



Outreach

December 19, 2017

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Happy Holidays!

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year from all of us at NAEGA. Your support and engagement during 2017 has led to a successful year filled with many accomplishments.

NAEGA will be closed for the Holiday Season from December 25-January 2. During this time you can reach us by email or by leaving us a voicemail at 202-682-4030

Member Opportunities

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Member Opportunities

CMC State of the Industry 2018 – Miami, FL – January 28-30

NAEGA member personnel are invited to join the NAEGA Board of Directors at the Commodity Markets Council's State of the Industry 2018 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. Governor of Nebraska Pete Ricketts will join the conference as the keynote speaker. A copy of the draft agenda can be found [here](#). [Please click here if you would like to register.](#)

NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL – January 30

Please "save the date" for the next meeting of the NAEGA Board of Directors on January 28-30 in Miami, FL. The Board is planning to meet the afternoon of January 30 right after and in conjunction with the Commodity Market Council's State of the Industry 2018 Conference at The Miami Beach Edition Hotel. More information, and a preliminary agenda, will be available soon.

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.

Please contact [Ryan](#) if you have any questions or are interested in participating in NAEGA's ad hoc policy teams.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

NAEGA is beginning to plan seminars for 2018! Let us know where we should hold 2018 Seminars and what topics you would like us to cover. NAEGA also conducts company specific private seminars. Please let us know if you are interested attending or hosting a NAEGA seminar. Click [here](#) for more information the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Internships

We have an open intern position starting January 2017 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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Action Reports

Recent Actions:

APHIS Directive on Soybean Shipments to China

The U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is implementing a new directive regarding all exports of soybeans to China ([a copy of the directive can be found here](#)). The directive applies to all exports of soybeans from the U.S. to be imported into China that need a phyto-sanitary certificate (APHIS Form 691) AND is the first step in the “system approach” for which APHIS and USDA will be providing more details soon. One aspect of the “system approach” is that China AQSIQ may require some actions like preventing weed seed exposure to the environment, denaturing or cleaning of weed seeds from shipments for which the Form 691 remarks section indicates “This consignment exceeds 1% FM.” The “systems approach” will be implemented in agreement with China’s AQSIQ that assures that no shipments of U.S. soybeans will be rejected because of a weed seed content or foreign material.

For the next two years, no shipments of U.S. soybeans will be rejected because of a weed seed content or foreign material and that the response will be monitored for 2 years before any additional action is taken.

ACTION: We have explained to APHIS that Phytosanitary Certification Change for Soybean Shipments Going to China potentially cuts across contracts and, if necessary, should be taken at the beginning of a crop year with advance notice before the growing season. We have also indicated that if they must deploy during this marketing year a minimum of 3 month grace period is needed to accommodate any potential contractual changes.

High-Level Steering Group Meeting

The U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade High-Level Steering Group held a successful meeting with Tiger Minsok Chu, President of the Korea International Trade Association. The Steering Group discussed with Mr. Chu cooperative efforts that U.S. and Korean industry can take to support bilateral trade and potential pending renegotiation of the Korean-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. During the meeting Mr. Chu expressed his support for the bilateral relationship and his hope that growing trade and investment ties between the United States and Korea will not be damaged in any upcoming talks.

Pending Actions:

U.S. APHIS Consultations on IPPC Activities

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is accepting consultations on three draft specifications and 13 draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Draft Specifications:

- [Revision of ISPM 12](#)
- [Audit of phytosanitary context](#)
- [Supplement to ISPM 11](#)

Draft ISMPs:

- [2017 Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)
- [International movement of cut flowers and foliage](#)
- [Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Bactrocera dorsalis complex](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Conotrachelus nenuphar](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Ips spp](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Xylella fastidiosa](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Puccinia psidii](#)
- [Revision of Diagnostic Protocol: Plus pox virus](#)
- [Revision of ISPM 6: Surveillance](#)
- [Requirements for the use of temperature treatments as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Draft revision of Annexes 1 & 2 to ISPM15](#)
- [Draft 2015 and 2016 amendments to ISPM 5 Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)

Please contact Gary or Ryan if you are interested in contributing to any of these comments.

