



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH July 27, 2015

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Member Opportunities

- Montreal, Quebec, - U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance Technology meeting July 29-30, 2015
- Rosemont, Illinois – Ag Transportation Summit – August 4-5, 2015
- Washington, DC – U.S. Food and Agriculture Trade Dialogue – August 10
- **FINAL CALL - Beijing, China – COFCO Group CFNA AQSIQ Meeting – August 11-12, 2015 – Register Now!**
- Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum – August 13-15, 2015
- **Portland, Oregon - Government and Industry Workshop in Portland – August 27, 2015 – Register Now!**
- Future NAEGA Contracts Seminars

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Member Opportunities

Montreal, Quebec – US Biotech Crops Alliance Technology meeting July 29-30

Integral to the new U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance business plan, as endorsed by NAEGA, the Alliance will conduct a “Technology Meeting” on July 29-30 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

The meeting will bring together value-chain stakeholders with technology providers to discuss:

- 1) specific biotech-enhanced events in the developmental pipeline,
- 2) status of efforts to obtain approvals/authorizations of foreign countries and
- 3) stewardship plans that the technology provider intends to implement

The agenda includes a plenary discussion of biotech traits in U.S. export markets, projections on anticipated foreign import markets and a full day of two hour discussions with each technology provider.

NAEGA is invited to participate and the Biotechnology Committee is in the process of assembling a team of NAEGA representatives to join NAEGA President Gary Martin in Montreal.

Please see the attached agenda [here](#).

Please contact us as soon as possible if you or a colleague are interested!

Rosemont, Illinois – Ag Transportation Summit – August 4 and 5, 2015

This will be the second Ag Transportation Summit hosted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Grain and Feed Association, and the Soy Transportation Coalition. The title of the 2015 summit is “Transportation Capacity: Overcoming the Challenges”.

Goals of the summit include: raising awareness of the importance of transportation to the success and profitability of U.S. agriculture; precipitating and motivating further action to promote a transportation infrastructure that better serves the interests of U.S. agriculture; providing a venue for advocates of U.S. agriculture to network and develop collaborations for the purpose of promoting the transportation needs of U.S. agriculture; and building bridges between government and agricultural interests that will result in more effective promotion of agricultural transportation issues.

The summit will be held all day on Tuesday, August 4, and the morning of Wednesday, August 5 at the Westin O’Hare is located a short distance from Chicago O’Hare Airport. [Please click here to register.](#)

An agenda for the summit can be found [here](#).

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Washington, DC – U.S. Food and Agriculture Trade Dialogue – August 10

The U.S. Food and Agriculture Trade Dialogue host the U.S. Trade Representative’s Chief Agricultural Negotiator Darci Vetter and other U.S. Government colleagues for a discussion on current trade agreement negotiations. The Dialogue is open to participation by thought leaders (other than media) engaged in trade and agricultural policy developments

Arent Fox, LLP, 1717 K St. NW, Washington, D.C. has again graciously provided their multi-purpose room for the Dialog 2 to 4 PM on August 10.

NAEGA is coordinating the Dialog. All NAEGA member personal are invited to attend. Seating is limited. Registration will close on July 31st. [Please register here.](#)

China – New Grain Law meeting August 10-12, 2015

Final Call for Registration – Space Limited!

COFCO Group and China Chamber of Commerce of Import and Export of Foodstuffs, Native Produce & Animal By-Products (CFNA) have invited International Grain Trade Coaliton (IGTC) members and corporate stakeholders to meet, discuss, and respond to the AQSIQ draft Administrative Measures for Inspection, Quarantine, and Supervision of Inbound and Outbound Grains. These meetings are the result of NAEGA Grades and Inspection Committee high priority to respond to the “New Grain Law.” An English translation of the Draft measures and invitation letter can be found [here](#).

All NAEGA members are invited to attend the working meetings and reception. NAEGA is coordinating meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday August 11 and 12 and a Gala reception the evening of Tuesday August 11. Gary Martin, President of the IGTC will lead the IGTC delegation of Members and Corporate Stakeholders. Gary also plans to convene with NAEGA members in Beijing on Monday August 10 in advance of the meeting.

A current proposed “Final Call for Registration” for the August 11 and 12 working meetings was sent out last week encouraging you or a colleague company representative to attend the working meetings. Please respond to this ASAP

The meetings and will take place at the W Hotel Chang’an in Beijing, China on August 11 and 12. Reserve a guest room Now at: [W Beijing website](#), let us know your confirmation number and we will convert the rate to a discounted group rate of 1250CNY plus 15% !

