



"Working Together to Make Trade Work"

OUTREACH March 30, 2015

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Member Opportunities

- APHIS Conference Call - March 31, 2015
- NAEGA Contract Seminars - Now Setting Schedule for 2015
- Canadian Global Crops Symposium and Canada Grains Council Annual meeting - April 13-15 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- London, England - International Grain Trade Coalition and International Grains Council – June 8 and 9, 2015
- Big Sky, Montana – PNWER Annual Summit – July 12-16, 2015

Action Reports:

- Chinese Vessel Comparison Study
- Japanese MRL Notice
- Official FGIS Inspection & Weighing Service in Texas
- NAEGA MAP Reports – China, Rome, and Competiveness Survey
- TPP Coalition

Information for your consideration

- Congressional Testimony on COOL

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

Member Opportunities

APHIS Conference Call, March 31, 2015

NAEGA is hosting a conference call with USDA APHIS on Tuesday, March 31st at 3:00pm Eastern, 2:00pm Central, 12:00pm Pacific. If you plan to call in, please RSVP by clicking [here](#). The agenda is open to revision but will include:

1. Phyto-sanitary E-Certification
2. Canada - D-12-04, D-12-05 and a pending Canada US Task Group meeting at the Canadian Global Crops Symposium, April 13 to 15, 2015 at the Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
3. Mexico - implementation of soil related requirements on US imports.
4. China - including APHIS-proposed grain impurity project with China.

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5. Western Port Slowdown - APHIS messaging to foreign national plant protection organizations regarding port slowdown.
6. Egypt - next steps on Egypt's Ambrosia policy.

NAEGA Contract Seminars – Now Setting Schedule for 2015

Please make arrangements and indicate your interest in hosting and attending upcoming NAEGA seminars!

The NAEGA Contracts Committee is again providing for Seminars to provide in depth and interactive education on contract practices. These Seminars provide for intensive review of current developments and practices in international grain trade contracts focused on the NAEGA II. Other NAEGA services and policy can also be added content for a Seminar that is designed to meet your needs.

NAEGA Senior advisor Sam Bonilla, who is a much sought after instructor for our Seminars, and staffing for Seminars are currently available: **The Week of May 25 • June 1-5, and 16-27 • July 13-31 • August 1-23 • September (all) • October (all) • November 2-13**

When and Where NAEGA Seminars are held is up to YOU! We are open to consider providing for NAEGA Seminars anywhere in the World!

If you have preference on time and location you would like to see a Contract Seminar held, please contact Gary or Kyle as soon as possible.

Canadian Global Crops Symposium – April 13-15

The Canadian Global Crops Symposium is being held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Canada Grains Council on April 13-15 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. For the latest speaker bios and information on our sponsors, check out the website at www.canadiancrops.ca. A Canada-US Grain and Seed Task Group Meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 13 in advance of the Symposium. Gary Martin plans to attend.

London, England - International Grain Trade Coalition and International Grains Council – June 8 and 9, 2015

An IGTC roundtable and policy meeting will be conducted the day before the International Grains Council (IGC) conference on June 9.

The June 8 International Grain Trade Coalition meeting is open to all IGTC Members and Corporate Stakeholders. You, and colleagues are welcomed and encouraged to attend the June 8 IGTC meeting. Please contact Gary or Kyle so we may provide you with related information.

The June 9 IGC Conference requires registration with the International Grain Council. Please contact us if you would like to take advantage of a discounted registration. Click here for more information on the IGC Conference: <http://www.igc.int/en/conference/confhome.aspx>.

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NAEGA Market Access Program funds may be available to fund NAEGA member personnel travel and attendance at the IGTC meeting as well as to the IGC Conference. Please contact Gary of Kyle for additional details.

Big Sky, Montana – PNWER Annual Summit – July 12-16, 2015

The 25th Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit brings together over 500 key business leaders, legislators, and government leaders from the ten PNWER states, provinces, and territories to address the major policy issues impacting the region.

This year’s summit will be held in Big Sky, Montana from July 12-16. [Please click here to register.](#)

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

[Click here to return to Index](#)

Reports on NAEGA Actions

Chinese Vessel Comparison Study

Regarding the Vessel Comparison Study on soybeans conducted last fall, China’s AQSIQ inspection [report](#) for vessels 2 and 3 has recently been made available. USDA GIPSA is currently reviewing the report and finalizing the US team inspection report.

Japanese MRL Notice

Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW)’s Standards and Evaluation Division held its regular monthly meeting on food imports. It is proposing a series of changes including:

1. Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) for Agricultural Chemicals in Food
 - a. Pesticides: Asulam, Benzyladenine, Fluthiacet-methyl, Quizalofop—ethyl & Quizafolop-P-terfuryl, Sedaxane, and Tolprocarb
 - b. Veterinary drug: Triclabendazole
 - c. Pesticide/veterinary drug: Teflubenzuron
2. Amendment of Analytical Method – Clorsulon

In response, NAEGA Senior Advisor, Arvid Hawk, provided [this report](#) and [this set of data](#) explaining that differences in MRL levels should not cause any problems for US exports of grain.

MHLW will also share this notification through the WTO-SPS committee.

Official FGIS Inspection & Weighing Service in Texas

USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) recently announced it did not re-designate Gulf Country Grain Inspection, Inc. to conduct official inspections in certain areas of Texas. FGIS

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stated Gulf Country Grain Inspection Service, Inc. was not re-designated as an official agency because it failed to meet the high standards set by USDA and FGIS, but did not provide any specific reasons why the company lost its designation status.

FGIS will immediately provide inspection and weighing services until another organization is permanently designated. An opportunity for designation will be published in the Federal Register. It is our understanding that Gulf Country will formally appeal the decision.

