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Member Opportunities

IGTC WTO Event – November 10

All NAEGA members are invited to attend a special event hosted by the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) entitled *The Grain Trade's Contribution to Global Food Security and Economic Development*. The event will take place in Geneva, Switzerland at the WTO Room S2 on November 10 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

If you are interested in attending this event or would like more information please contact Acting IGTC Secretariat Katy Lee at secretariat@igtglobal.org.

APHIS Biotech Stakeholders Meeting – November 16

Please “save the date” for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Biotechnology Regulatory Service (BRS) annual stakeholder meeting (virtually and in-person) on Wednesday, November 16. The in-person meeting will take place at the USDA Center at Riverside at 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD.

Additional information and registration will be available in the coming weeks. Please visit the [APHIS website](#) for information on past stakeholder meetings.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

On October 20 in Portland, Oregon NAEGA conducted a Contracts and Best Practices Seminar. The general program incorporated current practices and commercial experience of interest to the entire trade. Thanks to all who attended!

Please let us know if you are interested in attending or hosting a NAEGA Seminar! Click [here](#) for more information the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!.

Internships

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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Action Reports

Recent Actions:

NAPPO Annual Meeting

On October 31-November 1 NAEGA Senior Advisor Arvid Hawk attended the North American Plant Protection Organization’s Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec. Arvid stepped in at the NAPPO meetings for NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin, who canceled his trip at the last

moment due to pressing developments from the Korea Customs Service regarding Country of Origin requirements.

During the NAPPO Annual meetings, APPAMEX, the U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and its Mexican counterpart SENASICA met and held discussions concerning the proposed use of risk-based sampling to resolve the ongoing detection of small amounts of soil in some shipments of soybeans. Use of a risk based sampling method would not require a change in Mexican law and so could be implemented rapidly. SENASICA authorities have agreed to run a pilot study, however no timeline was provided.

During the meeting, the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) also has produced and delivered a method of testing for sand/soil in soybeans. The method includes a tolerance of 5 peds not to exceed 0.1 % by weight. NAEGA, in partnership with APHIS, is currently reviewing the FGIS proposal particularly as it related to weight.

For more information on the Mexican soil issue, please visit the Members Only section of the NAEGA website at www.NAEGA.org. Please contact Gary or Ryan if you have any questions.

Production Technology Committee Meeting

On Friday, November 10 the NAEGA Production Technology Committee met to discuss NAEGA's future participation and interaction with the U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance (USBCA). The meeting was held prior to a meeting of the USBCA Board of Directors, which NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin sits on, and following the USBCA's Technology Meeting. During the Committee meeting, members discussed NAEGA's relationship with the USBCA and its members, efforts to reach out to producer groups, and attempts to promote "trade accommodation" policies within the USBCA. Ultimately, the Committee chose to maintain NAEGA membership in the USBCA, but advocate for reduced membership fees considering the suspension of the USBCA's Domestic Working Group (DWG).

A copy of the Committee minutes will be available soon. For more information, please contact Gary or Ryan.

Contracts Committee Meeting

On November 4, the NAEGA Contracts Committee held a virtual meeting to discuss proposed changes to the NAEGA No. 2 Model Contract. This working meeting was the first of a series of virtual meetings to continue the clause by clause review of the NAEGA contract, a process that started during the last meeting held in Portland, Oregon on October 19. During the meeting, the committee made progress on reconciling proposed changes suggested both by the committee and other NAEGA members.

A copy of the committee's minutes will be available soon. For more information on the committee meeting or changes to the NAEGA No. 2 Contract, please contact Gary or Ryan.

Joint Statement on Coordinated Framework for Regulation of Biotechnology

On November 4, NAEGA along with the Corn Refiners Association (CRA), National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA), and North American Millers' Association (NAMA) signed a joint statement to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy regarding the clarification of current roles and responsibilities described in the Coordinated Framework for the Regulation of Biotechnology. The letter raises issues related to the marketability and current lack of international regulatory coherence regarding the premarket regulatory review of crops produced through modern biotechnology, and the negative impact those factors have in facilitating access to U.S. crops.

A copy of the letter is available [here](#). For more information, please contact Gary or Ryan.

IGTC Newsletter

The newest edition of the IGTC Newsletter is now available! This week's newsletter includes an update on IGTC's position on Article 17 of the Cartagena Protocol, a report from Marcel's travel to the ISF meetings in Bordeaux and information on the IGTCs meetings and General Assembly this week. A copy of the newsletter can be found on the IGTC intranet at www.igtglobal.org or by clicking [here](#).

Future Actions:

IPPC E-Phyto Project – November 11

On November 11 NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin, who is also president of the IGTC, will travel to Brussels, Belgium to participate in a meeting of the International Plant Protection Convention's (IPPC) ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG) on November 11. During the meeting Gary, will represent the IGTC as a member of the IAG. A copy of the agenda for the IPPC ePhyto IAG is available [here](#). A copy of the Notice to Post for this Travel is available [here](#).

