



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

## **OUTREACH November 25, 2015**

**Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA**

*From all of us at NAEGA, Happy Thanksgiving!*

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- Free Webinar for Safe Food for Canadians Act – December 1 and 3
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- Chapman Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum – Orange, California – March 23 – 24
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## Member Opportunities

### IGC Meeting and Forum – IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Buenos Aires December 1 - December 3

The IGTC looks forward to welcoming members, corporate stakeholders and guests to its grain trade reception, meetings and general assembly next week from December 1-3 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The IGTC will be hosted by the Bolsa de Cereales at Bouchard 454, Planta Baja, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

A reception will take place on December 1 immediately following the International Grain Council/Bolsa de Cereales forum *The Global Context: Challenges and Opportunities of Large Net Exporters*. You can still register for the International Grain Forum by clicking [here](#). The December 2 and 3 meetings will feature a policy strategy session, a roundtable discussion on relevant policy and commercial concerns, an IGTC general assembly, and a stakeholder outreach session.

A draft agenda can be found [here](#). Please RSVP to the events at the links below.

#### IGTC Reception:

December 1

Bolsa de Cereales

18:30-20:30

[Register Now](#)

#### IGTC Policy Meetings and General Assembly:

December 2

Bolsa de Cereales

09:00-17:00

December 3

Bolsa de Cereales

11:00-13:00

[Register Now](#)

#### IGTC Corporate Stakeholders Outreach Session:

December 3

Bolsa de Cereales

08:30-11:00

[Register Now](#)

A Notice to Post for this NAEGA related travel can be found [here](#). Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

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### **Free Webinar for Safe Food for Canadians Act – December 1 and 3**

The Canadian Association of Importers and Exports will be hosting a free webinar on December 1 and 3 regarding the Safe Food for Canadians Act. Passed in 2012, the Safe Food for Canadians regulations are expected to take effect in 2016. The purpose of the webinar is to examine the ways in which the act and regulation will affect U.S. companies exporting agri-food products to Canada, as well as those that import such products from Canada to the U.S.

To read more about and register for the webinar, click [here](#).

### **NAEGA Annual Meeting – San Diego – March 13**

NAEGA requests that you please *Save the Date* for its Annual Meeting on Sunday March 13, 2016. The annual meeting will take place at the Hotel de Coronado in San Diego, California. This meeting coincides with the National Grain and Feed Association’s 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, which will run from March 13-15.

More information will be available soon. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

### **Chapman Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum – Orange, California – March 23 – 24**

All NAEGA members are invited to attend Chapman University’s Sixth Annual Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum from March 23-24, 2016. The forum will take place at the university’s campus in Orange, California. The purpose of the forum, which is coordinated along with the USDA and the Joint FAO/IAEA Programme, is to enhance understanding and utilization of irradiation as a method of phytosanitary treatment to deter invasive pests and increase worldwide trade. Forum topics will include:

- Overview of phytosanitary irradiation including technology, efficacy on invasive pests, effects on quality, consumer acceptance, and global use
- Export markets and opportunities
- US imports, preclearance and Port of Entry programs, recent and upcoming approvals
- Grocery industry success stories

A preliminary agenda is available [here](#). To RSVP for the forum, click [here](#).

### **Seminars and Internships**

**Contract Seminars:** Please click [here](#) for more information on NAEGAs in-depth, interactive education on contract practices.

**Internships:** Information on working for NAEGA as an intern in our Washington, D.C. office 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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## Action Reports

### **GHS and DBTG Meetings in Geneva and London**

NAEGA Senior Advisor/Contractor Jerry Cotter is set to travel to Geneva, Switzerland and London, UK. Jerry will participate in a meeting of the UN’s Globally Harmonized System (GHS) subcommittee. Ongoing discussions about the classification of grain at the UN’s GHS Subcommittee are the focus of the Geneva meetings. In London, Jerry will continue his service on the Executive Committee of the International Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG). The DBTG, is working with NAEGA and the International Grain Trade Coalition to press back on efforts to classify grain as a hazardous and explosive material at the UN GHS subcommittee. DBTG is also addressing related actions by the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) Committee on Cargoes and Containers (CCC).

A copy of Jerry’s Notice to Post can be found [here](#).

### **U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade**

U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT) concluded a session on Monday. Discussions about agriculture biotechnology continued and tried to move forward from similar discussions during the September China U.S. Strategic Agricultural Innovation Dialogue. At the JCCT meeting the U.S. and China again agreed to work cooperatively on agricultural innovation, including developing information exchanges, sharing best practices, and improving transparency and input into regulatory processes.

Prior to the JCCT, NAEGA joined in a U.S. Biotech Crop Alliance (USBCA) letter encouraging the U.S. government to follow up on a number of short-term commitments made by China during the JCCT and emphasized the vital need for China to establish a predictable procedure for biotechnology approvals.