Invitations to the Gala Reception will follow soon.

Please contact us with any questions of advice and be sure to register now for this important opportunity to learn more about and join in industry advice on AQSIQ’s Draft Administrative Measures for Inspection, Quarantine, and Supervision of Inbound and Outbound Grains. Register for the working meetings [here](#).

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Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum – August 13-15, 2015

The 22nd APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum will take place in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico at the [Fiesta Americana Puerto Vallarta All Inclusive Hotel and Spa](#) from August 13-15. An exciting agenda includes remarks from USDA, CFTC (??), SENASICA, and APHIS, among others. An opening dinner and gala dinner are included in the registration. Keynote remarks will be made on Mexico’s economic expectations and current reforms.

The registration fee will be \$380 USD for participants. Invitations and more details will be available this week.

Government and Industry Workshop in Portland – August 27, 2015

Please Register Now. NAEGA and NGFA are working with the Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association (PNWGFA) to host a FGIS/Industry Workshop in Portland on Thursday August 27, 2015. An invitation was sent to members on Friday, July 10. These regional workshops are intended to expand understanding and identify needs related to Grain and Oilseed trade. We expect the Portland workshop will feature the US Coast Guard, Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The workshop will feature an important industry only section covering biotechnology regulation and GIPSA reauthorization, followed by session including maritime security, APHIS issues, and FGIS issues.

To view the agenda, click [here](#).

The \$50 per person registration fee will cover food and beverage including a working lunch.

NAEGA Contract Seminars

The NAEGA Contracts Committee conducts seminars for in-depth and interactive education on contract practices. NAEGA Seminars are conducted in two different ways: first, “Privately” funded and designed for a single member company, and attended by persons invited by that member company; second, “Generally” funded by registration fees, designed to cover the interests of many companies, and attended by persons from several companies. In most cases, the Seminars provide intensive review of current developments and practices in international grain trade contracts, and often focus on the NAEGA 2. In-depth examination of regulatory compliance, NAEGA services and policy concerns can also be added content for a Seminar designed to meet your needs. Invitations for General Seminars are sent to all NAEGA member company representatives, and a per person registration fee will be required for attendance.

For example, on June 2-3, NAEGA Senior Advisor and NAEGA Director of Operations, Sam Bonilla and Kyle Liske, conducted a Private seminar in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

Our tentative plans for a General Seminar in Kansas City are on hold as we seek a date in near future that can be accommodated. NAEGA members interested in attending a General Seminar should contact Gary (gcmartin@naega.org) or Sam (sbonilla@naega.org). We have several open dates during which Seminars may be conducted; currently July 20-31 and August 1-11, 17-21 are

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available. Please let us know, at your convenience, if you would like to discuss options for holding a seminar.

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

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Reports on NAEGA Actions

Canada’s Directive D-12-05 – APHIS formal request to NAEGA

NAEGA is preparing a response to this letter from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) ([linked here](#)). The letter requests our assistance in providing for alternative measures to support U.S. exports and provide for compliance with Canada’s Directive D-12-05. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) directive provides for new import requirements for grain (other than barley, oats, rye, triticale, and wheat) from the continental United States. **NAEGA members who wish to work with our efforts to respond to this request should contact Gary immediately.**

China Grain Law

Working via the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC), NAEGA continues to coordinate with the COFCO Group, China Chamber of Commerce of Import and Export of Foodstuffs, Native Produce & Animal By-Products (CNFA), and Canada Canola Council for the upcoming meeting in Beijing to examine and address, from a global industry perspective, the draft General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) Administrative Measures for Inspection, Quarantine and Supervision of Inbound and Outbound Grains. NAEGA has a high priority on responding to the “New Grain Law” (copy of the draft text [here](#)). Gary Martin, who serves as IGTC President, will lead the IGTC delegation of Members and Corporate Stakeholders at the August 11 and 12 meetings. All NAEGA members are invited to attend. Gary plans to convene with NAEGA members in Beijing on Monday August 10th in advance of the meeting.

Space is limited, more than 75% of the planned attendance has already registered. Please indicate your interest and hold a space at the table by [registering now!](#)

NAEGA Future Actions

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

2015

U.S. Review of Coordinated Biotechnology Framework – ASAP NAEGA will be engaged in a White House initiative intended to update and improve the U.S. Coordinated Biotechnology

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Framework. The White House issued a memorandum directing the three Federal agencies that have oversight responsibilities for the products of biotechnology—the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Department of Agriculture (USDA)—to update the Coordinated Framework, develop a long-term strategy to ensure that the system is prepared for the future products of biotechnology, and commission an expert analysis of the future landscape of biotechnology products to support this effort.