Your input and questions are welcome! Please contact Gary to discuss.

USAEDC Annual Workshop – November 15-16

On November 15-16 NAEGA Director of Operations Ryan Olson will travel to Baltimore, MD to participate in the [U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council's \(USAEDC\)](#) annual workshop at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The USAEDC annual workshop includes presentations by U.S. government officials, including APHIS and USDA FAS, and industry stakeholders on issues including: U.S. relations with Cuba, public-private partnerships, the proliferation of MRLs and agribusiness trading missions.

A copy of the agenda is available [here](#). For more information please contact Ryan.

2nd Annual World Grain Forum – November 18-19

On November 18-19 NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin will travel to Sochi, Russia to present at the 2nd Annual World Grain Forum. Gary was invited to present on *Global View of Key Dynamics in Policy and Commerce for Grains, Oilseeds and other Agri-bulks* by the Russian Grain Union (RGU). A copy of the preliminary agenda for the World Grain Forum can be found [here](#). A notice to post for this travel will be available soon.

Please contact Gary or Ryan for more information.

GHS Subcommittee Meeting – December 7-9

On December 6-9, 2016 NAEGA volunteer Jess McCluer, who serves as the National Grain and Feed Association's (NGFA) Vice President for Safety and Regulatory Affairs, will travel to Geneva, Switzerland to participate in a meeting of the [United Nation's \(UN\) Globally Harmonized System \(GHS\) Subcommittee of Experts on the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals](#). A copy of the preliminary agenda for the Subcommittee meeting and a notice to post for this upcoming mission will be available soon.

Please contact Gary or Ryan for more information or if you would like to contribute to this mission.

Pending Actions:

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

CFTC Supplement to Position Limits Rule

On May 26, the Commodities and Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced that it will issue for public comment a supplement to its position limits proposal. The proposal will modify the procedures for those seeking exemptions from speculative position limits for non-enumerated bona fide hedging. The supplement would provide a new process for exchanges to recognize certain positions in commodity derivative contracts as non-enumerated bona fide hedges or enumerated anticipatory bona fide hedges, as well as to exempt from federal position limits certain spread positions, in each case subject to CFTC review.

Comments on the supplemental may be submitted electronically through the CFTC's website. If you are interested in contributing to comments on the supplemental, please contact Gary or Ryan. For more information, click [here](#).

EU Environmental Footprint Pilot

At the end of July, the European Commission launched its public consultations on Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for feed, food and drink products. The PEFCR is a pilot project to develop an approach to calculate the environmental footprint of different products with the goal of measuring environmental performance of products for future policy making. The PEFCR is an effort to measure and communicate the EU's environmental goals under its *Building the Single Market for Green Products Initiative*.

The EC has developed draft PEFCRs for each product under consultation from product secretariats formed by representatives of trade associations, companies and supply chain experts. The draft PEFCRs developed by the secretariats are now available for public consultation and comment. The comment period will be open until the first quarter of 2017.

More information on contributing to comments on the draft PEFCRs can be found [here](#). If you are interested in contributing comments to the draft PEFCRs please contact Gary or Ryan.

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In the News

New Q&A Document on Food Facility Registration

On November 8, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released an updated Q&A document on food facility registration requirements. Facilities that are required to register must do so online, via mail, or by fax by December 31. Failure to register will result in imports being held at the port of entry until the facilities have been registered. Facilities may also be registered by a third party. The new updated guidance draft consists of 15 sections with new information on food facility registration from the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and will accept comments through February 6, 2017.

For more information please 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

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

2016

November

10 – IGTC WTO Side Event “The Grain Trade’s Contribution to Global Food Security and Economic Development” – Geneva, Switzerland – 1:00-4:00pm local time

10 – IPPC ePhyto Industry Advisory Group, Brussels, Belgium

14-17 – USAEDC Annual Workshop – Baltimore, MD

16 – APHIS Biotech Stakeholders Meeting – Riverdale, MD

18-19 – 2nd World Grain Forum – Sochi, Russia, Gary Presenting and Moderating. A notice to post for this travel will be available soon.

December

4-17 – COP-MOP Meetings to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols – Cancun, Mexico

7-9 – UN GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland – Cotter Attending.

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

2017

March

TBD – Global Low Level Presence (LLP) meeting

19-21 – NAEGA Annual Meeting at the NGFA Annual Convention – New Orleans, LA

April

5-11 – IPPC CPM-12 – Incheon, South Korea

10-12 – Canadian Global Crops Symposium – Alberta, Canada

June

6 – IGC Annual Conference – London, UK

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

September

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

December

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

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