

FEED MILL

MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Bobby Brown: Plant manager

Mike Richardson: Plant superintendent

Larry Williams: Maintenance superintendent

Marlin Hunter: Mill 1 foreman

Robert Gregory: Mill 2 foreman

Dwight Vaughan: 2nd shift foreman

Les Gray: Quality control



CO-OP

La Vergne
FEED
MILL

CO-OP

180 Old Nashville Highway, LaVergne, TN 37086



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proudly
supports



SINCE 1958

HISTORY

The LaVergne Feed Mill has undergone many changes since it first went into operation. The first tour of the plant occurred on Aug. 18, 1958, when more than 2,000 Tennessee farmers attended the dedication of the newly-built facility. At that time, the production facility, (bulk-loading, bagged-feed loading, and ingredient-receiving) were located at what is now referred to as "Mill 1."

As feed sales continued to grow, the decision was made to build another mill adjacent to the existing one. The new "bulk mill" went into production in 1972, and is now referred to as "Mill 2."

Though the two plants were located within 110 feet of each other, they were operated as individual entities — each with its own staff and operating statement — for more than 20 years.

In the mid 1990s, TFC's board of directors approved a massive renovation of both plants that took nearly eight years to complete. The two facilities were finally physically connected via the installation of metal storage bins located above the bulk-receiving area. New production equipment, conveyors, elevators, and distributors were also installed. Finally, systems within both plants were linked through a sophisticated computerized production system (WEM).

In 2005, the system was upgraded with traceability software modules to comply with all new Federal Drug Administration regulations. Now, our production and ingredient-receiving systems are designed to provide safe, efficient, and traceable production of TFC's livestock feed products.



COMPUTERIZATION

All production systems except for the press block machine are operated through our WEM system using computer graphics for routing and operation of machinery. In addition, all of the mill's production computers are combined through one common server. The system has multiple alarms programmed into the software that limits cross-contamination of products due to an operator error or conveying-system malfunction.

EMPLOYEES AND AUTOMATION

The LaVergne Feed Mill is staffed with many experienced and long-term employees, as are TFC's two other feed mills located in East Tennessee at Rockford and in West Tennessee at Jackson.

Although the latest renovations streamlined the LaVergne Feed Mill's workforce from 70 to (currently) 49, the efficiencies of the automated palletizers installed in 2002 have boosted the plant's capacity so that the re-

quired bagged-feed tonnage is fulfilled in only one shift with seasonal overtime.

Additionally, the automated palletizing system produces a tightly stacked pallet



of feed. This allows products to be safely stacked three pallets high, increasing warehouse capacity while dramatically reducing the number of bags damaged during loading.

Quick FACTS

Bulk production: 60%

Bagged feed & block production: 40%

Percentage of total production:

Beef.....50%

Dairy20%

Horse.....13%

Poultry4%

Calf, swine, blocks7%

Rabbit, sheep, goat.....3%

Mineral.....3%

Number of production shifts:

Bagging: 1 shift

Bag loading: 1 shift

Batching: 2 shifts

Pelleting: 2 shifts

Bulk L.O.: 2 shifts



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