



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

## **OUTREACH June 9, 2014**

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

### **Action Reports:**

- Brazil – NAEGA Hosted Brazilian Millers
- U.S. – USDA FGIS Directive on “Transgenic and Biotechnology Statements for Grain and Graded Commodities”
- World – International Working Group of US Biotech Crops Alliance

### **Member Participation Opportunity:**

- Your Input Needed – USDA APHIS Proposed Fee Increases
- PNWER Agriculture Working Group LLP Discussion – Webinar – June 11, 2014
- Alternative Security Plan Meeting – Kansas City, Missouri – July 28, 2014
- NAEGA September Board of Directors Meeting – Denver, Colorado – September 26, 2014

### **New Issues**

- U.S. – Food for Peace Reform Act Introduced in the Senate
- U.S. – USTR Releases Summary of Trans-Pacific Partnership

### **NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices**

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

## **Reports on NAEGA Actions**

### **Brazil – NAEGA Hosted Brazilian Millers**

In coordination with the U.S. Wheat Associates, NAEGA hosted a group of Brazilian wheat millers. Topics of discussion included U.S. wheat exports to Brazil in 2013, the trade agreement, logistics in U.S. ports, and the future of biotechnology wheat. The team was very interested in continuing and expanded purchases of U.S. for import into Brazil. Among the items they requested more information on was delays in vessel loadings and how to manage F.O.B contracts.

The Japanese Millers Team included:

- Mr. Sergio Chesini, Supply Director, Predileto Alimentos
- Mr. Adriano Campos, Director, Grande Moinho Cearense S.A.
- Mr. Edson Csipai, Manager of Wheat Origination, Bunge Alimentos
- Mr. Antonio Bolzani, Supply Manager, M. Dias Branco

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

- Mr. Irineu Pedrollo, Wheat Supply Manager, J. Macedo S.A.
- Mr. Osvaldo Seco, Assistant Regional Director, USW/Santiago

### **U.S. – USDA FGIS Directive on “Transgenic and Biotechnology Statements for Grain and Graded Commodities”**

Following and incorporating considerable input from NAEGA, USDA FGIS issued [FGIS Directive 9180.67](#), “Letterhead Transgenic and Biotechnology Statements for Grain and Graded Commodities,” dated January 25, 2007. The Directive transmits procedures for obtaining approved letterhead statements, upon request, pertaining to the transgenic status of grain, oilseeds, and graded commodities in U.S. commerce. Within that Directive is a link to the actual [statements](#) currently approved. FGIS periodically amends, adds, or removes approved statements to reflect the current status of commercialization of the commodities to ensure the statements are truthful and not misleading.

A letter from USDA FGIS announcing the updates to the transgenic statements can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact [Anthony Goodeman](#) by email or by phone at (202) 720-0291.

### **World – International Working Group of US Biotech Crops Alliance**

The International Working Group (IWG) of the US Biotech Crops Alliance (USBCA) met at the NGFA/NAEGA office last week to primarily discuss competitive access for U.S. Exports to China. The group produced this [background paper on ag-biotechnology regulations](#) and this [briefing paper](#).

These papers are considered living documents and will continue to be updated by the IWG as circumstances change in China. The papers will likely be used in meetings on Capitol Hill and with the Administration.

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

#### **2014**

**June 24** – Comments to USDA-APHIS on Proposed Rules for 1. Changes to User Fees and Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Services (AQI) and 2. Fee Increases for Overtime Services. A copy of the Federal Register notice for changes to user fees can be found [here](#) and the Federal Register notice for increases for overtime services can be found [here](#).

**July 28** – Comments to U.S. Department of Commerce on a proposal to reinstate the reporting requirements for the BE-13, Survey of New Foreign Direct Investment in the United States, which was discontinued in 2009 due to budget reductions. The Department of Commerce is proposing this action to better measure its efforts through the “Build It Here, Sell It Everywhere” initiative to expand foreign business investment in the U.S.

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

***NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on both the Member’s Only Section under their relevant committee pages and the on the Personal Page’s site. Updates to tracked issues are posted in this section.***

[Click here to return to Index](#)

## **NAEGA Member Participation Opportunity**

### **Your Input Needed – USDA APHIS Proposed Fee Increases**

The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced proposed changes to the fees it charges to recoup the costs of conducting agricultural quarantine inspections (AQI) at U.S. ports of entry and overtime rates worked by APHIS officers. APHIS indicates adjustments are essential for the AQI program to have the financial stability it needs to continue the critical work of keeping U.S. agriculture safe and productive agriculture.

