

Farmers Union Industries

Central Bi-Products operates three rendering plants located in Redwood Falls and Long Prairie, MN; and Estherville, IA. Both complexes in MN operate rendering facilities for multi-species raw material, poultry raw material, feathers, and blood. Each location is supported by its own protein blending plant that provides total protein product segregation. Central Bi-Products picks up and processes material from independent meat processing facilities, along with raw material from beef, pork, and poultry processors. The material is turned into quality feed ingredients, as well as other products for consumer and material production.

Northland Choice manufactures frozen and fresh-chilled poultry protein-based pet food ingredients, operating three facilities in Redwood Falls, Long Prairie and Waite Park, MN.

Midwest Grease collects, cleans, and recycles restaurant grease into livestock feed ingredients and bio-fuels, and provides grease trap cleaning services. It also provides grease storage containers that are picked up on a regularly scheduled basis throughout MN, SD, ND, WI and IA.

Redwood Farms Meat Processors creates a market for every hog, no matter its size - which allows us to offer smaller and larger cuts for more options. We offer a partnership with farmers, connecting their livestock with customers across the map.

Performance Pet Products is the company's wet canned dog and cat food division. We are a full-service co-packer dedicated to providing our customers with the best quality product possible. We work with pet food brands large and small.

Artex manufactures a line of manure spreaders, silage trailers, and truck boxes. Everything from start to finish is handled in Redwood Falls, MN. This includes research and development, engineered drawings, forming, welding, metal finishing and final assembly. It's farming equipment made by farmers, to stand up to the toughest work on earth.

Farmers Union Marketing and Processing Association is a producers cooperative.

Farmers Union Industries' board of 13 members establishes policy and elects principal company officers and the President/CEO of the company.

Products and Services



Multi-Species Meat and Bone Meal
Porcine Meat and Bone Meal
Feed Grade Poultry By-Product Meal
Pet Grade Poultry By-Product Meal
Blood Meal
Feather Meal



Vertical and Horizontal Beater Manure Spreaders
Silage Trailers
Aluminum Rendering Trailers
Horizontal Grinders
Single and Double High Dump Trailers
Tractor Pulled End Dump Silage Boxes



Canned Cat and Dog Pet Food
3, 5, and 13 oz. Cans



Frozen and Fresh-Chilled Poultry Proteins



Multi-Sized Primal Pork Cuts



Cooking Oil Collection
Grease Trap Service

Farmers Union Industries

PROUD OWNERS OF



Our Beginnings...

Farmers Union Industries had its beginning in the classic struggle for the economic security of livestock producers. Following the path forged by successful grain farmers, livestock producers established a system of marketing their products in cooperation with each other. The first efforts to organize began in 1915, but not until 1929 did those efforts result in formal chartering of an entity which would eventually grow and evolve into its present form.

1929 Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company was organized.

1931 Five state ownership (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin) transferred to Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company.

1944-1946 Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company Annual Meetings. Stockholders passed a resolution to enter into processing, specifically meat processing.

1947 Instead of meat processing, FULCC entered the rendering business with purchase of an existing plant in Wisconsin.

1947 FULCC purchased Central Bi-Products. This purchase included ten rendering plants and was the 6th largest in the United States. Also included in the purchase was the Supersweet Feed line which was started by Central Bi-Products during WWII.

1948 Seven more rendering plants were purchased. This brought the total to eighteen rendering plants and two feed mills. A new feed mill was constructed in Mapleton, MN.

1949 Post War farm commodity markets collapsed. Yellow grease price dropped from 26¢ a pound to 3 1/4¢ per pound in one year. Due to losses caused by the price declines, FULCC was forced to return several plants to original owners and close others. Leaving FULCC with eleven rendering plants and two feed mills.

1949 Supersweet Feed sales boomed. Grain Terminal Association (GTA) conducted a vigorous campaign to get Supersweet Feed into as many member elevators and co-ops as possible. Active feed accounts increased from 140 to 500 by the end of 1949.

1950-1951 The Korean War helped to increase commodity prices which returned rendering business to being profitable.

1950-1953 Grease price dropped at the end of the Korean War. Rendering again started to lose money.

1952 Supersweet Feed Mill, Mapleton, MN was destroyed by a fire. FULCC was unable to raise the funds to rebuild. Supersweet Feed line sold to International Milling Company.

1953 Livestock Marketing separated from rendering. Livestock operation purchased by GTA from FULCC and formed into a new cooperative, Farmers Union Marketing Association (FUMA). The rendering remained with Farmers Union Livestock Association but the name was changed to Farmers Union Processing Association (FUPA).

1953-1965 Both FUMA and FUPA struggled to stay alive. **FUMA** saw more direct marketing of livestock to packers which reduced the numbers available to be traded through FUMA. **FUPA** saw increased livestock feeding which helped to improve finances of the rendering association. More demand was created for the feeding of fats and animal protein.

1967 Farmers Union Marketing Association and Farmers Union Processing Association merged. Farmers Union Marketing and Processing Association (FUMPA) was formed with principle offices located in Redwood Falls, MN.

1967 FUMPA purchased Marshall Processing a large rendering facility in Marshall, MN. This purchase included a feather processing plant and enabled FUMPA to enter into poultry processing.

1970 New rendering plant was built in Redwood Falls. The facility included protein blending and hide curing.

1971-1973 The efficiency of the new Redwood Falls plant and a sharp rise in commodity prices increased profits dramatically, making it possible to start plans for a new rendering plant in Long Prairie, MN.

1973 Commodity Trading Company, a subsidiary of FUMPA, was established to handle country dealer livestock operations and fabrication of pet food ingredients.

1974 The new plant began operations in Long Prairie. With two new large plants, it was possible to discontinue operations at the many small plants originally purchased in 1947-1948.

1974-1977 The Livestock Marketing Division continued to struggle but remained profitable due to more livestock being marketed through terminals.

1978-1983 Central Bi-Products continued to expand sources of raw materials and improve efficiencies at Redwood Falls and Long Prairie facilities.

1985 FUMPA purchased Midwest Grease Buyers, a grease collection business that purchases used restaurant frying grease.

1988 FUMPA purchased Lang Packing Company in Waite Park, MN, a major producer of mink feed ingredients.

1989 Livestock Marketing Division discontinued operations due to lack of livestock being sold through terminals. The division was operationally merged with Central Livestock Association.

1989 Lang Packing changed their name to Northland Choice and operations in Waite Park, MN were expanded to include frozen pet food ingredients.

2002 Purchased Pet Care Systems in Detroit Lakes, MN. This division manufactured sWheat Scoop, a 100% natural cat litter.

2005 FUMPA reorganized, forming Farmers Union Industries, LLC.

2005 Purchased Redwood Metal Works in Redwood Falls, MN. The metal fabricating business builds aluminum trailers for Central Bi-Products.

2008 Redwood Metal Works purchased the rights to use the Artex product name. They began manufacturing manure spreaders with acquired inventory, tooling, blueprints and plans from Artex.

2013 Redwood Metal Works changed their name to Artex Manufacturing.

2015 Farmers Union Industries, purchased Iowa Protein Solutions, a rendering plant in Estherville, IA., and Dakota Pack, a pork processing plant in Estherville, IA.

2015 Performance Pet Products, a full service pet food cannery in Mitchell, SD, was purchased.

2016 Iowa Protein Solutions dissolved and merged into Central Bi-Products.

2017 Dakota Pack changed their name to Redwood Farms Meat Processors.

2019 Sold Pet Care Systems in Detroit Lakes, MN.

