



Outreach January 10, 2019

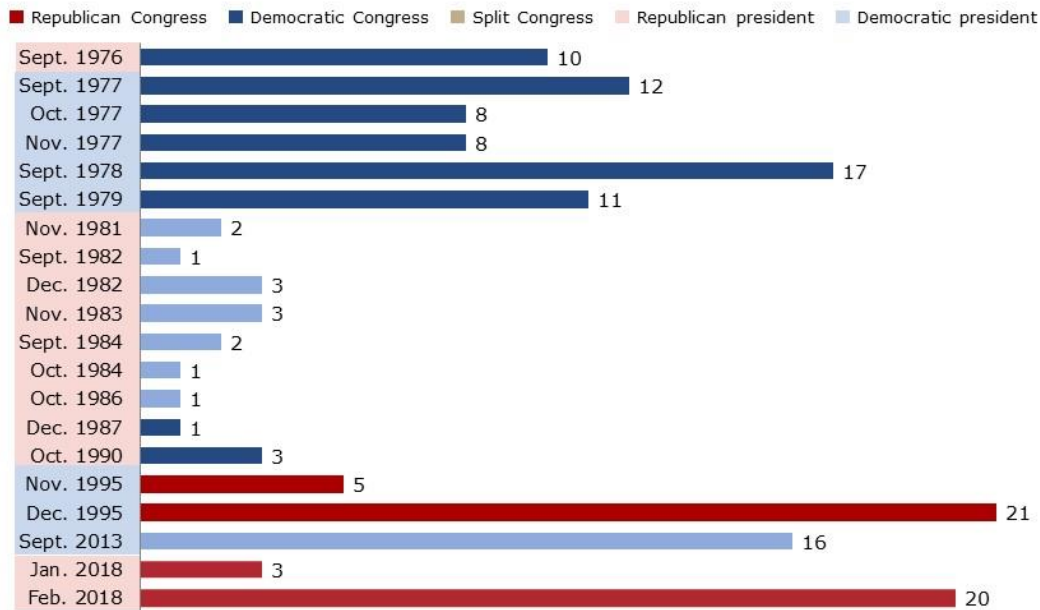
Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Graphic of the week:

U.S. Federal Government Shutdown Nears Record

Congressional leaders and the president continue to discuss options for resolving differences as the shutdown enters its 20th day

LENGTH OF SHUTDOWN IN DAYS



Sources: Axios PM, January 18, 2018. "All 20 Government Shutdowns in US History," ThoughtCo, December 12, 2018.

We are looking forward to Working Together to Make Trade Work in 2019 and beyond!

Thanks to you, NAEGA continues to enjoy success in serving you.

In addition to ongoing member, committee and policy team contributions from you we would appreciate your response to our Strategic Planning survey. Survey results will be held confidential and anonymized by NAEGA staff. To participate in the survey, please click [here](#).

As always your advice is critical and much appreciated

[Action Reports](#)

Recent Actions:

- Vietnam actions re *Cirsium arvense* seeds in grains and oilseeds
- Member dues invoicing

Pending Actions

- U.S.-U.K. Trade Negotiation Comments
- U.S. Grain Inspection Advisory Committee
- SPS Standard-Setting Activities – Codex

Upcoming Actions

- IGTC Secretariat Working to Make Trade Work

Member Opportunities

- CMC State of the Industry Meeting – Miami, Florida – January 27-29
- Board of Directors Meeting - Miami, FL – January 29, 2019
- USDA Agriculture Outlook Forum – Arlington, VA - February 21-22
- NAEGA Meetings – Amelia Island, Florida – March 17-19
- NGFA Annual Convention – Amelia Island, Florida – March 17-19
- International Grains Council Grains Conference – June 11-12, 2019
- NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams
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Action Reports

Recent Actions:

Vietnam actions re *Cirsium arvense* seeds in grains and oilseeds

NAEGA is working with urgency in response to Vietnam PPD's actions regarding the presence of *Cirsium arvense* (common names include creeping thistle and Canada thistle in shipments of grain. The NAEGA Grades and Inspection Committee has begun work with NAEGA on advise to be conveyed to both the U.S. and Vietnamese governments. We see *Cirsium arvense* issue as one of global concern and have included coordination with international colleagues. We are completing extensive research on the agronomy, distribution and approaches to managing *Cirsium arvense* seeds in commodity shipments

Please help and contact us immediately if you have related information or questions.

USDA is planning for a bi-lateral meeting in Hanoi with relevant Vietnamese officials on January 23, 2019. Over the past few days, Gary represented NAEGA in meetings at USDA. One hosted Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Ted Mckinney at our request and one USDA Undersecretary for Market and Regulatory Affairs Greg Ibach. In both cases NAEGA advise was requested.