The [proposed AQI fee](#) structure ensures that no one party pays more than the costs of the services they incur. APHIS is proposing to add a \$2 fee per sea passenger to recover costs associated with inspecting cruise vessels and passenger baggage, and to add a \$375 fee to recover the costs of APHIS services for monitoring the application of or providing treatments to imported cargo to minimize pest risks. APHIS also proposes to raise user fees for inspections of commercial trucks with a transponder from \$105 to \$320 a year, and commercial trucks without a transponder from \$5.25 to \$8 per crossing.

APHIS is also concurrently proposing to adjust the hourly rates charged when APHIS employees perform work associated with AQI activities on Sundays, holidays or other after-hours periods so APHIS can recover the true cost of providing the services. The overtime rates would be raised commensurate with the anticipated cost of providing AQI services through 2018. [This proposed rule](#) will also be available for a 60 day comment period. This is the first proposed change to overtime rates since 2002.

A [Questions and Answers](#) factsheet on the AQI Program Cost and Fees has been made available.

### **PNWER Agriculture Working Group LLP Discussion – Webinar – June 11, 2014**

You are invited to participate in a webinar on Wednesday, June 11 at 4:00 Eastern (2:00 MDT) about low level presence (LLP). The webinar will be presented by Mr. Ed Porter, Director of the New Technologies and Production Methods Division at the United States Department of Agriculture’s Foreign Agriculture Service, and Mr. Luis Barnola, Senior Trade Policy Analyst in the Technical Trade Policy Division at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Our guests will present

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. [This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only.](#) The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

on LLP, its relationship to trade and speak to the various U.S. and Canadian initiatives in advancing LLP policy and awareness globally. Below are details needed to participate in the webinar.

To register for the webinar, [click here](#).

### **Alternative Security Plan Meeting – Kansas City – July 28, 2014**

NAEGA-NGFA will host an Alternative Security Plan (ASP) meeting on July 28 from 3:00-5:00pm in Kansas City, MO. This meeting will immediately follow NGFA’s Agroterrorism/Facility Security Committee meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup> and in conjunction with the [FDA Food Defense Workshop](#) on July 29 and the [NGFA/Grain Journal Safety Conference](#) July 29-31.

Please let Kyle Liske know if you plan to attend by emailing [kliske@naega.org](mailto:kliske@naega.org).

### **NAEGA September Board of Directors Meeting – September 26, 2014 – Denver Colorado**

NAEGA’s next Board of Directors meeting will be held on the morning of Friday, September 26, 2014 at CoBank’s offices in Denver, Colorado. The agenda for the meeting is under development. NAEGA Members are encouraged to submit items for the consideration of the Board.

*[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](#)

### **New Issues & Opportunities for NAEGA Consideration**

#### **U.S. – Food for Peace Reform Act Introduced in the Senate**

Senators Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Chris Coons (D-Del.), introduced legislation to reform the U.S. global food assistance program that would free up as much as \$400 million annual through greater efficiencies in delivering aid. The Food for Peace Reform Act of 2014 would transfer current food aid authorities from the Farm Bill into the Foreign Assistance Act and implement reforms such as: Cost-effective procurement; Cargo Flexibility; and Elimination of Monetization.

A copy of the legislative text of the Food for Peace Reform Act of 2014 can be found [here](#) and a press release from Senators Corker and Coons can be found [here](#).

#### **U.S. – USTR Releases Summary of Trans-Pacific Partnership**

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) released a document outlining the United States’ goals and objectives for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the main elements of each chapter from the U.S. perspective. The USTR emphasizes that many of the elements there

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

is still work to be done to achieve them among fellow participants Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.

A copy of the document can be found [here](#), but important highlights include:

### **Trade in Goods**

- Elimination of tariffs and commercially meaningful market access for U.S. products exported to TPP countries
- Provisions that address longstanding non-tariff barriers, including import licensing requirements and other restrictions

### **Customs, Trade Facilitation and Rules of Origin**

- Commitments that will ensure the quick release of goods through customs, expedited procedures for express shipments, advance rulings, and transparent and predictable customs regulations
- Strong customs cooperation commitments to ensure that TPP countries work together to prevent smuggling, illegal transshipment and duty evasion and to guarantee compliance with trade laws and regulations
- Strong and common rules of origin to ensure that the benefits of TPP go to participants and that TPP promotes the development of supply chains in the region

### **Technical Barriers/Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

- Commitments to enhance transparency, reduce unnecessary testing and certification costs, and promote greater openness in standards development
- Commitments aimed at adopting common approaches to regulatory matters related to trade in products in key sectors such as wine and distilled spirits, medical devices, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, information and communication technology, and food formulas
- New and enforceable rules to ensure that science-based SPS measures are developed and implemented in a transparent, predictable and non-discriminatory manner, while at the same time preserving the ability of regulatory agencies to do what they deem necessary to protect food safety and plant and animal health
- Establishment of an ongoing mechanism for improved dialogue and cooperation on addressing SPS and TBT issues

