Direct Fed Microbials/Prebiotics for Animals: Science and Mechanisms of Action

The interest in using direct fed microbials as feed supplements for various species of livestock has increased tremendously since the last Discover Conference on direct fed microbials (Prebiotics and Probiotics for Food Animals) held in 2000.

The understanding of the potential benefits of including probiotics (or direct fed microbials) in the diets of animals is far greater today than it was 10 years ago. Yet not all reported studies have shown positive results. This variability in results could result from several factors such as: improper selection of bacterial culture for the probiotic, poor viability of the culture at time of consumption, improper numbers of viable organisms in the product, improper growth of the bacterial culture for use in the product among others.

Conference Objectives
This Discover Conference will address a number of specific topics related the successful use of direct fed microbials and prebiotics. Examples of topics include but are not limited to:

- bacterial species and strain selection
- mechanism of action
- delivery systems including stability of the bacteria
- animal species specific issues
- prebiotics

The conference will address direct fed microbials and/or prebiotics for dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, poultry, aquaculture and pets.

Who Should Attend?
Research scientists, nutrition consultants, producers, companies marketing direct fed microbials and prebiotics, advanced graduate students, feed company representatives, pet food company representatives, food company representatives, government/regulatory agency reps, international academic scientists, postdoctorates and veterinarians are encouraged to participate in this interactive program.

Registration postmarked by March 19, 2009 is $395.00, which includes sessions and most meals. After March 19, the registration fee will be $495.00 and will be accepted on an availability basis. To optimize interaction among participants, registration will be limited to the first 120 applications received.

Accommodations
The conference will be held at the Brown County Inn in Nashville, Indiana. All participants are responsible for making their own lodging reservations.

Travel
The Brown County Inn in Nashville, Indiana is about one hour south of the Indianapolis International Airport and is easily accessible from I-65. Shuttle service and rental cars are available at the airport. Advance reservations are necessary for shuttle service. Nashville is 15 miles off I-65 and is midway between Columbus and Bloomington, Indiana.

For complete conference information, including the latest program and registration materials, go to: http://www.adsa.org/discover/