NAEGA MAP Reports – China, Rome, and Competitiveness Study

NAEGA recently submitted Trip Reports to USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) regarding trips to China and Rome. It also submitted an Activity Report on a study completed on the competitiveness of the US grain inspection services.

The Reports can be found on the [International Programs Committee webpage](#) on the “Members Only” site.

TPP Coalition

NAEGA continues to work with a coalition to support the completion of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). Most recently there was a delegation from the coalition in Hawaii for TPP meetings. At these meetings it was evident that the lack of Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) in the US, which is seen as necessary for TPP to be completed, was a drag on the completion of TPP.

TPA is currently pending in the U.S. Congress and is expected to be voted on in mid to late-April. U.S. President Obama has recently become active in supporting passage of the TPA legislation.

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

2015

Apr. 15 – Comments to US Coast Guard on cyber security: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-17/pdf/2015-03205.pdf>

NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on the Member’s Only Section under their relevant committee pages.

[Click here to return to Index](#)

Information for your Consideration

Congressional Testimony on COOL

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Business and agricultural leaders testified before the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture to speak to the negative effects of country of origin labeling (COOL) for muscle cuts of meat.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) will soon decide whether US COOL requirements are in compliance with international trade obligations. If the US is found to be non-compliant, Canada and Mexico would be authorized to implement billions of dollars' worth of retaliatory tariffs on US food, agricultural and manufactured goods.

The resulting damage to exports will be felt across the US economy, and will greatly exceed the final retaliation amount that the WTO authorizes. A compilation of products likely to be targeted by Canada and Mexico, including corn, wheat and, soybeans, as well as the potential economic impact for each state, can be found on an interactive map at COOLReform.com.

If you would like more information or wish to provide comments on any of these news topics monitored by NAEGA, please contact us.

[Click here to return to Index](#)

NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices

2015

April

6-8 – Kansas City, Missouri – USDA GIPSA Advisory Committee Meeting – National Grain Center (NGC).

10 – Panama – “Summit of the Americas” - <http://cumbredelasamericas.pa/en/>, The Seventh Summit of the Americas, with a focus on “Prosperity with Equity: The Challenge of Cooperation in the Americas”, will be held in Panama City, Panama on April 10 and 11, 2015.

13-15 – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada –and Canadian Global Crops Symposium – For the latest speaker bios and information on our sponsors, check out the website at www.canadiancrops.ca. A Canada US Grain and Seed Task Group Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 13 in advance of the Symposium. Gary Martin plans to attend.

14-17 – Bristol, United Kingdom – International Dry Bulk Terminal Group (DBTG) Annual Operations Meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

May

4-7 – Guadalajara, Mexico – Global LLP Initiative (GLI) – The GLI is a group of countries that have endorsed an [International Statement on Low Level Presence](#) and committed to working collaboratively to develop international approaches to manage LLP. We are assembling a team of NAEGA and IGTC participants for the meeting. Dr. Randal Giroux and Marcel Bruins are

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attending. More industry volunteers are needed to attend this important meeting. Please contact Gary if you would like to join the team!

19 - London, England - Chatham House expert workshop on Chokepoints and Vulnerabilities in the Global Food Trade. This meeting forms part of a Chatham House research project which seeks to map chokepoints, vulnerabilities and disruptive risks onto major production hubs and global trade routes for coarse grains, soybeans and fertilizers. It will identify supply chain nodes – including producing regions, inland transport networks, ports in exporting and importing countries, and maritime corridors – that are particularly exposed to disruption. Jerry Cotter attending and representing NAEGA. Jerry will present on the major challenges facing grain and fertilizer trade in the US, with a particular focus on the resilience and capacity of inland transportation and port infrastructure.

28 – Washington, DC – US Coast Guard Workshop for Alternative Security Program (ASP) sponsoring organizations – 1501 M Street, NW, Suite 500 – Jerry Cotter attending and representing NGFA and NAEGA ASP.

June

2 – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission (ITC) Public Hearing on economic effects of the Cuban embargo.

8 – London, United Kingdom – International Grain Trade Coalition Roundtable and Policy Discussion. All IGTC Members and Corporate Stakeholders are invited and encouraged to participate in person at all sessions. IGTC members and corporate stakeholders are also encouraged to invite prospective IGTC members and Stakeholders to participate. Unless otherwise notified the sessions will all be conducted at: GAFTA office, 9 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP, UK. Please notify Marcel Bruins via email at mbruins1964@gmail.com or Kyle Liske via email at Kliske@naega.org, by telephone +1 202 682 4030 or Fax +1 202 682 4033 of your intentions to attend in person. Gary Martin & Marcel will be at the meeting.

9 – London, United Kingdom – International Grains Council 2015 Conference – 86-90 Park Lane, London W1K 7TN. Gary attending.

9 – Conference Call – GAABT – Outcomes and follow up on GLI.

29 – July 1 – Geneva, Switzerland – UN Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Subcommittee meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

July

10-14 – Tokyo, Japan – IGTC trip to visit Japanese stakeholders – Gary and Marcel attending.

12-16 – Big Sky, Montana – 2015 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit <http://www.pnwer.org/2015summit.html>

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14-15 – U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council (USAEDC) Attaché Seminar – Location TBD.

September

14-18 – London, United Kingdom – International Maritime Organization (IMO) Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC) Meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

30 – October 2 – Vancouver, British Columbia – International Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG) Annual Meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

30 – October 2 – Minneapolis, MN – 10th Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit.

November

16-19 – USADEC Annual Workshop – Location TBD.

17-20 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands – International Genetically Modified Conference on Coexistence (GMCC-15) Conference.

December

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

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