### **Dispute Settlement**

- Establishment of a fair and transparent dispute settlement mechanism that applies across the agreement

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

- Procedures to allow disputes on matters arising under TPP to be settled in a timely and effective manner

## **Japan**

- Enforceable commitments related to the automotive sector that will address a broad range of non-tariff measures, including those related to regulatory transparency, standards, certification, financial incentives and distribution

- Establishment of an accelerated dispute settlement procedure that would apply to the automotive sector that includes a mechanism to “snap back” tariffs as a remedy, as well as a special motor vehicle safeguard

- Meaningful outcomes that address cross-cutting and sectoral non-tariff measures, including in the areas of insurance, transparency, investment, IPR, standards, government procurement, competition policy, express delivery and SPS

*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**

### **2014**

#### **June**

11 – Washington, DC – USTR Amb. Punke and USDA Deputy Under Secretary, Darci Vetter will meet with ag stakeholders to discuss the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Doha Development Agenda (DDA). Gary Martin attending.

11 – Webinar – Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Agriculture Working Group Low Level Presence (LLP) Discussion

16 – Washington, DC -- Codex DON Meeting

23-26 – Mexico City – NAEGA President and CEO, Gary C. Martin, will meet with APPAMEX, governments and other stakeholders regarding Mexico’s phytosanitary measures involving the presence of soil. Also on the agenda are plans for the upcoming APPAMEX – NAEGA Forum (August 21 – 24) and the Biosafety Protocol’s COP MOP (September 29 – October 3) meeting in Korea.

#### **July**

1 – Washington, DC – NAEGA 2013 Market Access Program (MAP) Contribution Report Due

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

**2-4** – Geneva, Switzerland – United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS) meeting discussing explosive dust. Jerry Cotter attending on behalf of NAEGA representing International Bulk Terminals Association (IBTA).

**7** – Geneva, Switzerland – WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Committee Meeting

**9-18** – USA – US Biotech Crops Alliance (USBCA)-US Grain Council (USGC) Sponsored Regulatory & Biosafety Committee Team to the US

**14** – Fortaleza, Brazil – Brazil Russia India China South Africa (BRICS) Summit

**15-16** – Arlington, VA – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) Attaché Seminar.

**17** – Arlington, VA – Africa Global Broad-based Initiative (GBI) meeting

**22** – Chicago, IL – U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) Industry Advisory Council Meeting – NAEGA President and CEO, Gary C. Martin attending

**28** – Kansas City, MO – Alternative Security Plan (ASP) Meeting – 3:00pm – 5:00pm Central Time

### **August**

**13** – Washington, DC – American Soybean Association and Illinois Soybean Association Biotechnology Roundtable – 2:45pm at the Washington Court Hotel – NAEGA President, Gary Martin to participate on the panel.

**21-24** – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX – NAEGA Forum – Velas Hotel

### **September**

**5** – NAEGA MAP AUDIT

**8-12** – London, England – International Maritime Organization (IMO) subcommittee meeting of Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC)

**11-12** – Beijing, China – Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Food Safety Cooperation Forum: Special Session and APEC High-Level Regulatory-Industry Food Safety Dialogue

**14** – Beijing, China – U.S.-China Agriculture and Food Partnership Symposium – Tentative

**14** – Seoul, Korea – Korean Rural Economic Institute Food Security Symposium

**14** – Geneva, Switzerland; Rome, Italy – USBCA-The International Maize Alliance (MAIZALL) Mission to the WTO & FAO

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

**18** – Washington, D.C. – Michigan State University/USDA FAS Industry Roundtable International Agricultural Biotechnology Short Course

**18-19** – Beijing, China – APEC Food Security Ministers Meeting, High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology

**26** – Denver, Colorado – NAEGA Board Meeting – Hosted by CoBank

**29-October 3** – Pyeongchang, Korea 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties/Conference of the Parties for the So-called Cartagena Biosafety Protocol under the Convention on Biodiversity, which governs trans-boundary movements of Living Modified Organisms for feed, food and processing. More information can be found at: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/>

### **October**

**1-3** – Panama – Dry Bulk Terminal Group (DBTG) Annual Meeting, Gary Martin Planning to present and attend.

**13** – Geneva, Switzerland – WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Committee Meeting

**24-25** – Beijing, China – Development Research Center Food Security and Sustainability Summit (Potential MAIZALL Mission to China)

### **November**

**10-11** – Beijing, China – APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting

**17-20** – Baltimore, MD – USAEDC Annual Workshop

### **December**

**14** – Washington, D.C. – Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT)

**14** – Seoul, Korea – USGC Sponsored Technical Workshop for Biosafety Committee Members

[Click here to return to Index](#)

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.