Member Invoices and Annual Meeting Notification

NAEGA has completed its annual invoicing for membership dues and export volume fees. On Friday, January 4, each member representative should have received an email with a membership invoice and an annual member meeting notification. Member representatives will also receive an invoice and meeting notification via Fedex. All NAEGA member dues and export volume fees are due by February 15, 2019.

Pending Actions:

U.S.-U.K. Trade Negotiation Comments

The U.S. International Trade Commission is seeking public comments on the probably economic effect of providing duty free treatment for currently dutiable imports under a proposed U.S.-U.K. Trade Agreement.

The U.S. Trade Representative, under authority delegated by the President, has requested that the Commission provide a report containing its advice as to the probable economic effect of providing duty-free treatment for imports of currently dutiable products from the UK on (i) industries in the United States producing like or directly competitive products, and (ii) consumers.

In addition, the USTR requested that the Commission prepare an assessment of the probable economic effects of eliminating tariffs on imports from the UK of those agricultural products described in the list attached to the USTR's request letter on (i) industries in the United States producing the products concerned, and (ii) the U.S. economy as a whole.

The following deadlines apply for this request:

January 10, 2019: Deadline for filing requests to appear at the public hearing.

January 14, 2019: Deadline for filing prehearing briefs and statements.

January 31, 2019: Public hearing.

February 11, 2019: Deadline for filing post-hearing briefs and submissions.

February 11, 2019: Deadline for filing all other written statements.

May 8, 2019: Transmittal of Commission report to the USTR.

A public hearing in connection with this investigation will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on January 31, 2019.

U.S. Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking nominations by January 28, 2019 from individuals interested in serving on its Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. The 15-member advisory committee meets at least once annually to provide input to the agency on the operation of the official grain inspection and weighing program. Members serve three-year terms, and include representation from producers, processors, handlers, merchandisers, exporters, consumers and academicians.

Currently, the Advisory Committee has five seats and two alternate slots open on the committee for a three-year term. Applications submitted during the previous nomination period, March 16, 2018–April 30, 2018, will be considered unless notification is provided the individual no longer is available for consideration. In other words, if you have already submitted your application to serve on the committee there is no need to reapply.

The application can be found [here](#), if you have not already applied.

SPS Standard-Setting Activities under Codex

The USDA's Office of Trade and Foreign Agriculture Affairs (TFAA) is requesting public comments on the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standard-setting activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex). TFAA seeks comments on SPS standards under consideration and recommendations for new standards.

The official notice in the Federal Register can be found [here](#) and additional information [here](#).

Upcoming Actions:

IGTC Secretariat Working to Make Trade Work

Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat and NAEGA contractor will continue to support you in her work around the world. Upcoming plans include:

1. *ePhyto Industry Advisory Group – Geneva, Switzerland – January 30:* Katy will attend a meeting of the International Plant Protection Convention's (IPPC) ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG) in Geneva, Switzerland. The IAG is a voluntarily group of private sector stakeholder working to advise the IPPC Secretariat on the feasibility of the ePhyto solution project and its ability to facilitate efficient and effective trade flows, reviewed the ongoing progress and advancements of the project.
2. *IGC Market Conditions Committee – London, UK – March 14:* On March 14 Katy plans travel to London and attend the International Grains Council's Market Conditions Committee meeting. Over the past few years, the IGTC has been deepening its working relationship with the IGC and, in December, signed a memorandum of understanding with the IGC to encourage further collaboration to promote and facilitate the international trade of grains, oilseeds and other agri-bulks.

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Member Opportunities:

CMC State of the Industry Meeting – Miami, Florida – January 27-29

NAEGA member personnel are invited to join the NAEGA Board of Directors at the Commodity Markets Council's State of the Industry 2019 conference. The conference will take place at The Miami Beach Edition Hotel. CMC is the leading trade association for commodity futures exchanges and their industry counterparts. The State of the Industry 2018 conference will include discussion and presentations by industry and government leaders focusing on agriculture, metals, energy, power and technology markets. Mike Ditka will join the conference as the keynote speaker. Other invited speakers include J. Christopher Giancarlo, Chairman of the CFTC, Senator John Thune, Ambassador Gregg Doud and Joe Nicosia of Louis Dreyfus Company. [If you are interested in attending please register here.](#)

All NAEGA qualify for a discounted group rate of \$750 this group rate give you access to all of CMC's events and speakers. [A preliminary schedule can be found here.](#) If you are interested in taking advantage of the group rate please register at the link above. CMC will invoice you directly.

