

The Feed Supply

Global feed survey shows growth in line with meat production.

by **Barb Baylor Anderson**, field editor

Global feed production rose about 2% from 2013 to 2014, which was about in line with world meat production growth. That was one of the key findings recently presented by Alltech Chief Innovation Officer Aiden Connolly from their fourth annual feed survey. Estimated compound feed production was 980 million metric tons, compared with 960 million in 2013.

“This undertaking requires a significant amount of work each year, mainly because the feed industry is measured differently and in varying degrees of thoroughness from country to country,” says Connolly. “Yet, each year, better information is discovered and more is learned about how farmers around the world feed their livestock.”

Connolly notes that overall feed industry trends last year were affected by drought, high raw feed material costs, various trade standards, and diseases including avian influenza and the porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDv).

Alltech’s estimates were collected from compound feed production sources in 130 countries. Information was gathered from local feed associations and Alltech’s sales force, which works with more than 31,000 feedmills. Forages are not included in the feed estimates.

“The global feed industry business was valued at \$460 billion,” says Connolly.

Brazil feed production was No. 1, at 183 million metric tons, followed by the United States at 173 million metric tons. Brazil was a distant third at 66 million metric tons. Rounding out the top 10 were Mexico, India, Spain, Russia, Japan, Germany and France.

Of the 173 million metric tons of feed produced in the United States, the U.S. beef industry accounted for 21 million metric

tons. The United States had the largest beef feed production of the top 10 countries. U.S. broilers were a 55 million metric ton market, followed by 24 million for the pork industry, 20 million metric tons for layers and 19 million for dairy cattle.

When grouped into regions, Africa and Latin America saw the greatest growth in feed production in 2014. Asia Pacific, Europe, North America and the Middle East all showed a slight increase. Connolly highlighted a handful of countries that market their second consecutive year of feed production growth, including Turkey, Indonesia, Romania, Tunisia and Bolivia.

For more details from the survey, visit www.alltech.com.



Editor’s Note: A former National Junior Angus Board member, Barb Baylor Anderson is a freelance writer from Edwardsville, Ill.