

Outreach October 23, 2018

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Image of the Week

IPPC ePhyto Solution

IGTC is currently working closely with the IPPC to develop an hub for the electronic exchange of phytosanitary certificates. Learn how the hub works below

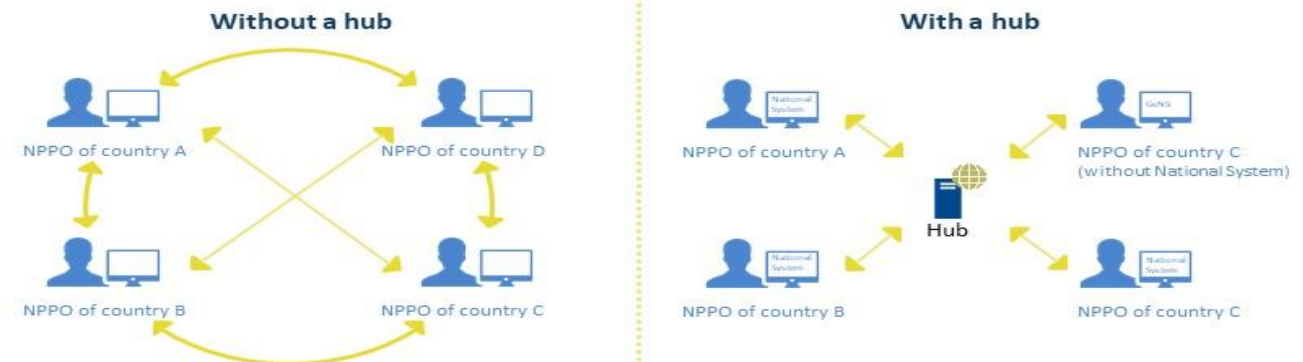
Understanding the ePhyto Solution

ePhyto Solution: Allows Contracting Parties with or without a national electronic certificate system to exchange ePhytos through a single point, using the global hub and GeNS

Global hub: Centralized system to facilitate exchange of ePhytos between national plant protection organizations (NPPOs)

Generic ePhyto National System (GeNS): Web-based system that allows countries without their own systems to use ePhytos in XML format and exchange via the hub

The ePhyto Solution in action



Countries need to establish separate bilateral arrangements with each country they trade with

Any new country connecting to the hub can exchange certificates with all other connected countries
Countries without their own system can use GeNS to participate

Benefits of a global hub



Increased efficiency

- Reduced time in NPPO data entry
- Faster arrival & clearance of plants & plant products
- Reduced delays in receiving replacement certificates when needed



Increased security

- Reduced potential for fraudulent certification
- Improved security in transmissions



Growth potential

- Reduced development costs by using existing system
- Increased ease of entry for new participants
- Potential link with World Customs Organization "Single Window" initiative

Action Reports

Recent Actions:

- Contracts and Best Practices Seminar
- NGFA-NAEGA Regional Industry Workshop
- U.S. Food & Agriculture Dialogue for Trade
- IGTC Meeting with ISF

Upcoming Actions

- **MEMBER FEEDBACK NEEDED: U.S. FGIS soybean, corn and canola standards**
- USAEDC Conference – Baltimore, MD – November 14-16
- COPMOP – Sharm El Sheikh – November 17-26
- IGC MCC Meetings – Paris, France – December 3-5

Pending Actions

- Korea MRLs
- Codex SPS Standard-Setting Activities
- U.S. National Trade Estimate Report

Member Opportunities

- U.S. Barge Trade Digitization Project Workshop
- U.S. APHIS' BRS Annual Stakeholder Meeting – November 7
- Annual Hwy H₂O Conference – Toronto, Canada – November 13-15
- Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Tokyo, Japan – November 30
- RCC Stakeholder Forum – Washington, D.C. – December 4-5
- Board of Directors Meeting - Miami, FL – January 29, 2019
- NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams
- Internship Open with NAEGA

News:

- Vietnam Announces Temporary Suspension of November 1 Deadline for ReExport of Grain for Canada (creeping) Thistle
- Canadian Plant Health Council Launched

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming events and notices to members

Action Reports

Recent Actions:

Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Portland

Thank you to all who joined us in Portland, OR for a NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar on Monday, October 15. During the seminar, participants received an in-depth review of the global contracting and dispute resolution environment, including an update on the new NAEGA 2 Model Contract with NAEGA Senior Advisor Sam Bonilla. The seminar also featured interactive activities including a mock arbitration.

