



Message from the President

The Canadian Centre for Swine Improvement (CCSI) Annual Meeting was held June 11, 2008 in Canmore, Alberta, hosted by Western Swine Testing Association. The Board of Directors and CCSI staff were joined by Walter Preugschas from Bloomsbury Farms and Albert Eringfeld, Director from the Canadian Swine Exporters Association.

John Gough (Novastar Genetics, Ontario) has been elected Chair of CCSI for the coming year. We heartily thank John Vande Glind (Alberta) for his long term as Chair and appreciate that his lengthy experience continues to benefit us as a member of CCSI's Executive Committee along with Donald MacDonald (PEI), Lyse-Grenier Audet (Quebec) and Phil Smith (Ontario). Please visit the CCSI website at www.ccsi.ca for many of the data reports and scientific papers about the improvements to our Canadian Swine Genetics.

I very much appreciate that this newsletter is being published 4 - 6 times each year. Communication and information to our participating herds needs to occur regularly to keep our members aware of CSBA as an organization and its ongoing activities.

International exports of purebred boars and gilts continue from our CSBA membership and contribute significantly to Canada's reputation as a source for high quality breeding stock. We know these sales need to take place in future. Where these purebred pigs are registered in CLRC and papers are transferred to the new owners, our financial position will remain strong.

Please maintain your breeding programs over the next year, register your litters and continue your purebred sales to existing and new customers.

Alfred Wahl, P. Ag.

Report on CSBA activities in China

Heilongjiang Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau (HLJAHVB) sponsored seminar for pig breeders on May 22 to get an insight into Canadian swine production. The banner above the HLJAHVB officials on the dais proclaims "Heilongjiang Provincial Swine Breeding Technical Training", which had the purpose as well for breeders to review and accept

new bylaws for a new Association of Provincial Swine Breeders. Alfred Wahl was able to give an overview of CSBA as an organization and its intentions for benefiting its breeder members.



From left to right: Mr. Zhang, Mr. Xu, Dr. Sun, Alfred Wahl and Dr. Wang.

CSBA represents its members under the Animal Pedigree Act so as to assure buyers of purebred pigs that their pedigree is complete and accurate. The new Chinese Breeders Association in HLJ is now aware that its membership fees will pay for an administration group as well as providing for an annual meeting for the membership.

There will be an opportunity for our CSBA members to register Canadian purebred pigs exported to China in CLRC's breed herd books. Details of a project like this would need to be explored by CSBA's Executive and management.



Alfred Wahl presenting during a seminar in Heilongjiang, China



Above middle is Andrew Lavoie (CSEA President) as signatory, and representatives from Polar Genetics and Donaldson International, as well as members of the China Swine Industry Association.

Report on CSEA

The news release from Canadian Swine Exporters Association (CSEA) dated Xi'an, China May 19, 2008 outlines intended mutual cooperation between the Canadian and Chinese swine industries. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CSEA and the National Swine Industry Association of China.

Canadian pigs have been exported to China beginning in 1980 through initiatives such as the China-Canada Lean Swine Projects in Hebei, Zhejiang and Sichuan Provinces by CSBA member Jim Donaldson. CSEA would like to recognize common interests and contribute to more structured cooperation with Chinese buyers and importers. President of the Association Mr. Andrew Lavoie expects that the next steps will be to open a Representative Office in Beijing this November. A Chinese national swine expert will be charged with being the central contact point for technical support, setting up training programs, liaising with Chinese and Canadian representatives as well as assisting Canadian exporters with marketing and promotion.

Update on recognition of PIC lines

The European Union has recently accepted a request from the United States to add PIC as a recognized registry for importation of purebred genetics into E.U. countries effective June 1, 2008. Agriculture Canada has approved PIC's composite lines, GP1025, GP1075 and GP1125, to be recognized in the General Stud and Herd Book in Canada effective July 9, 2008. It is possible that PIC will also gain its own herd book for registering named purebred breeds but with a differing breeding program or breed characteristics. It is still possible for CSBA to

accommodate PIC's request to recognize the PIC named breeds (Large White, Landrace, Duroc, Hampshire and Pietrain) under its bylaw allowance. A vote will be held by this fall, to allow all CSBA members to register their agreement, or not, with the request.

OSI award recipients

Ontario Swine Improvement (OSI) held its annual meeting on March 26, 2008. CSBA and CCSI would like to heartily congratulate Dr. Pramod Mathur from the Canadian Centre for Swine Improvement on his OSI industry contribution award. As Chief Geneticist at CCSI, his active involvement in the swine industry has resulted in his recognition in the breeding community for the development of "Breeding for Profit" and "Connectedness". He is responsible for genetic services as well as research and development for the Canadian Swine Improvement Program.

Other award recipients included: Paul and Wayne Fear from Monoway Farms who received the OSI Award of Excellence as well as Larry Skinner of Stonaleen Farms, recipient of the OSI Distinguished Recognition Award.



Dr. Mathur (right) receiving OSI's Industry Contribution Award from OSI General Manager, Dave Vandebroek

Jurgen Preugschas elected CPC President

Long time CSBA member Jurgen Preugschas, of Mayerthorpe, Alberta, has been elected to serve as President for the Canadian Pork Council at the CPC's annual meeting held July 2-3, 2008 in Edmonton. CSBA member Herman Simons, current Chair of Alberta Pork, has also been elected to the Executive. The other members of the CPC Executive are 1st Vice President Jean-Guy Vincent (Quebec), 2nd Vice President Bryan Ferriss (Manitoba), Curtiss Littlejohn (Ontario), Stephen Moffett (New Brunswick) Jerry Gelderman (British Columbia) and Florian Possberg (Saskatchewan).