



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH January 20, 2015

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Thank you for your investment in NAEGA! – We very much appreciate your many contributions to the ongoing success of NAEGA. Member Representatives should have received the Annual Membership package. Please remit your annual dues and fees as soon as possible. We appreciate your commitment to the association and your prompt payment due February 16.

Make Plans Now for the 2015 NAEGA Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas on March 16, 2015. Rooms at the Hyatt Regency can be booked at the NGFA rate by clicking [here](#).

Member Opportunities

- Conference Call – NAEGA Biotechnology Committee – January 21, 2015
- Conference Call – APPAMEX – 2015 Joint Agenda, E-Phytos and Mexico’s restrictions on “soil” – January 23, 2015
- Conference Call - USDA APHIS on E-Phytos and Mexico’s restrictions on ‘soil’ – January 23, 2015
- Beijing China, NAEGA meeting with Member Representatives – January 26-30, 2015
- Conference Call – NAEGA Contracts Committee – February 4, 2015
- Learning Journey to Cuba – March 1-5, 2015
- San Antonio, Texas – NAEGA Annual Meeting – March 16, 2015

Action Reports:

- NAEGA Grades and Inspection Committee Call
- NAEGA MAP Trip Report – IGTC Meetings in US and Canada

Information for your consideration

- Updated Cuban Regulations

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

Member Opportunities

Conference Call – NAEGA Biotechnology Committee – January 21, 2015

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The Biotechnology Committee will have a conference call on Wednesday, January 21st at 3:30pm Eastern, 2:30pm Central, 12:30pm Pacific. A complete proposed agenda will be send out shortly.

Please let us know if you plan to call in!

Conference Call – APPAMEX NAEGA – 2015 Joint Agenda, E-Phytos and Mexico’s restrictions on “soil” – January 23, 2015

NAEGA will host a call with APPAMEX on Friday, January 23rd at 2:30pm Eastern, 1:30pm Central, 11:30am Pacific. The call will discuss joint APPAMEX-NAEGA activities for 2015, E-Phytos, and the ongoing Mexican Soil issue.

The Grades and Inspections and the Contracts committees are invited to the call. Other NAEGA member personnel are welcome too. Please let us know if you would like to call in so we can send you the coordinates!

Conference Call – USDA APHIS on E-Phytos and Mexico’s restrictions on “soil” – January 23, 2015

NAEGA will host a call with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on Friday, January 23rd at 3:30pm Eastern, 2:30pm Central, 12:30pm Pacific. **(Please note the time has been moved to 3:30 pm Eastern from its original 3:00 pm Eastern scheduled time).** The call will be to discuss both E-Phytosanitary Certificates and the ongoing Mexican Soil issue.

The Grades and Inspections and the Contracts committee are invited to the call. Other NAEGA member personnel are welcome too. Please let us know if you would like to call in so we can send you the coordinates!

Beijing China, NAEGA meeting with Member Representatives – January 26-30, 2015

NAEGA member representatives will be soon be invited to meetings in Beijing. Gary Martin and two NAEGA consultants are completing plans for a mission to Beijing and Shanghai, China from January 25-31, 2015. Marcel Bruins and Tom Dorr will join Gary at several meetings with key Chinese NAEGA counterparts, industry, and government officials. Topics covered will include food safety, plant health, and crop biotechnology. International policy developments such as the International Plant Protection Commission’s (IPPC) development of a standard for international movement of grain, the Global Low Level Presence Initiative (GLI), and the recent progress of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) will also be covered. Ultimately this NAEGA travel mission will result in recommendations for NAEGA and IGTC strategy and activity related to China.

The following industry meetings are currently planned:

From 2:30 to 4 PM on Monday, January 26th at the Westin Chaoyang Hotel Beijing; the team would like to meet with NAEGA member company representatives to discuss the current trade and investment environment in China for NAEGA members as well as the objectives and plans the NAEGA.

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From 8 to 10 am on Tuesday, January 27th NAEGA member company representatives will be invited to a breakfast meeting with CropLife China. Also planned for to be at the Westin Chaoyang Hotel Beijing, this meeting will focus on the current state of crop biotechnology regulation and commercial practice in the U.S. and China.

The NAEGA team also has tentative plans to host a members meeting in Shanghai on either Thursday, January 29th or Friday, January 30th in Shanghai.

Please let Gary or Kyle know if you, or someone from your company might be interested in participating in meeting with the NAEGA team. Invitations to our list of NAEGA member representatives in China will be sent on or before January 23.

Conference Call – NAEGA Contracts Committee – February 4, 2015

The Contracts Committee will have a conference call on Wednesday, February 4th at 3:30pm Eastern, 2:30pm Central, 12:30pm Pacific. A complete proposed agenda will be sent out shortly.

Please let us know if you would like to call in!

Learning Journey to Cuba – March 1-5, 2015

NAEGA members are invited and welcome to join in the U.S. Coalition for Cuba (USACC) plans for a U.S. Agri-business group visit to Cuba. Tentatively scheduled for March 1st through March 5th, 2015, the travel will likely be the first major U.S. business delegation to Cuba since U.S. President Obama announced changes to the Administration’s policy toward Cuba in December 2014. USACC has titled the travel mission as a **“Learning Journey to Cuba”** and notes the Cuban government has already indicated they welcome the visit.