NAEGA will hold its next Contracts and Best Practices Seminar on November 30 in Tokyo, Japan.

NGFA-NAEGA Regional Industry Workshop

On Tuesday, October 16 NAEGA, in conjunction with the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) held a PNW Regional Industry Workshop at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, OR. The workshop featured participation from NAEGA member representatives and stakeholders from the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Federal Grain Inspection Service and Washington State Department of Agriculture. Federal and state government attendees included: Attendees included: Dana Coale, Acting Deputy Administrator, FGIS; Denise Ruggles, Executive Program Analyst, FGIS; Lee Capper, Chief Innovation Officer; Karen Guagliardo, Director, Quality Assurance and Compliance Division, FGIS; Sophie Parker, Deputy Director, Quality Assurance and Compliance Division, FGIS; Tom Weber, Chief, Analytical Chemistry Branch (Technology and Science Division), FGIS; Andy Ping, Portland Field Office Manager, FGIS; Robert Arnhold, Portland Assistant Manager, FGIS; Randy Deike, Olympia Federal/State Manager, FGIS; Scott Cooley, Olympia Assistant Federal/State Manager and Quality Assurance Specialist, FGIS; Tony Goodeman, Acting Director, Field Management Division, FGIS; Vance Lubbe, WSDA. Discussion included port and cybersecurity, the recent [Grain Inspection Advisory Committee meeting and recommendations and phytosanitary e-certification](#), as well as local and regional issues including falling number in wheat. George Galasso of APHIS also called in to update on APHIS actions and plans regarding Vietnam's approach to Canada Thistle (see news report above) and "[Systems Approach](#)".

U.S. Food & Agriculture Dialogue for Trade

On Thursday, October 18 Gary Martin co-chaired a meeting of the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade at the American Farm Bureau Federation. Dialogue guests Kelly Ann Shaw, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for International Trade and Tim Pataki, Special Assistant to the President for the Office of Public Liaison provided an overview of the Trump Administration's trade priorities, including new trade initiatives with the EU, Japan and the United Kingdom.

The Dialogue plans to meet next on November 20.

IGTC Meeting with the ISF

On October 19-20 Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat, and Randy Gordon, NAEGA Volunteer, travelled to Berlin, Germany to participate in a meeting between the IGTC and the International Seed Federation (ISF). During the meeting, the IGTC and ISF discussed information sharing on plant breeding innovation for the benefit of the entire agri-food value chain, including consumers. The

IGTC provided evidence to demonstrate the importance of advance consultation, open dialogue and exchange of information between entities engaged in developing and implementing gene edited traits in grain production, including grain producers, handlers, exporters and importers, and the food and feed and processing sectors.

A trip report for this meeting will be available in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Actions:

U.S. FGIS soybean, corn and canola standards

The NAEGA Grades and Inspections Committee is coordinating with the National Grain and Feed Association's Grades and Weights Committee to respond to U.S. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) request for public comment on current Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) standards for canola, corn and soybeans as follows:

- [Request for comments on canola standards can be found here.](#)
- [Request for comments on corn standards can be found here.](#)
- [Request for comments on soybean standards can be found here.](#)

Responses to all three requests are due **December 3, 2018.**

The Agency reports that the purpose of these requests for comments is to ensure that standards and official grading practices remain relevant and effective. While the standards and grading practices for all three commodities are relevant to NAEGA interests the soybean standards likely will need and attract the most attention given the ongoing issues with China, and in particular the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's inappropriate use of FM (a grain quality factor) on phytosanitary certificates (reserved for plant disease or plant pest matters). We anticipate that soybean producer and marketing organizations will focus heavily on the definition and measurement of foreign material in the U.S. soybean standards. There also may be consideration given to changing soybean FM to differentiate and account for soybean pieces and hulls, thereby more closely mirroring the BCFM factor in the corn standards.

Please let us know your views.

USAEDC Conference – Baltimore, MD – November 14-16

On November 14-16 Ryan Olson, NAEGA Director of Operations, will travel to Baltimore, MD to participate in the U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council's (USAEDC) annual conference. A copy of the agenda for this conference will be shared when it is available. While in Baltimore, Ryan will also represent NAEGA and participate in the USAEDC's biannual Board of Directors meeting.

