



## **For Immediate Release** **International Production & Processing Expo**

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

AFIA Contact: Lacie Dotterweich, 703.666.8851, [ldotterweich@afia.org](mailto:ldotterweich@afia.org)

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

## **Rendering: Recycling the Rest of the Animal**

**ATLANTA, Ga. – Feb. 6, 2020** – “The rendering industry generates more than \$10 billion in annual economic activity and recycles the rest of the animal,” said Nancy Foster, president of the North American Renderers Association and Fats and Proteins Research Foundation, during her presentation at the International Rendering Symposium, held in conjunction with the 2020 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta. The North American Renderers Association and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association sponsored the program.

In her opening remarks, Foster explained the decision to change the Association’s name from the National Renderers Association to the North American Renderers Association (NARA), as well as addressed NARA’s mission. She stated, “Our mission is to advocate for a sustainable food chain, public health and the environment through the production and marketing of our member’s products and services.” Foster expressed that NARA’s focus is on sustainability and advocacy in both regulatory and legislative areas as well as new markets.

Anna Wilkinson, director of communications for NARA, spoke on the sustainability of rendering starting hundreds of years ago and citing the government’s American Fat Salvage program during WWII. Much of her presentation focused on the rendering industry’s ongoing contribution to sustainability; how rendering aids greatly in the reduction of food waste, returns water to the environment, upcycles animal leftovers into safe ingredients for hundreds of products, and increases the environmental sustainability of animal agriculture. Wilkinson also unveiled new data on the rendering industry’s operations in the U.S. and Canada, as well as rendered ingredients in pet food.

Wilkinson remarked, “The rendering industry is practically the definition of sustainability. Renderers take the meat products we don’t consume (i.e. the “rest of the animal,” or in other words, “the meat we don’t eat”) and transforms them into new products with valuable uses, such as biodiesel and safe, nutritious pet food. I can’t think of a better definition of a sustainable practice; and one that greatly reduces food waste, since all that leftover meat and meat by-products would have been wasted - ending up in landfills and down the drain if it wasn’t for renderers. I am excited to help spread the word about rendering’s sustainability contribution and get people talking about it. Hopefully, we can add rendering to the sustainability conversation alongside topics like recycling. After all, renderers are the “Original Recyclers.”

“Rendering was green before green was cool,” said Tim Law, corporate quality assurance manager with Darling Ingredients, as part of his presentation on “Rendering – The Basics.” He explained the basic rendering process and identification of potential hazards that need to be controlled in the rendering plant. Law also discussed the uses of rendered products, including feed for livestock, pet food and biofuels.

Dr. Annel Greene, professor at Clemson University, provided a research overview on animal co-products, remarking that the university has been seeking new non-feed applications for utilizing rendered animal co-products. She discussed projects that have been chosen for funding, including one on the use of free fatty acids and sulfur waste to create several new products, some of which include plastic polymers and tars for asphalt. Another project focuses on products that can be molded, have a self-healing ability and can be thermally recycled to be used as insulating tiles for roofs or floors.

###



**Photo caption:** Tim Law, corporate quality assurance manager with Darling Ingredients, and Dr. Annel Greene, professor at Clemson University, speaking at the International Rendering Symposium during the 2020 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 680 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 percent of the feed and 70 percent 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 organization representing the complete spectrum of today's poultry industry, whose mission is to progressively serve member companies through research, education, communication and technical assistance. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Georgia.