

impact!



Rebuilding European Livestock Herds Is One Goal Of Missouri Seedstock Association Study And Report

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"Missouri livestock producers now have a new tool at their disposal to help them increase exports and assist in rebuilding European herds," according to Kris Harah, president of the Missouri Seedstock Association.



Representative Jo Ann Emerson (R-8th Dist) presents check for feasibility study to Dave Cochard and Kris Harah (Missouri Seedstock Assoc.) Also shown at far right is Jack Kearby from the USDA.

When diseases like foot-and-mouth and mad cow disease had rapidly spread through livestock herds across Europe producers were forced to destroy large numbers of sheep, goats, hogs and cattle to control these epidemics. In the United Kingdom alone, nearly 5 million head of cattle were destroyed.

This crisis offered Missouri livestock producers an opportunity to help their European colleagues and increase exports as well. But there were obstacles to be overcome.

For that reason, the Missouri Seedstock Association, a not-for-profit corporation of producer groups representing Missouri's beef, dairy, hog and sheep industries, was formed in mid 2001. Its purpose was to determine how Missouri producers could best help European producers replenish their herds while maintaining genetic diversity and to establish

Missouri producers as a premier source of breeding stock in the global marketplace.

A systemic approach was undertaken. The Association worked with Missouri Enterprise under a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Business Enterprise Grant to conduct a detailed feasibility study and develop a complete report that would accurately define European customer needs, quantity and quality expectations, regulatory barriers, pricing and completion.

The study was carried out by Missouri Enterprise in partnership with the University of Missouri Commercial Agriculture Extension Program and with assistance of the Missouri Department of Agriculture. The report," which will be available in the next 60 days "identifies the best export

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Missouri *impact!* Award Ceremony



Lt. Governor Joe Maxwell presented the Missouri impact! Award to Kris Harah at the 2002 Missouri State Fair. Pictured l-r are: Dave Cochard, Rex Ricketts, Univ. of Mo Commercial Ag Program, Lt. Gov. Maxwell, Kris Harah, Lowell Mohler, Dir. Missouri Dept. of Agriculture, Jimmy Story, Missouri Enterprise, Bob Larson, Univ. of Mo Commercial Ag Program, Bob Thompson, Missouri Enterprise, and Vern Pierce, Univ. of Mo Commercial Ag Program.

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opportunities and provides producers with all the necessary regulatory and logistical information to export their purebred genetics and add value to their livestock business," says Harah.

For additional information on the study and report, producers can contact Bob Thompson, Director of the Missouri Enterprise Value-Added Agriculture Program at 1-573-341-6867.

S. A. Flick Seed Company Seeks To Turn Waste Into Useful Product

For centuries, alchemists tried to transmute base metals into gold. Steve Flick, owner and operator of Kingsville based S. A. Flick Seed Company, is trying to be a modern day alchemist of a sort. Flick, whose company processes grass and other seeds, is working to turn the waste hulls into a product that can be burned for fuel to reduce the cost of generating electricity.

S. A. Flick Seed Company, working with Missouri Enterprise Project Director Jimmy Story, received an Environmental Improvement Energy and Resource (EIERA) technical grant to evaluate the conversion of waste hulls to fuel. Research determined the feasibility of co-mingling the seed hulls with specific types of waste paper and making pellets for fuel. The fuel would be burned primarily by electrical utilities to generate electricity. Potential consumer uses are being considered as well. Initial tests indicate the pellets would be a clean burning fuel with a btu value approximately equal to natural gas. Flick estimates that his company generates some several hundred thousand pounds of waste hulls a year.

S. A. Flick Seed Company is also currently applying for an EIERA Implementation Grant for purchase of equipment to demonstrate the process on a larger scale. A decision on that grant application is due in the next 30 days. Following the demonstration, Flick says, the plan would be to form a cooperative with other seed producers and processors to develop a large scale operation with at least 5-7 new employees.

This biomass project is only one of several business operations of the S. A. Flick Seed Company.

As a remediation specialist/environmental engineering company, S. A. Flick Seed Company, surveys ecologically damaged areas, makes recommendations for restoration to the original ecosystem and implements those recommendations. As a vertically integrated organization, the company can provide the entire process or any part, based on client needs.

They have worked on restoration of levees, fire scenes and hazardous waste sites. National customers include the U.S. Energy, National Resources, Interior,

Agriculture and Defense Departments, the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureaus of Land Management and Natural Resources, and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. In Missouri, the company works with the Departments of Conservation and Agriculture as well as various cities and municipalities throughout the Midwest.

Through its Web Site, seedguys.com, S. A. Flick



Steve Flick, owner of S. A. Flick Seed Company with a bag of the company's Regenesis brand custom seed blend.

Seed Company also sells native grass, wild flower and turf seeds to the public.

Flick, a Native American of the Chickahominy Tribe, supports a variety of organizations and causes including his tribe's scholarship fund, 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Junior Achievement and several local school districts. Flick is a strong supporter and participant in Grow Native, a program to encourage use of native plants on Missouri construction projects.

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