



IGTC
International Grain Trade Coalition

IGTC Newsletter 2 March 2018

IGTC Directory: Have you reviewed the [IGTC Directory](#) on our [Intranet](#) pages recently? We ask you to keep us up to date with any changes in personnel at your company/association. Contact the [IGTC Secretariat](#) to provide details or to obtain your Intranet log-in credentials.

Events

March 6: International Grains Council Market Conditions Committee - London, UK

The IGTC will be one of the presenters at this information-sharing session with the 55 member governments of the IGC. This will be the first meeting with the new Executive Director Arnaud Petit.

(TBC) March 6/7/8: MRL Policy Team Call

Team Lead June Arnold (Gafta) will guide discussions. To join the Policy Team, contact the [Secretariat](#)

March 26-28: Canadian Global Crops Symposium - Toronto, Canada

Visit www.canadiancrops.ca for information about the programme and

IGTC in Action

World Trade Organization (WTO) workshop on missing MRLs



The IGTC took centre stage at WTO on Monday, 26th February to provide grain trade evidence and experiences at an SPS workshop on missing MRLs.

The workshop, organised by Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand, brought together 15 governments in total, and tackled the negative impacts of missing MRLs on trade, as well as the need for capacity building at Codex, and positive regional initiatives that are taking place in the ASEAN (ppt [here](#)), EAC (ppt [here](#)), Japan (ppt [here](#)), APEC (ppt [here](#)), New Zealand (ppt [here](#)), USA (ppt [here](#) and [here](#)), and at Agri-Food Canada (ppt [here](#)).

The IGTC delegation came from Argentina, Canada, Europe, Kenya and USA, and included global grain trade Corporate Stakeholders. The speakers at the IGTC's afternoon session (amalgamated presentations [here](#)) were:

- Kimwaga Mhando, Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC)
- Tyler Bjornson, Canada Grains Council (CGC)
- June Arnold, Grain and Feed Trade Association (Gafta)
- Roz Leeck, US Soybean Export Council (USSEC)
- María Marta Rebizo, Argentine chambers of the oilseeds industry and cereals exporters (CIARA-CEC)

The IGTC will soon be releasing the results of its global survey on MRLs. If you wish to be involved in this effort please contact the [Secretariat](#).

Photo (r-l): Bjornson, Leeck, Arnold, Rebizo

MRLs – industry advocacy letter signed – NAFTA Technical Working Group

eminent speakers at this high-profile annual event.

April 3: Plant breeding innovation Policy Team Call

Team Lead Kevin Bosc (COCERAL) will guide discussions. To join the Policy Team, contact the [Secretariat](#)

April 16-20: IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-13) - FAO, Rome, Italy

The IGTC will act as an Observer at this annual meeting of the 183 governmental 'Contracting Parties' to the IPPC.

June 18: IGTC Strategy Session - London, UK

Global grain trade leaders will gather to discuss issues of mutual interest as per the IGTC policy and outreach agenda. Gafta will be our hosts at this important event.

Links

[IGTC Website](#)

[IGTC list of members](#)



With government attention on MRL-related issues increasing at WTO, CODEX, and among regional groups in Asia-Pacific (APEC), South America (MERCOSUR) and Eastern Africa (EAC), a cross-section of industry representatives has signed an advocacy letter in the context of NAFTA ([click here](#)). The NAFTA letter was circulated on 22 February following a Technical Working Group on Pesticides that took place in November last year. It includes recommendations on harmonization of MRLs; global outreach and advocacy; and support for MRL capacity building at CODEX.



Photo credit: NGFA

ePhytos: Grain trade national and regional focal points



Thank you to the IGTC member associations who have volunteered to act as national and regional focal points for liaison between ePhyto pilot countries and the grain trade. This is an important step as we coordinate a global effort to secure a system that offers appropriate interoperability with commercial transactions in the grain trade.

Current volunteers are as follows:

- Australia: Grain Trade Australia
- Argentina: CIARA-CEC
- China: CNAGS
- Kenya (Eastern Africa): Eastern Africa Grain Council
- Netherlands (EU): COCERAL
- USA: North American Export Grain Association and US Grains Council

We welcome further support from IGTC associations and Corporate Stakeholders. Information about the 13 pilot countries and the activities of the Industry Advisory Group can be read at: www.ippc.int/en/ephyto

The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted in this communication is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. This newsletter and referenced links are for the use of IGTC Members and Stakeholders only and should otherwise be treated as confidential.

Copyright IGTC 2018