COP-MOP – Sharm El Sheikh – November 17-26

On November 17-26 Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat, will travel to Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt to join and IGTC delegation participating in the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Biosafety Protocol (COP-MOP). While in Egypt, Katy will

represent and communicate IGTC policy files on production technology before member governments and participating organizations.

IGC MCC Meetings – Paris, France – December 3-5

On December 3-5 Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat and Gary Martin, NAEGA President and CEO and President of the IGTC, will travel to Paris, France to participate in the International Grains Council's 48th Session. In Paris, relevant industry bodies such as IGTC, observers and the IGC's 55 government representatives will be in attendance. IGTC will give a presentation on current trade policy and practices during the general session. Along with the general session, Ms. Lee and Mr. Martin will also attend the IGC's Market Conditions Committee (MCC) meeting.

Pending Actions:

Korea MRLs

South Korea's Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) has published a SECOND draft list of temporary MRLs on October 19, 2018. Please note that this is still a draft and that MFDS is collecting comments. We expect a final list of MRLs to be published by Korea in mid-November which will contain MRLs from both this second list and the list published on October 12, 2018. The ultimate temporary maximum residue limits (MRLs) are scheduled to effective before the end of this year and maintained through the end of 2021. The final MRL list is expected to be released in mid-November.

A copy of the lists can be found below:

- [First draft MRL list](#)
- [Second draft MRL list](#)

Please review these lists and send comments for NAEGA to convey by October 30, 2018

Codex SPS Standard-Setting Activities

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](#).

U.S. National Trade Estimate Report

NAEGA members are invited to participate in comments to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) regarding the publication of the annual National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers (NTE Report). USTR is requesting written comments to assist them in identifying significant barriers to U.S. exports of goods and services, U.S. foreign direct investment, and the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights for inclusion in the NTE Report. USTR will also consider responses to this notice as part of the annual review of the operation and effectiveness of all U.S. trade agreements regarding telecommunications products and services that are in force with respect to the United States.

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

Comments should be submitted through regulations.gov. The deadline to submit comments is **October 30, 2018**.

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Member Opportunities:

U.S. Barge Trade Digitization Project Workshop

NGFA is convening a workshop this week in St. Louis to help determine next steps, including developing a prototype and establishing a project timeline for a new digital data exchange system for documents used in Mississippi River barge trade. The NGFA organized task force is seeking input from other industry participants on the core requirements of a new system and any other feedback they should consider. Broad adoption by the industry is critical to achieving the maximum potential cost savings associated with the new system.

All inquiries and feedback are welcome. Please contact Julie Detlefsen (Julie_Detlefsen@cargill.com) or Charlie Delacruz (cdelacruz@ngfa.org) with any questions or comments.

U.S. APHIS' BRS Annual Stakeholder Meeting – November 7

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) will hold its annual stakeholder meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at the USDA Center in Riverdale, MD. This meeting can be attended in-person or virtually. To ensure BRS identifies the full range of interests, BRS is seeking input on topics to be discussed at the meeting. Please submit comments or suggestions on potential topics of interest by October 9, 2018, to BRS.Stakeholders@aphis.usda.gov.

HWY H₂O Conference – Toronto, Canada – November 13-15

NAEGA members are invited to attend the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Authority's HWY H₂O Conference in Toronto, Canada. HWY H₂O is a convergence of industry thought leaders and experienced marine specialists in maritime commerce and shipping focused on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway. This year's conference will focus on technology and innovation as a key component in developing new opportunities, streamlining costs and remaining a competitive logistic system.

Register or find more information about the conference [here](#).

RCC Stakeholder Forum – Washington, D.C. – December 4-5

NAEGA members are invited to attend a meeting of the U.S.- Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council's 2018 Stakeholder Forum on December 4-5 in Washington, D.C. The stakeholder forum will bring together senior regulatory officials, industry, and other interested members of the public from both sides of the border to discuss recent accomplishments and new opportunities for regulatory cooperation. Further information, including location and agenda, can be found [here](#).

Prior to the forum, the U.S. Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) is requesting information and soliciting public input on how the Federal Government, under the auspices of the RCC, may reduce or eliminate unnecessary regulatory differences between the United States and Canada. OIRA also seeks public comment to identify ongoing or emerging areas for which cooperation could reduce the risk of divergence between U.S. and Canadian regulations. The comments submitted in response to the RFI may inform agencies' development of regulatory reform proposals to modify or repeal existing agency requirements to increase efficiency related to economic activity with Canada, reduce or eliminate unnecessary or unjustified regulatory burdens, or simplify regulatory compliance, while continuing to meet agency missions and statutory requirements.

