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# Feeding the Future

## Sustainable Protein Solutions for Livestock and Aquaculture

# Saudi Agriculture 2025 | Riyadh

Tuesday, 21 October 2025 | 13:00 – 15:00

Riyadh International Convention & Exhibition Center, Amaala Hall

The Netherlands has a highly developed and competitive agri-food sector, which is characterized by innovation, intersectoral collaboration and an international perspective. Therefore Dutch organisations are well-positioned to contribute to the global protein shift through developing and commercializing innovative and scalable solutions. The animal feed sector plays a crucial role in the protein transition, which aims to make our food system more sustainable, resilient, and circular.

In this context the Netherlands is at the forefront of technological advancements, driving innovation in sustainable and innovative animal nutrition. With a clear focus on feed efficiency and a cost-driven perspective, emerging alternative protein sources and production technologies for animal feed include (techniques for) insects, seaweed and microalgae, earthworms, single-cell proteins and co-products utilisation. These techniques and sources have various advantages over conventional protein sources, such as local and regional production possibilities, diverse amino acid profiles, low land and water requirements, low greenhouse gas emissions, and potential animal health benefits.

By collaborating with other stakeholders globally, such as farmers, researchers, policymakers, consumers, and civil society, the Netherlands aims to contribute to a resilient feed sector that has a positive impact on both human and animal health, and the environment.

## Opening

13:00 – 13:02

### Opening Announcement & Housekeeping

Fatma Elmari, AO, LAN Riyadh

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13:02 – 13:06

### Welcome Address

Simone Landhuis, Agricultural Counsellor, NL Embassy

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13:06 – 13:10

### Welcome Address

Dr Abulaziz Al Harbi, Chief Scientific Advisor, Saudi AgriFood Tech Alliance (SAFTA)

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## Block 1 - Unlocking Insect-Based Feed Solutions for Saudi Arabia

### Keynote

Dr. Somaya Naser El Deen, Wageningen Research, Wageningen Livestock Research (WLR).

13:10 – 13:25

Nutrient Recycling through Black Soldier Fly (BSF) Systems in Arid Climates

Insect production cycles for the Black Soldier Fly and yellow mealworms, their economic feasibility in the Gulf Region, and frass as a sustainable fertilizer.

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13:25 – 13:45

### Panel Discussion

Moderated by Dr. Somaya Naser El Deen, Wageningen Research, Wageningen Livestock Research (WLR).

### Topic: Enabling Insect-Based Feed Innovation

- Regulatory frameworks and safety of insect feed in KSA
- Use of insects in poultry, aquaculture and ruminants
- Frass (insect manure) as a fertilizer
- Product safety, halal/consumer acceptance
- Non-feed applications (e.g. cosmetics, biodegradable plastics, biofuels)
- Opportunities for Dutch–Saudi R&D partnerships

13:25 – 13:45

### Panelists:

- Muhammad Tariq - Chief Sustainability Officer, Tanmiah
- Dr. Marco A. El-Dakar, Postdoctoral Fellow, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)
- Mohammed AlMadhi, CEO, PHYLA / Sequencive
- Dr. Areej Abdulkareem Al-Khalaf, Professor of Entomology, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University
- Dr. Adel Mohammed, VP Nutrition and Quality, ARASCO

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13:45 – 13:55

Q & A

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## Block 2 – Scaling and Seaweed for Sustainable Aquafeeds

### Keynote

Dr Matthew Booth, Bioprocess Technologist, Wageningen University & Research (WUR)

14:00 – 14:15

Algae and Seaweed-Based Protein Sources for Poultry and Aquaculture

Functional feed ingredients, their environmental benefits and innovation and adaptation to Gulf Region-specific conditions.

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### Panel Discussion

Moderated by Dr Matthew Booth, Bioprocess Technologist, Wageningen University & Research (WUR)

Topic: Algae and Seaweed-Based Protein Sources for Poultry and Aquaculture

- Scaling algae and insect feed through public-private partnerships
- Market development, pricing, scalability
- Consumer perspectives and cultural acceptance
- Co-products and bio-circular opportunities (e.g. fertilizer, bioenergy)
- Policy gaps and investment incentives in KSA

14:15 – 14:35

### Panelists:

- Reinier Nauta, MSc, Project Leader, Seaweed & Sustainable Marine food production, Wageningen Marine Research
- Dr. Claudio Grunewald, Algae Program Director, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Hedaiah Alotaibi, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University
- Dr. Huda Al Qahtani KSU
- Luigi Monfardini, Lgem Synalgae BV

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14:35 – 14:45

Q & A

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### Closing remarks

14:45 – 14:50 | **Key Takeaways & Final Remark:** Dr. Somaya Naser El Deen, Wageningen Livestock Research

14:50 – 15:00 | **Networking & Informal Conversations** - Coffee/snack break



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Kingdom of the Netherlands



التحالف السعودي لتقنيات الزراعة والغذاء  
Saudi AgriFood Tech Alliance

