

Better Source for Canadian Report

I have just read the synopsis of the Canadian Federal Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping Report in the *Int J Stud Anim Prob* (2(6):288-289, 1981) and

INT J STUD ANIM PROB 3(2) 1982

would like you to pass on my congratulations to whoever wrote it. They have very succinctly captured the main points in the report.

I would, however, point out that readers may experience certain bureaucratic delays if they attempt to secure copies of the full report from the source the article cites. It would be better if people wrote to the Canadian Wildlife Service, Place Vincent Massey, 351 St. Joseph Blvd., Hull, Quebec, K1A OH3, Canada for more information about the full report, because there is some question about whether the Report will be given out to anyone who asks for it.

Neal R. Jotham
Executive Director
The Canadian Federation of
Humane Societies
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

with the opinion expressed that Provimi

was seeking nothing more than "a respectable yield of favorable PR." This irresponsible and mischievous reporting does not help the *Journal* in its quest for credibility within the scientific and public communities.

*Howard M. Frederick
Director, State Feed Control
American Feed Manufacturers
Association
Arlington, VA 22209*

The Journal apologizes for the misunderstanding noted in Dr. Frederick's letter. However, our deadline for printing the first quarterly issue caught us between two critically important letters from Volac, Ltd. The first letter (November 21, 1981) seemed to imply that Quantock had decided to begin U.S. trials of the group-pen system on its own. A later letter written on December 21 acknowledged the ambiguity and set the record straight. Unfortunately it arrived in our offices after the Journal had gone to print. We had recognized the ambiguity in the November letter and made repeated attempts to contact Provimi, at both Wisconsin and New Jersey offices, for an unequivocal response on whether or not Provimi would combine its resources with Quantock in the forthcoming group-pen trials. Regrettably, no one at either Provimi office would discuss the matter with us.

However, since that time we have learned more details about the study being conducted by Quantock and Provimi, as the new corporate entity, Quantock U.S.A. Both firms are represented in management: Jack Van Der Ploeg, Vice President of Provimi is serving as President, while Philip Paxman, President of Quantock, is Vice President of the combined venture. Quantock has sent over stockmen experienced in running a group-pen operation, and Provimi is providing the barns and other facilities. The initial trial began in mid-December in Wisconsin. Forty Holstein bulls were divided into two groups; one group was fed the standard formula manufactured by Provimi, whereas the

other received the formula used in Quantock's system. The only change made in the British system was the addition of a heater in the barn, since the temperatures in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, with wind chill factors considered, sometimes reach -80 ° F. Results of the trial will not be made public until the calves have been slaughtered, and the quality of the carcasses carefully assessed - Ed.