NAEGA members may also take advantage of the CMC State of the Industry 2018 room block at The Miami Beach Edition hotel by [clicking on the link here.](#)

Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL – January 29, 2019

The next meeting of the NAEGA Board of Directors will be held from 12:00pm-4:00pm on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at the Miami Beach Edition Hotel in Miami, FL. The meeting will occur alongside the Commodity Markets Council's (CMC) State of the Industry conference, which will take place on January 27-29 at the same hotel. All board members are invited to attend the CMC conference, and NAEGA is currently negotiating a discounted group rate.

Those looking to make early travel arrangements can book their hotel room under the CMC group rate by following this [link](#).

More details and the meeting agendas will follow in the coming weeks.

USDA Agriculture Outlook Forum – Arlington, VA - February 21-22

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold it annual Agriculture Outlook forum on February 21 and 22 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, VA. Among other speakers, the forum will include a keynote address by USDA Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue and important discussions will be led by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Steve Censky and Chief Economist Rob Johansson. A full agenda can be found [here](#).

The forum registration fees and details can be found [here](#).

NAEGA Meetings – Amelia Island, Florida – March 17 -19

Please make your plans and reserve your hotel rooms now for the NAEGA meetings in March at the Ritz Carlton Amelia Island in Amelia Island, Florida. All NAEGA member personnel are invited to attend and participate in all NAEGA meetings and events.

NAEGA meeting will begin on Monday, March 18 with a Members lunch and meeting. Following the members meeting, which will include the election of a new NAEGA Board of Directors, the new NAEGA Board will meet. All members are invited to attend the lunch, members meeting and Board of Directors meeting. Additional Committee meetings are currently being scheduled and will announced soon.

NAEGA members can make hotel reservations for our meetings at the Ritz Carlton using the NGFA room block. Reservation can be made at [this link](#).

Agendas and registration pages will be distributed soon.

NGFA Annual Convention – Amelia Island, Florida – March 17-19

All NAEGA members are invited to attend the annual NGFA Convention from March 17-19 at the Ritz Carlton Amelia Island in Amelia Island, Florida. A schedule of events can be found [here](#).

NAEGA member personnel and their guests interested in attending are invited to take advantage of a special rate that covers the NGFA welcome reception on March 17 and all of Monday, March 18's activities. The special rate is:

NAEGA Members: \$300

NAEGA guests: \$250

Those interested in taking advantage of this special rate can register on the NGFA website [here](#) using the promotional code NAEGA19.

NAEGA members are also invited to make their hotel reservations for our annual meetings at the Ritz Carlton using the NGFA room block. Reservation can be made at [this link](#).

International Grains Council Grains Conference – June 11-12, 2019

The International Grain Trade Coalition is expecting to provide discounted registration for the International Grains Council's 2019 Grains Conference in London, UK. Our suggestion is to wait for the savings before registering, although IGC early bird registration is now open.

Anyone interested can find more information at [here](#).

The two day conference will highlight the key challenges facing the international grain oilseed industry. Plenary sessions and workshops will include speakers from across the globe sharing their expertise . The Conference, to be held at the Congress Centre at 28 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS, provides for multiple opportunities to network and build business relationships.

Upcoming Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

With the release of the revised NAEGA 2 contract on March 30, NAEGA conducted several educational seminars in 2018 to communicate these revisions and educate on the contract and industry best practices.

As we move forward into 2019, we are considering locations for our upcoming seminars. Let us know if you are interested in attending or hosting!

NAEGA seminars are an intensive and informative review of commercial and official practices taught in an interactive environment. The goal of each seminar is to improve predictability, reduce risks, resolve trade barriers and facilitate profitable trade.

NAEGA conducts both public and private seminars, and curriculum can be tailored to your needs. Please contact Ryan if you are interested in hosting a private, tailored seminar at your office. Click [here](#) for more information on the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Asia-Pacific Policy Teams

With the evolving U.S.-China trade relationship, we expect many more fast paced and dramatic developments that could greatly change the terms of trade for NAEGA members. Your involvement is needed!

NAEGA ad hoc policy teams of member personnel working largely through conference calls are helping to guide our multifaceted effort to address the evolving trade environment. A policy team focused on the Asia-Pacific Market is already established. Over the next few months the team will be focused on U.S. trade relations with China, Japan, Korea and the Trans Pacific environment more generally.

Internships

We have an open intern position starting in the winter of 2019 to work at the NAEGA office at 1400 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. Information on working for NAEGA as an intern can be found [here](#).

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

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News

U.S. Government Shutdown and Export Sales Reporting

Today marks the 20th day of the partial U.S. government shutdown, one day shy of the longest shutdown in Congressional history.

