

# Comment

## Olympic meat

With the 29<sup>th</sup> summer Olympic Games starting on August 8, China will face a number of new challenges. Building new sport stadiums, the political issues that surround the games and the pollution in Beijing, the logistic process for transporting people, but also feeding all the international athletes are the current spearheads. China has not such a terrific reputation in terms of



food and feed security, although I have been to Beijing, and have eaten everything that was offered to me without any problems. But I assume that top athletes have different requirements than an editor who spends most of his time behind a keyboard.

The Chinese economy is growing at a fast pace and so does the income of the people, which results in an increased demand for meat. The country has difficulties in being self sufficient in food production and this is why it accepts the dependency on imported soybeans. However, the country's goal remains to be self sufficient in maize, rice and animal products. Take pork for example. China's pig production is the largest in the world, but in majority as back yard production. The Chinese government therefore, faces three problems: 1) Supply is very unstable. Changes in prices are immediately followed by changes in supply; 2) Animal diseases are difficult to control, because people and animals live closely together, and 3) Food safety cannot be guaranteed among so many smallholders.

With the Olympics coming up and the strict dope tests, a separate chain for Olympic meat has been set up. Wellhope, a feed manufacturer which has a liaison with Dutch feed-miller De Heus, was selected for supplying feed, and regarded as being the most reliable partner. Wellhope annually produces one million tonnes of feed and is one of the larger players in the fragmented Chinese market. The above mentioned problems will be more manageable when a scale-up of the pig industry takes place. This is the aim of the Chinese government. However Wellhope/De Heus questions whether the small pig farmers will be able to raise enough capital to grow into professional family farms. If this does not take place it is perfectly imaginable that the processing industry takes over and with stock market finances will set up large integrated organisations. It all depends on how successful the Olympic meat chain will turn out.

*Dale Rogers*

<http://www.>

More opinions and discussions can be viewed at [www.AllAboutFeed.net/blogs](http://www.AllAboutFeed.net/blogs)

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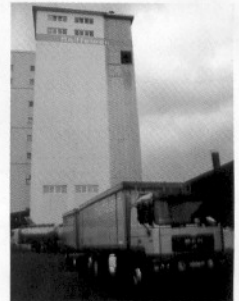
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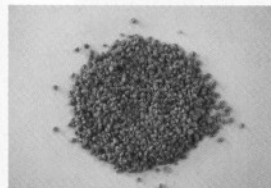
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In 2007, the compound feed production for the EU-27 reached 149.8 million tonnes (mt), i.e. 3.4% higher than the figure for 2006 (145 mt). This is the highest annual growth rate registered in almost 20 years, according to figures of Fefac, the European Feed Manufacturers' Federation. The figures were presented at their annual general meeting in Brussels on June 6, 2008.

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Krabbenborg from Pavo, the biggest horse feed producer in the Netherlands.

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The aquafeed manufacturing industry is widely recognized as one of the fastest expanding agricultural industries in the world. Fish meal is the main protein source in aquafeed, but supply is limited, which means that alternative sources need to be used. From a processing point of view extrusion is the most efficient way of turning plant protein into fish feed. Twin screw extruders have a definite advantage in this. In this article we have a closer look at co-rotating twin screw extruders.

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**Publisher**

Rex Bierlaagh Tel: +31 31 434 9550

**Editor**

Dick Ziggers Tel: +31 31 434 9125,  
E-mail: dick.ziggers@reedbusiness.nl

**Co editor:**

Emmy Koeleman Tel: +31 31 434 9574

**Web editor:**

Allison Winstanley Tel: +31 31 434 9146

**Sub editor:**

Rosie Burgin Tel: +31 31 435 8237

**Art director**

Cees van Groos

**Commercial manager**

Andrea Raemaekers Tel: +31 31 435 8111

**Advertising**

Miguel Mendes de Leon, Marjolein Lacet, Antoinette Kwakman, Robert Molenaar, Oscar van der Noll and Dhierinder Ramcharan  
Tel: +31 31 434 9562

Media file available upon request

Email: salesint@reedbusiness.nl

**Production manager**

Richard Kok Tel: +31 31 434 9772

**Marketing manager readers market**

Erik Willems Tel: +31 31 434 9147

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**Banker**

Citibank Philadelphia  
Lock Box 7107  
PO Box 7247-7101  
Philadelphia PA 19170-7101 USA  
Account no 4067-7681

**Address**

Reed Business bv, P.O. Box 4, 7000 BA Doetinchem, the Netherlands Tel: +31 314 349 562 Fax: +31 314 340 515 www.AgrWorld.nl int@reedbusiness.nl

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