The request for comments can be found [here](#). Please let us know if you are interested in participating. These comments are due on November 8, 2018.

Upcoming Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

With the release of the revised NAEGA 2 contract on March 30, NAEGA has conducted several educational seminars to communicate these revisions and educate on the contract and industry best practices. Our next seminar is:

- November 30 in Tokyo, Japan

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. A general agenda includes:

- Open dialogue on current contracting practices as they relate to trade risks
- A “Road Map” of the NAEGA II Model Contract
- Review of the 2018 revisions to the NAEGA II Model Contract
- Perspectives on the global contracting environment in GAFTA, FOSFA and other contract models and practices
- Case study exercises on:
 - Calculating laytime, dispatch and demurrage.
 - Contract terms.
- Arbitration and other alternatives for dispute resolution.

In addition to the public seminar listed above, NAEGA also conducts company specific private seminars. 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!

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.

NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams

With NAFTA negotiations underway and 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. Teams focused on the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Asia–Pacific Market are already established. The **NAFTA Policy Team** will be heavily engaged over the next three months to support NAEGA work with the U.S. Food and Ag. Dialogue for Trade, The Pacific Northwest Economic Region, the Canada U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Task Group and the NAEGA committees and Board of Directors to address NAFTA. A similar effort will soon start with an **Asia-Pacific Policy Team** that 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 2018 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

Vietnam Announces Temporary Suspension of November 1 Deadline for ReExport of Grain for Canada (creeping) Thistle

On October 17, 2018 Vietnam announced suspension of the November 1 implementation date for a policy of re-exporting any grain (from all origins) in which seeds of Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) are detected. Instead, if Canada thistle is detected in imports, Vietnam will continue to require conditioning or supervised processing. Vietnam stated that it is now reviewing comments from importers and the U.S. and Russia before further action. No timeline has been announced, but USDA APHIS has requested that the suspension continue at least until pest risk discussions with supplying countries are concluded. After which, Vietnam's National Plant Protection Organization's [website states](#) that a two-month notification period will allow importers to make any necessary adjustments to any new announced measures.

Canadian Plant Health Council Launched

On October 12, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), as part of its Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada, launched the Canadian Plant Health Council (CPHC). The CPHC consists of [eleven members](#) from national industry associations, academia, and government and will work to address priorities for the plant health sector, with the goal of protecting Canada's agriculture, plants, and forests. In the coming weeks CPHC will be developing the Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada, and will be responsible for prioritizing and delivering plant health-related activities under the strategy and for facilitating cooperation across governments, industry, academia, and other partners.

More information on the CPHC and the Plant and Animal Health Strategy for Canada can be found [here](#).

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Calendar & Member Notices

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

2018

October

30 - USTR Comments for National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers due

31-November 1 – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

November

5-8 – USDA Trade Mission to South Korea

7 – APHIS' BRS Annual Stakeholder Meeting

12-18 – APEC Leaders Summit

13-15 – HWY H₂O Conference – Toronto, Canada

14-16 – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council Conference – Baltimore, MD

17-26 – COP-MOP Meeting – Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

19-23 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

21-22 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

27-29 – IGTC General Assembly 2018 – Beijing, China

30 – NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Tokyo, Japan

December

1 – New Mexican Administration takes office

TBD – U.S. APHIS and China AQSIQ bilateral on soybean phytosanitary requirements

3 – Comments on standards for canola, corn, and soybeans due to U.S. Agricultural Marketing Service

2-4 – NGFA Country Elevator Conference – St. Louis, MO

4 – IGC 40th Session – London, UK

4-5 – U.S.-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council Stakeholder Forum – Washington, D.C.

14 – IGTC Management Council - Virtual

TBD – Biosafety Protocol COP 14 – Egypt

2019

January

9 – Peru CVD investigation on U.S. corn imports evidentiary period ends

15 – USDA Market Facilitation Program applications close

29 – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting - Miami, FL

February

8 – Peru CVD investigation on U.S. corn imports essential facts issues

March

5-7 – Canadian Crops Convention – Montreal, Canada

17-19 – NGFA Annual Convention – Amelia Island, FL

25 – Peru CVD investigation on U.S. corn imports definitive resolution issued

December

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

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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