University Park, PA. For more information visit <http://aqsci.psu.edu/foodmicro>

June 25-27, 2013 - Precision Dairy Conference and Expo, Rochester, MN, for more information please visit [precisiondairy.umn.edu](http://precisiondairy.umn.edu).

July 8-12, 2013 - JAM 2013\* (ADSA - ASAS annual meeting) - Indianapolis, IN -For more information visit <http://www.itmtq.org/2013/>

Sept 9-12, 2013 - 4<sup>th</sup> EAAP International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition, Sacramento, California. For information: <http://isep.ucdavis.edu>

Sept. 19 - 21, 2013 - American Association of Bovine Practitioners Annual Conference\* Milwaukee, WI, for more information, click [here](#).

Sept. 23-26, 2013 - 26th DISCOVER Conference\* "Dairy Feed Efficiency", Northern Illinois University Conference Center in Naperville, Illinois. For more information, click [here](#)

Oct 17-23, 2013 - 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the US Animal Health Association\*, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA, for more information visit [www.usaha.org](http://www.usaha.org)

\*An S-PAC Partner Conference

If your organization's conference isn't among the ever growing list that contribute proceedings and presentations to S-PAC®, ask your conference organizer to contact [Ken Olson](#) for more information about the benefits of participation.

If you would like to have an event included in the "Dates to Note," please contact [Ken Olson](#).

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