#### Nutritional Enhancement of Animal Sourced Foods (ASFs)

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## Outline

- Animal Source Foods (ASFs)
- Contribution to nutrient supply in the USA
- Contribution to the upcycling of agri-food byproducts
- Strategies for nutritional enhancement of ASFs
- Examples of nutritionally enhanced ASFs
- Eggs
- Meat
- Dairy
- Conclusions and recommendations

## Contribution of ASFs in the nutrient supply



Selected nutrients provided by ASFs in the current U.S. food supply

White and Hall, 2017

# Commodity ASFs are produced in intensive production systems

- •Are designed to maximize production while minimizing costs.
- •Produce sufficient supply of ASFs at 'affordable' prices.



# Intensive production systems upcycle food wastes and by-products

- Millions of tons of **human-inedible by-products** from the biofuel and agri-food industries
- Make up 10-40% of livestock feeds in the U.S.

- Food wastes from manufacturing or grocery stores
- Cull fruits/vegetables, bakery wastes, etc.

Example: 12.5 million tons/year being diverted to animal feed in California.





## Nutritional enhancement- Post-harvest approaches (Examples)

- Vitamin D fortified milk (since 1940s)
- Dairy products: different fat content options
- Omega-3 fortified milk
- High protein/lactose free milk
- Trimming excess fat
- 'Low sodium' products
- Leanness options (ground meat)













Reduced external fat



Post-harvest opportunities for cut-specific labels (consumer awareness)

- •Not all cuts created equal!
- •Iron (8 to 18 %DV)
- •Phosphorus (15 to 26 %DV)
- •Zinc (25 to 45 %DV)
- •B6 (11 to 37 %DV)
- •B12 (22 to 65 %DV)



Percent Daily Value (DV) per 3-oz serving (85 grams)

## Nutritional enhancement- Pre-harvest approaches

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### 1) Genetic Selection for leaner carcasses



Number of Beef Cuts Meeting USDA Guidelines for Lean (<10% fat)







40% leaner than 1970

## Nutritional enhancement- Preharvest approaches

## 2) Animal Nutrition

### Potential for nutritional enhancement

Eggs > Milk > Meat

#### Nutrients that respond well to dietary manipulations:

- Fatty acids, vitamins (A, E, D, B vitamins) and some trace minerals (e.g. Selenium and Iodine)





## Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition

• Eggs: The most successful example of nutritionally enhanced ASFs

#### **Omega-3 enriched eggs**

Consumption of one egg from hens fed 10% flaxseed provides 261 mg of ALA and 81 mg of DHA.

• 8-10 times more total omega-3's than regular eggs





Flaxseed





## Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition

#### Vitamin and trace mineral bio-fortified eggs

Produced by supplementation of layers diet with extra amounts of vitamins and trace minerals (i.e. above the animal requirement levels).

Fold increase relative to regular eggs:

- Vitamin A (2 X)
- Vitamin D (3-6 X)
- Vitamin E (2-5 X)
- B vitamins (1.1-1.5 X)
- Iodine (3-4 X)
- Selenium (2-3 X)



## Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition Omega-3 pork

When feeding 5% flaxseed for 11 weeks we found...



Note: Omega-3's are highly enriched in backfat; not so much in lean meat.



## Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition Omega-3 pork Cont.

• Production of sausages incorporating trim fat would seem to be a successful tactic for producing omega-3 enhanced pork products.



• Limited production in North America, and at a much larger scale in Finland mainly for export to China.



## Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition Omega-3 Beef Plant











Lean pork from pigs fed 10% flaxseed for 80 days 700 mg Omega3s

#### Pre-harvest approaches- Animal Nutrition Reducing saturated fats in milk- the GOAT model



## Pre-harvest approaches- other/novel methods

- •Gene editing pigs and cattle to produce beneficial Omega's EPA and DHA
- •Exposing pigs to UVB lighting to enhance Vitamin D levels in pork

•Cobalt supplementation in cattle to enhance vitamin B12 content of beef and milk







## Nutritional enhancement-Pre-harvest approaches: Conclusions

- •Animal nutrition is the most direct and practical approach, but currently is limited to specialty/niche products.
- •In order for adoption at the industry/commodity level, there needs to be a mechanism for sharing profits along the value chain.





## Nutritional enhancement-Pre-harvest approaches: Recommendations

- Drivers/incentives can be through definition of quantifiable levels required for nutritional enhancement.
- Priority funding is needed for nutritional enhancement of critical nutrients recognizing:
  - There have been many '**one-off**' feeding studies showing the potential for nutritional enhancement of ASFs.
  - However....a **team approach** is required to **network aligned disciplines** required to develop ASFs and demonstrate economic feasibility, product acceptability and value for human nutrition and health.







## Thank You!

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