IGP, K-State produce DVD

Mark Fowler, International Grains Program director of technical services, helped create a new DVD titled “Laboratory Practices” that will be incorporated into IGP’s training programs at the IGP Executive Conference Center and abroad.

The project was developed in partnership with U.S. Wheat Associates to demonstrate and explain a number of tests and testing equipment for flour and dough quality. The purpose of this specific DVD is to enhance IGP’s training in wheat quality evaluation when testing equipment is not available for hands on training.

“This video will allow us to provide courses abroad using new and innovative material,” Fowler said, “Developing new material for our courses is necessary to keep our program moving forward and staying competitive in the training industry.”

Fowler acted as the executive producer and script writer with assistance from Debra Pryor, associate video producer in the Kansas State University Department of Communications, and faculty from the K-State grain science department.

The DVD has been reviewed and approved by six milling executives from South Asia. It will first be used in March for a special course and planning is underway for use in two courses in South Asia this summer.

The DVD was partially funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Market Access Program. The DVD is also entered in the 2007 international awards program sponsored by the Association of Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Life and Human Sciences.

IGP welcomes international visitor

Abdul-Motalib K. Al-Athatri (left), CEO of the Poultry, Feed and Meat Processing Sector of H. Mahmood J. Al-Bunnia and Sons, Col, of Iraq toured IGP’s Executive Conference Center while visiting his son-in-law, Essam Salim (right), graduate research assistant with the K-State Department of Grain Science and Industry. Also pictured are Mark Fowler (extreme left), IGP director of technical services, and John Howard (extreme right), IGP director.

O’Neil participates in inaugural conference

Jay O’Neil, International Grains Program senior agricultural economist, attended the first ever joint international marketing conference and 47th annual membership meeting of the U.S. Grains Council Dec. 3-5 in Los Cabos, Mexico. More than 150 participants attended the conference and breakout sessions for agribusiness, barley, corn and sorghum.

“The foreign directors stated grain customers were very concerned over the recent rise in prices and in their ability to secure needed grain supplies in a tight world supply situation,” O’Neil said. “They were also concerned that U.S. farmers might become too focused on ethanol demand and less concerned with providing for export markets. We assured them that export customers were still important to U.S. farmers”

Howard, O’Neil attend ALIM in Chile

IGP facilitates annual feed manufacturing short course

Nine participants from five countries attended the annual Feed Manufacturing Short Course at the International Grains Program Executive Conference Center September 25-October 7.

Participants from Thailand, Canada, Nigeria, Pakistan and the United States received instruction during the two-week course on topics including the world feed industry, grain grading, pest management and extrusion. All were by K-State faculty and industry experts.

Participants also attended field trips to Klienpeter Dairy in Monteplier, La., and the Bunge’s Destrehan, La., loading facility.

O’Neil presents in South Korea

Jay O’Neil, International Grains Program senior agricultural economist, presented on U.S. and world transportation to the U.S. Grains Council trade seminar in Seoul, South Korea, and Busan, South Korea, Nov. 25-30. O’Neil met with Stan Phillips, director of the Agricultural Trade Office at the Embassy of the United States in South Korea. He also visited with the Nonguhyup Feed Company and the Korean Feed Association.

O’Neil said, “South Korean feed millers were anxious to hear that the U.S. would continue to be a reliable supplier of feed grains, despite increasing demand from ethanol.”

Fowler attends ABITRIGO in Brazil

Mark Fowler, International Grains Program director of technical services, attended the 13th international wheat seminar sponsored by ABITRIGO, the Brazilian association of flour milling companies Oct. 12-14 in Natal, Brazil.

More than 300 participants and business executives from the wheat industry attended the seminar. Speakers at ABITRIGO included Vince Peterson, vice-president for overseas operations for U.S. Wheat Associates, and Marcia Scheideman, president of the Wheat Foods Council. IGP also shared a booth with U.S. Wheat Associates at ABITRIGO’s trade show.

“Attending international trade conferences representing K-State and U.S. wheat producers is a pleasure,” Fowler said. I enjoy the interaction with old friends and meeting new ones interested in learning about U.S. wheat and K-State.”

International Grains Program
2007 Short Courses

Maintenance April 2-6
Grain Purchasing April 16-28
USDA Food Aid Seminar April 19-20
USW China Flour Milling April 25-May 4
Grain Operations May 21-25
Flour Milling June 4-15
Extrusion August 7-10
Feed Manufacturing Sept. 24-Oct. 5

Visit www.ksu.edu/igp for more information and additional listings.
Kansas State University’s Department of Grain Science and Industry dedicated the new Hal Ross flour mill on October 20, 2006. Ross is a 1949 graduate from K-State in milling science and management in the administrative option. Ross made a lead donation of $2 million to the new flour mill in 2001.

In 1952, Ross received a juris doctorate degree from the University of Kansas School of Law. “Betsy’s Best” was the label of Ross’s family flour milling company, which was the ninth largest milling company in the United States at one time. The mill is now owned by Cargill and operated by Horizon Milling.

The dedication ceremony included many speakers including Hal Ross himself, Morton Sosland, editor in chief of Milling and Baking News, Jon Wefald, K-State President, Warren Staley, chairman and chief executive officer of Cargill, Brian Peterson, senior vice-president of corporate affairs for Archer Daniels Midland Co., in Decatur, Ill., and Calvin Grieter, chief executive officer of Buhler AG.

In addition to the dedication, there was also a ribbon cutting, a tour of the flour mill and a gala.

The first flour mill at K-State opened in 1961 in Shellenberger Hall. The mill allowed students to learn how to mill hard wheat and was manually controlled. The new mill allows students to mill hard wheat, soft wheat and durum using automation not available in 1967.

Buhler, Inc., donated $500,000 and equipment. The mill has $2.7 million in equipment donated by the milling industry.

Eustace retires from grain science department after 33 years

Dale Eustace, professor of grain science since 1973, retired from Kansas State University on October 19, 2006. Eustace graduated from K-State in 1959 with a degree in feed milling operations. He was honored on October 19, 2006 with a ceremony that included presentations by Steve Curran of General Mills, Dan Wells from ADM Milling, and Gary Anderson from the International Association of Operative Millers. After his retirement, Eustace plans on traveling, fishing, hunting and working on his 1987 Mustang. (International Miller 1st Quarter 2006)

IGP attends Neb., Kan. commodity classics


O’Neil said, “We attended to inform producers of the importance of U.S. exports and how IGP is assisting in international trade promotion.”

(Left) The Hal Ross Flour Mill spotlighted with Powercats the night of the dedication ceremony. (Right) Distinguished guests at the ribbon cutting ceremony included (from left to right) Fred Fairchild, K-State Department of Grain Science and Industry, Calvin Greiter, Buhler-Switzerland, Fred Cholick, K-State College of Agriculture, Jon Wefald, K-State, Brian Peterson, ADM, Hal Ross, Morton Sosland, Sosland Publishing, and Warren Staley, Cargill.
Fowler earns master’s degree

Mark Fowler, International Grains Program director of technical services, graduated with a master’s degree in agricultural economics from Kansas State University in December.

“Now that I have completed my degree, I can say that I really enjoyed the experience,” Fowler said. “Building from my knowledge and experience in flour milling and expanding my knowledge of the economics and trade policy of agriculture has given me a new and improved vision for the future.”