More information about USACC can be found at: <http://www.usagcoalition.com/>. If you or a colleague are interested in joining the “Learning Journey to Cuba” please contact us as soon as possible. Participation may be limited.

Mark Your Calendars for the NAEGA Annual Meeting San Antonio, Texas – March 16, 2014

We look forward to working with you in San Antonio, Texas in March! The 2015 NAEGA Annual Meeting will take place on Monday, March 16, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. The Board Meeting will immediately follow the Members Meeting.

NAEGA meetings will coincide with the March 15-17, 2015 National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA) Convention. Rooms at the Hyatt Regency can be booked at the NGFA rate by clicking [here](#). A special NAEGA registration for the NGFA Convention is available for \$275.

Thank you for your investment in NAEGA! – We very much appreciate and need your company’s many contributions to the ongoing success of NAEGA. Your membership year starts anew this month. Invoices for NAEGA’s 2015 Membership Dues were mailed to member

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representatives this past week. Payment is due by February 16. Prompt payment is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the NAEGA office.

Full Details on Upcoming Events can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the [NAEGA Member’s Only Page](#).

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Reports on NAEGA Actions

NAEGA Grades and Inspections Committee Call

The NAEGA Grades and Inspection Committee met via conference call to report and discuss on a number of policy items. The call included topics such as a report on the progress of the China Vessel Comparison Study, Canada’s Grain Import Framework, Mexico’s border/phytosanitary measures, CODEX-DON, the Standard for International Movement of Grain, UN Globally Harmonized System of Labeling, and a discussion on FGIS reauthorization and the U.S. Grain Standards Act. The agenda can be found [here](#) and the meeting report can be found [here](#).

NAEGA MAP Trip Report

NAEGA President and CEO, Gary C. Martin, and International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) Secretariat, Marcel Bruins reported on their recent trip in the U.S. and to Ottawa, Canada in early December for IGTC stakeholder meetings and the Canada-US Grain and Seed Task Group meeting. In Minneapolis, MN and Washington, DC, several meetings were held with key IGTC industry stakeholders to update them on recent progress of the IGTC and introduce Marcel as the new IGTC Secretariat.

The stakeholder meetings continued in Ottawa, Canada and discussions were held with the Canada-US Grain and Seed Task Group. Topics with the task group included:

1. Previous actions by the task group, such as the Producer and Seed Modules and the Cross Border Trade Study;
2. Potential new topics for the group to work on, such as a Safe Food and Feed Module, rail information, and a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) under the Regulatory Cooperation Council; and
3. Current topics before the task group, including the new Commercial Module that will soon be added to the [Canada-US Grain and Seed Task Group website](#), Canada’s D-12-05, Canada’s Low Level Presence (LLP) initiative, and the ongoing Mexican soil issue.

The Trip Report can be found on the [International Programs Committee webpage](#) on the “Members Only” site.

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NAEGA is considering making comments on the following items. Please contact us with your advice or suggestions:

2015

Mar. 23 – Comments to USDA on Monsanto’s petition to deregulate Genetically Engineered corn for increased ear biomass: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/brs/fedregister/BRS_20150120b.pdf

NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on the Member’s Only Section under their relevant committee pages.

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Information for your Consideration

Updated Cuban Regulations

The U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) amended its Cuban Asset Control Regulations on January 16, 2015 to implement policy changes announced by President Obama on December 17, 2014. A copy of the new regulations can be found [here](#).

The U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) also promulgated a final rule on January 16th to implement the new policy towards Cuba. The BIS amended the Export Administration Regulations to create License Exception Support for the Cuban People. These changes will establish a general policy of approval for certain exports and re-exports to Cuba. These new regulations can be found [here](#).

If you would like more information or wish to provide comments on any of these news topics monitored by NAEGA, please contact us.

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NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices

2015

January

21 – Washington, D.C. – U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance (USBCA) Meeting with Ambassador Vetter – 11:30am – 12:30pm at the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)

21 – NAEGA Biotechnology Committee Call – 3:30pm Eastern, 2:30pm Central, 1:30pm Pacific.

23 – Conference Call – APPAMEX NAEGA on 2015 Joint Agenda, E-Phytos, and Mexican soil issue – 2:30pm Eastern

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23 – Conference Call – USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on E-Phytos and Mexican soil issue – 3:30pm Eastern

February

4 – NAEGA Contracts Committee Call – 3:30pm Eastern, 2:30pm Central, 1:30pm Pacific.

9 – Washington, D.C. – Annual Grain Industry Sector Meeting with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) – 1:00pm – 5:00pm Eastern

March

1-5 – Cuba – U.S. Agriculture Coalition for Cuba travel to Cuba– “A Learning Journey to Cuba” (tentative)

5-6 – Singapore – International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) Meetings and General Assembly

10 – London, UK – International Grains Council (IGC) Market Conditions Committee Meeting

16 – San Antonio, Texas – 2015 NAEGA Annual Meetings – Hyatt Regency Hotel (in conjunction with NGFA’s Convention).

April

10 – Panama – “Summit of the Americas”

June

9 – London, United Kingdom – International Grains Council 2015 Conference – 86-90 Park Lane, London W1K 7TN

July

12-16 – Big Sky, Montana – 2015 PNWER Annual Summit

14-15 – U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council (USAEDC) Attaché Seminar – Location TBD

November

16-19 – USADEC Annual Workshop – Location TBD

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