NAEGA looks forward to receiving member input. More information can be found [here](#).

Comments to USDA on proposed changes to the Facility Guarantee Program that would expand program coverage and streamline the application process, enhancing the program’s ability to support U.S. agricultural exports. The proposed rule for which comments are due August 14 – can be found [here](#).

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

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Information for your Consideration

TPP Negotiators Meet in Maui

Negotiating nations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) will meet in Maui, July 28 to 31, as some anticipate negotiations are drawing to a close. With the U.S. passage into law of Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), it is believed that TPP countries are closing in on revealing their “final offers” to negotiating partners. Major issues still persist, including bilateral discussions between the U.S. and Canada over dairy, and the U.S. and Japan over a range of issues. However, analysts remain hopeful that TPP can be concluded by the end of the summer and presented to Congress by fall.

For more information, click [here](#).

WTO Slashes Tariffs on IT Goods

On Friday, July 24, the World Trade Organization (WTO) finalized an agreement that would update the 18-year-old Information Technology Agreement and add 201 information technology products to the list of goods covered by zero-tariff and duty-free trade. The value of IT trade is worth 7% of global trade, and removing these tariffs worth \$1.3 trillion is expected to give a \$190 billion boost to the world economy.

However, five of the 54 WTO members that negotiated the deal – Taiwan, Turkey, Thailand, Colombia and Mauritius – failed to sign up, leaving the deal short of a quorum, measured as 90 percent of world trade in those products, needed to bring it into force for all 161 WTO members. Other members are optimistic about the outlook and potential of those five members to join in support of the agreement.

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More information can be found [here](#).

USDA Addresses Sustainability at Milan Expo

On July 3 U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack addressed a group of 40 to 50 representatives from the agri-food sector, Expo pavilions and U.S., Italian and E.U. officials at the U.S. pavilion of the Milan Expo on the NAEGA supported “U.S. Sustainability: This is How We Grow” initiative.

To read more about developments at the Milan Expo, and for a summary of the secretary’s remarks, [click here](#).

U.S. - Venezuela Sanctions

On July 10, 2015, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued regulations to implement the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–278) and Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015. The Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 was designed to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of anti-government protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

The international non-governmental organization Human Rights Watch recently stated, “Under the leadership of President Chavez and now President Maduro, the accumulation of power in the executive branch and the erosion of human rights guarantees have enabled the government to intimidate, censor, and prosecute its critics.” The executive order sanctioned seven Venezuelan government and military officials; their property is being frozen, Americans are barred from doing business with them, and the seven cannot travel to the U.S.

More information can be found [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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NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices

2015

July

29-30 - Montreal, Quebec - US Biotech Crops Alliance Technology meeting, Gary attending

August

10 – Washington, DC – U.S. Food and Agriculture Trade Dialogue Featuring USTR Chief Agricultural Negotiator Darci Vetter

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10-12 – Beijing, China – New Grain Law meetings, Gary attending. Please register now!

13-15 – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2015 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum, Sam Bonilla, Ryan Olson and Gary Martin planning to attend. Registration information and an agenda will be available soon. The forum will take place at the [Fiesta Americana Puerto Vallarta All-Inclusive Hotel and Spa](#).

27 – Portland, Oregon - Government and Industry Workshop hosted by NAEGA, NGFA and PNWGFA. For agenda and registration, [click here](#).

30 – September 2 – Mérida, Mexico – Global LLP Initiative Meeting – TENTATIVE

September

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

14-15 – TENTATIVE Taiwanese Goodwill Mission meetings and reception.

21 - 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, and ports in exporting and importing countries, and maritime corridors – that are particularly exposed to disruption. Jerry Cotter and Gary Martin attending and representing NAEGA and IGTC. 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. Gary will focus on a more global view on market structure and access. An agenda for the event can be found [here](#).

22 – Washington, DC – 2015 OFAC Fall Symposia.

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

November

16-19 – USADEC Annual Workshop – Location TBD.

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

December

2 – Tentative IGTC Meeting – Buenos Aires, Argentina

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

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2016

April

14 – Tentative IGTC Meeting – Winnipeg, Canada

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