Many U.S. government personnel have been furloughed until government appropriations are restored. This includes much of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including FAS and ERS offices.

Some agencies, and thus the employees working in them, are “exempt” from a shutdown because they do not get their funding through the congressional appropriations process. Other

agencies, or parts of them, also have funding not subject to annual appropriations – for example, through fees they charge for their services, or from trust funds or multi-year budgets. Employees whose salaries are funded in that way would continue working, and getting paid, as normal. For example, export grain grading by USDA FGIS is exempt but some of the work – like grain appeals at the National Grain Center in Kansas City and FGIS international services is not exempt.

For employees whose salaries are paid from appropriations, there is another distinction: “excepted” vs. “non-excepted” (not “essential” vs. “non-essential,” which are the more commonly used, but not official, terms).

Excepted employees are those whose jobs involve the safety of human life, the protection of property, or certain other types of work designated by their agencies as necessary to continue. These are not necessarily the same as “emergency” employees who are expected to continue coming to work when agencies close for other reasons, such as for severe weather.

Excepted employees are to continue reporting for work as normal during a shutdown, though for the meantime they would not be paid for that time. Because agencies are required to pay for services performed, those employees are guaranteed to be paid after Congress passes – and the president signs – a new appropriation or continuing resolution. Exactly when they would be paid would depend on the timing of the new spending authority and the payroll cycle the agency uses.

Employees who are neither “exempt” nor “excepted” are put on unpaid furlough. They are to perform what guidance calls “minimal activities as necessary to execute an orderly suspension of agency operations related to non-excepted activities.” That typically is to last about a half-day on their first scheduled workday after a shutdown begins. They then are to leave the workplace and they are not to work while on furlough, even on a volunteer basis.

The Federal Grain Inspection Service, according to its agency shutdown plan, will continue to provide all grain and related commodity inspection and weighing program activities supported by user fees authorized by the U. S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA) and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. Local managers of the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) will evaluate service requests and, with approval from FGIS’ Field Management Division (FMD) Director, assign employees to revenue generating functions.

During the partial shut down, exporters are reminded to continue to report sales as required: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/export-sales-reporting-program>. FAS Administrator Ken Isley, who is one of the essential employees and working, indicated this week that that public export sales report (<https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html>) will resume once appropriations are restored and FAS will try to provide for missing reports on the same weekly basis in retrospect.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

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Calendar & Member Notices

Click [here](#) for a copy of the IGTC Calendar

2019

January

- 14 – U.S.-U.K. Trade Negotiation Comments Due
- 14 – U.S. APHIS-Vietnam PPD meeting to discuss Canada thistle
- 15 – USDA Market Facilitation Program applications close
- 27-29 – CMC State of the Industry Meeting
- 29 – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting - Miami, FL
- 30 – ePhyto Industry Advisory Group Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland
- 31 – U.S.-U.K. Trade Negotiation Hearing – Washington, D.C.

February

- 8 – Peru CVD investigation on U.S. corn imports essential facts issued
- 10 - 2019 NAEGA Membership Dues and Fees payments due
- 21-22 – USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum – Arlington, VA

March

- 5-7 – Canadian Crops Convention – Montreal, Canada
- 11-14 – USDA FAS Trade Mission – Taipei, Taiwan
- 13 – IGTC Management Council Meeting
- 14 – IGC Market Conditions Committee Meeting – London, UK
- 17-19 – NGFA Annual Convention – Amelia Island, FL
- 18 – NAEGA Annual Meeting
- 25 – Peru CVD investigation on U.S. corn imports definitive resolution issued

April

- 1-5 – IPPC Committee on Phytosanitary Measures Meeting – Rome, Italy
- 2-5 – USDA FAS Trade Mission – Montreal and Toronto, Canada

June

- 3-6 - USDA FAS Trade Mission – Bogota, Colombia
- 10 – International Grains Council’s 49th Session
- 10 – IGTC Strategy Session – London, UK
- 11-12 – 28th IGC Grains Conference

September

- 6 – IGC Market Conditions Committee – London, UK

October

- 14-17 – USDA FAS Trade Mission – Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 28-31 – USDA FAS Trade Mission - Nairobi, Kenya

November

5-8 - USDA FAS Trade Mission – Mexico City, Mexico

December

2-4 – NGFA Country Elevator Conference – Indianapolis, IN

3 – International Grains Council’s 50th Session – London, UK

2020

March

8-10 – NGFA Annual Convention – Austin, TX

December

TBC – COP 15 – CBD – Beijing, China

2021

March

14-16 – NGFA Annual Convention – San Diego, CA

2022

December

TBC – COP 16 – CBD – Turkey

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