CONTINUING THE LEGACY

Animal Sciences faculty at Illinois have long been world leaders in animal nutrition. More than 40 current faculty members, and hundreds of students, in two colleges and numerous departments require feed manufacturing and processing to support research projects. A modern Feed Technology Complex is needed to accelerate advancements in technology and scientific discovery in feed ingredient utilization, new processing technologies, and improved efficiency of food production.

FILLING THE PIPELINE

The feed, bioenergy, commodity, and livestock industries continue to demand highly qualified professionals. In addition to offering enhanced research capabilities, the Feed Technology Complex will support the expansion of curriculums in animal nutrition for both undergraduate and graduate students. Proposed courses, including feed processing and technology and one emphasizing companion animal feed manufacturing, will anchor a new undergraduate minor in feed processing technology.

A new specialization in the Illinois Professional Science Master’s degree program (PSM) will produce graduates with both advanced knowledge in agricultural science and relevant business knowledge and skills. The Feed Technology Complex will play a critical role in preparing these professionals. The facility will also support continuing education, including short courses and workshops for feed industry employees.

INVESTING FOR THE INDUSTRY

In collaboration with industry and government partners, the Feed Technology Complex will benefit local and global economies, accomplishing these ends:

- Encourage the continued growth of a productive and sustainable livestock industry in Illinois
- Facilitate the highest priority uses of leading agricultural commodities while adding value in rapidly expanding global markets
- Establish valuable uses for co-products from emerging bioenergy and biotechnological processing industries
- Support Illinois’ worldwide impact in companion animal nutrition and health

"The agriculture and feed industry looks to the University of Illinois as a source of qualified employees. The Feed Technology Complex is essential to ensuring these students possess the knowledge and skills to impact technology development and application.”

Steve Loerch, Ph.D., Professor and Head, Animal Sciences
DESIGNED TO LEAD

The Feed Technology Complex comprises a myriad of interdependent capabilities integrated to provide full system services.

- Production and storage of grains and forages
- Storage of specialized diet ingredients
- Precise diet formulations
- Milling
- Ingredient processing
- Pre-mixing, mixing, pelleting, extrusion, expansion, crumbling, bagging, and delivery of research animal diets

The complex will include these capabilities and capacities:

- Production of 16,000 tons of specialized small-batch research diets each year
- Pilot room for new technology development
- Automated batching systems, including scales for liquids, major, minor, and micro ingredients
- Mixers and mills of various sizes and associated delivery systems
- Automated bagging system
- Storage of whole grains, wet and dry ingredients, and end products
- Environmentally controlled, secure storage of micronutrients, feed additives, test ingredients, and specialty ingredients
- Computer control system and associated office space
- Quality control room
- 300,000-bushel grain storage area, including segregated bins for preserving genetic identities

All equipment and spaces will be designed for total cleanout and sanitation between products to fully comply with FDA-regulations and general manufacturing practices.

The University of Illinois has allocated $5 million for the Feed Technology Complex through a matching fund program. Private support is integral in bringing this proposed facility to fruition. The University of Illinois is seeking monetary investments and gifts of equipment from individuals and industry partners.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

DR. STEVE LOERCH, Ph.D.
Professor and Head
Department of Animal Sciences
217-333-3131 // sloerch@illinois.edu

KIMBERLY MEENEN
Senior Director of Development
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
217-333-9355 // kmeenen@illinois.edu