CFIA Consultations for Canada-U.S. RCC

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is seeking input from stakeholders for the development of new cooperation opportunities and prioritization of existing initiatives under the Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC). The purpose of this consultation is to provide an additional mechanism to seek stakeholder feedback on the prioritization of work plan initiatives currently being pursued between the CFIA and its U.S. regulatory counterparts, and to solicit input on potential opportunities for the future. There is no firm deadline for completion of this consultation. However, CFIA's tentative timeframe for collecting input is by fall of this year. Input [can be submitted at this link](#).

Canada – U.S. RCC Request for Stakeholder Comments

NAEGA is seeking member input on the Government of Canada's call for [suggestions for regulatory cooperation that supports participation in the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council \(RCC\)](#). Canadians, businesses, and stakeholders have been encouraged to submit suggestions for regulatory reconciliation and cooperation items for federal consideration.

Suggestions for regulatory reconciliation should focus on existing federal regulations that act as a barrier to trade, investment, or labor mobility between Canada and the U.S. Suggestions for regulatory cooperation should highlight areas where governments could cooperate in the development of future regulations, in order to facilitate innovation, competition, and growth in emerging industries, technologies and sectors.

If you are interested in contributing to NAEGA comments on the RCC please contact Gary or Ryan. Comments are due by January 8, 2018.

U.S. ITA Request for Advisory Committee Nominations

The International Trade Administration is requesting nominations for the Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness. The Committee advises the Secretary of Commerce on the necessary elements of a comprehensive policy approach to supply chain competitiveness designed to support U.S. supply chains for goods and services in the domestic and global economy, and provides advice to the Secretary on regulatory policies and programs and investment priorities that affect the competitiveness of U.S. supply chains.

Applications must be received before 5:00pm on January 12, 2018. See the Federal Register posting [here](#).

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In the News

Intersessional Round of NAFTA Negotiations

Representatives from Canada, the United States, and Mexico met in Washington D.C. this week to try to make progress on less contentious chapters of NAFTA after last month's Mexico City Round failed to resolve major differences. This week's meeting was meant to discuss and solve technical issues within areas deemed as non-controversial between the three parties. Talks are expected to continue in late January in Montreal where negotiators will try to make progress in order to wrap up discussions by the self-imposed March deadline.

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

2018

January

- 18** – Annual Grain Sector Meeting with U.S. APHIS Administrator
- 22-26** – IPPC Global ePhyto Symposium – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 25-26** – Paris Grain Day 2018 – Paris, France
- 28-30** – Commodity Markets Council State of the Industry – Miami, FL
- 30** – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL
- 30** – IGTC Management Council - Virtual

February

21-22 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

28 – IGTC MRL Policy Team Call - Virtual

28-March 1 – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

March

14 – IGTC Management Council - Virtual

18-20 – NGFA Annual Convention – Scottsdale, Arizona

18-20 – NAEGA Annual Meetings – Scottsdale, Arizona

26-28 – Canadian Global Crops Symposium – Toronto, Canada

April

16-20 – IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-13) – Rome, Italy

May

14-18 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

June

6-7 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

18-20 IGTC Strategy Session – London, UK

19 – 27th IGC Grains Conference – London, UK

19 – 2018 Gafta London Dinner – London, UK

July

1-September 30 – IPPC ISPM Consultation - Virtual

11-12 – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

August

1-2 – Australian Grains Industry Conference – Melbourne, Australia

September

4-7 – IGTC and Gafta Seminars – Washington, D.C.

10 – USSEC Annual Event – Mid-West, U.S.A.

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

26-27 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

October

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

November

19-23 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

21-22 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

TBC – COP 14 – CBD and COP-MOP 9 - Egypt

December

14 – IGTC Management Council - Virtual

TBD – Biosafety Protocol COP 14 – Egypt

2020

December

TBC – COP 15 – CBD – Beijing, China

2022

December

TBC – COP 16 – CBD - Turkey

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