The full text of the USBCA letter can be found [here](#). For more information on the JCCT, please click [here](#).

### **USAEDC Annual Conference**

On November 16-19, NAEGA Director of Operations Ryan Olson attended the annual conference of the U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council in Baltimore, MD. The conference included overview of current Market Access Program policies and procedures, ongoing USDA programs and speeches and presentations by USDA leadership and invited guests. In particular, USDA Deputy Under-Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services gave a department update, including insights into TTIP negotiations and U.S. Government positions ahead of the WTO Ministerial in December.

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A copy of notes from the USAEDC meeting can be found [here](#). For more information, please contact Ryan.

### **New NAEGA Member Directory**

An updated version of the NAEGA Member Directory is available. Thank you to all who helped contribute to updates and changes! This directory is a living document, so please let Ryan know if you have any additions or edits that need to be made. A copy will also be available to members on the “Members Only” section of the website.

A copy of the new directory can be found [here](#).

### **Future Actions**

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

#### **2015**

**APHIS Letter to Vietnam on Infestation of Warehouse Beetle:** The U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has responded to Vietnam’s national plant protection agency regarding Vietnam’s notice of warehouse beetles in a shipment of DDGs from the U.S. The APHIS letter requests that Vietnam not suspend imports of DDGs and instead allow fumigation of infested shipments while the agency conducts trace-back investigations.

As this situation develops, NAEGA welcomes your questions and advice. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions or comments.

**Peru’s Draft MRL Standards:** The USDA Foreign Agriculture Service is requesting comments on Peru’s draft MRL standards filed at the WTO on October 5. While the MRL levels appear to be in harmonization with U.S. levels, NAEGA and USDA welcome any comments from members on these draft rules.

Comments are due to USDA by December 1. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

**Canada’s Draft MRL Standards:** The USDA Foreign Agriculture Service is requesting comments on Canada’s draft MRL standards filed at the WTO on October 19. These MRL standards include draft levels for dried soybeans, legumes, flour, and whole wheat flour. While the MRL levels appear to be in harmonization with U.S. levels, NAEGA and USDA welcome any comments from members on these draft rules.

Comments are due to USDA by December 1. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

**Nonregulated Status Syngenta Corn:** The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has opened up a public comment period on its preliminary decision to extend the nonregulated

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status of Bayer/Genective S.A.VCO-01981-5 and Pioneer’s DP-004114-3 to Syngenta MZHGO. Syngenta’s corn variety has been genetically engineered for resistance to glyphosate using the same mechanism as the Genective variety. Therefore, a no significant impact is sought for the Syngenta variety as well. APHIS will accept public comments until November 27, 2015.

More information on the public comment period can be found [here](#). NAEGA looks forward to hearing member input on this public comment.

***NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on the Members Only Section under their relevant committee pages.***

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## **Information for your Consideration**

### **eManifest Initiative Now Required for all Canada Shipments**

As of July 2015, all shipments to Canada are required to be in compliance with the Canada Border Service Agency’s (CBSA) eManifest Initiative. Businesses are required to register with CBSA, create an eManifest account, and furnish specific shipping documents. Additionally, electronic transmission of cargo and conveyance information CBSA via eManifest is required before a shipment arrives at the Canadian border.

More information about the eManifest program and its implications for highway carriers, rail carriers, and freight forwarders/importers can be found [here](#).

### **Baltic Dry Index Reaches Record Low**

The Baltic Dry Index, a metric for commodity shipping rates, fell to a record low of 504 points on November 19, a 2.9 percent decline on the day. China’s stagnant economic growth has been cited as one of the reasons for the continued decrease in rates. Prior to this figure, the Index also reached a 29-year low in February 2015 when it dropped to 590 points, and has decreased 95.5 percent from its apex in 2008.

To read more about the record-setting statistic, click [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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**Calendar & Member Notices**

**2015**

**December**

**Dec. 1** - Buenos Aires, Argentina - International Grain Council (IGC) meeting and Forum Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend. To register, click [here](#).

**2- 3** – Buenos Aires, Argentina – IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend. ALL NAEGA members / IGTC Corporate Stakeholders welcome! To register, click [here](#).

**1 and 3** – Free Webinar for Safe Food for Canadians Act

**9-11** – Geneva, Switzerland – Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Subcommittee meeting. Jerry Cotter attending

**15-18** – Nairobi, Kenya – Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference. For more information, click [here](#).

**2016**

**January**

**11-14** Washington, D.C. – Transportation Research Board (TRB) Agricultural Transportation Committee Annual Meeting. Gary Martin will present on multiple freight transportation modes related to the U.S. grain industry.

**March**

**13** – San Diego, California – NAEGA Annual Meeting

**23-24** – Orange, California – Chapman Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum

**April**

**14** – Winnipeg, Canada – Tentative IGTC Meeting

**June**

**14** – London, UK – IGC Grains Conference

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