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Livestock and Products

Alberta Hog Production Facility Awaits Local Appeal Board Decision 2000

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Report Highlights: Taiwan Sugar Corporation's planned investment into a hog production facility in Alberta is awaiting a decision by the Flagstaff County Subdivision and Appeal Board which will determine whether or not construction begins on the 7,200 sow, farrow to finish, operation southeast of Edmonton. Earlier this year, the company abandoned a plan to build a C\$41 million hog operation in southern Alberta due to pressure from environmental interests.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Ottawa [CA1], CA

Taiwan Sugar Corporation's planned investment into a hog production facility in Alberta is awaiting a decision by the Flagstaff County Subdivision and Appeal Board which will determine whether or not construction begins. Taiwan Sugar Corp., which earlier this year abandoned a plan to build a C\$41 million hog operation in southern Alberta due to pressure from environmental interests (see CA0120), has received a development permit from Flagstaff County, southeast of Edmonton, but groups opposing its construction have appealed the decision. The Flagstaff County Subdivision and Appeal Board, is holding public hearings on October 6, 19, and 20, 2000 into the development plan and will announce, at a later date, whether or not the development permit is confirmed or rejected. The hog complex planned by Taiwan Sugar Corp. is a 7,200 sow, farrow to finish, operation and the company is also expected to set up a 48,000-ton-per-year feed plant to support it. Currently, Alberta has about 180,000 sows equal to 14% of the total Canadian breeding sow herd of 1.3 million.

Taiwan Sugar Corp. claims its Canadian-bred pork will be consumed in Canada and possibly exported to the United States and Japan. According to reports, a combination of factors in Taiwan, namely, increased competition for farmland, the 1997 FMD outbreak which impacted exports, and the growing pressure of environmental concerns, led Taiwan Sugar Corp., to explore expansion opportunities in Canada. Taiwan Sugar Corp., which will reportedly lose its monopoly on sugar imports with WTO entry, has scrambled to diversify, moving into hog-breeding and biotechnology.

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