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## Member Opportunities

### USAEDC Attaché Seminar

On July 13-14 the U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council (USAEDC) will be holding its USAEDC Attaché Seminar and Consultations at the Westin Arlington Gateway in Arlington, Virginia. This annual seminar is an opportunity for industry to engage with members of the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) in one-on-one and group consultations. USAEDC will be hosting one-on-one consultations between industry and FAS attachés on July 13. On July 14 a seminar training will be held for industry and attaches to address some of the issues raised. A final agenda is currently being developed. Gary and Ryan will be attending both days of the conference.

During the USAEDC attaché seminar NAEGA is arranging meetings with FAS personnel and currently prioritizing meetings with FAS attaches from Mexico, Egypt and China. NAEGA will share more specific details when they become available. If you have any specific topics you would like us to raise during these meetings, please contact Gary or Ryan.

A copy of the USAEDC Attaché Seminar program is available [here](#).

### PNWER Annual Summit – July 19-21

All NAEGA members are invited to attend the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit in Alberta, Calgary, Canada on July 19-21. The PNWER is a non-profit created by the states, provinces and territories of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Northwest to increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region, while maintaining and enhancing our natural environment. This year's Annual Summit will feature a keynote address by the U.S. Ambassador to Canada Bruce Heyman, as well as breakout sessions and policy tours on issues affecting the PNW region, including agriculture. On July 19 Gary will also present on behalf of NAEGA and IGTC on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement.

For more information on the PNWER Annual Summit, and to register, please click [here](#).

### NAEGA/APPAMEX Forum – October 5-8

Please save the date for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual NAEGA/APPAMEX Forum to be held on October 5-8 in Cancun, Mexico. This year's forum will take place at the [Iberostar Hotel](#) in Cancun. All NAEGA member representatives and their colleagues are invited to attend. More information, including a link to registration and a preliminary agenda, will follow. A copy of last year's agenda can be found [here](#).

For more information, please contact Gary or Ryan.

### Seminars and Internships

*NAEGA Seminars:* Please click [here](#) for more information on NAEGAs in-depth, interactive education on contract practices.

**Internships:** Information on working for NAEGA as an intern in our Washington, D.C. office 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**

### **New NAEGA Newsletter Format**

This week NAEGA launches its new email format! The format is designed to provide quick concise information in our weekly Outreach emails, while directing our readers to more substantive reporting on our website, [www.naega.org](http://www.naega.org). All NAEGA members can access the information provided in our Outreach through the “Members Only” section of the [www.naega.org](http://www.naega.org) website. If you do not have a username or password for the NAEGA “Members Only” site, please contact Ryan.

Most importantly, we’d like to hear what you think about the new Outreach emails. Please send your questions, comments and feedback to [Ryan](#).

### **IGTC Newsletter**

The newest edition of the IGTC Newsletter is now available! This week’s newsletter includes coverage of IGTC’s participation in the WTO’s electronic documentation seminar, a report on the finalized version of the IGTC’s policy paper on the IPPC’s ISPM for grain and a request for assistance from all IGTC members (including NAEGA members) regarding COP-MOP meetings on December 4-17 in Cancun. A copy of the newsletter can be found on the IGTC intranet at [www.igtglobal.org](http://www.igtglobal.org) or by clicking [here](#).

### **GIPSA Fees**

The Grain Inspectors, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) announced on June 28 that it is suspending the assessment of fees for supervision of official inspection and weighing services performed by delegated states and/or designated agencies under the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA). USGSA was amended in 2015 to require GIPSA to adjust fees for the supervision of grain in order to maintain an operating reserve of not less than 3 and not more than 6 months. Following publication of draft rules for this requirement, NAEGA and NGFA submitted comments on the proposed rulemaking urging the agency to suspend the tonnage fee until a reserve trigger of 4.5 months is reached. Under last week’s announcement the fees will remain suspended for one year beginning July 1, 2016.

This suspension of fees is a major accomplishment for NAEGA and NGFA membership. Thank you to members of the joint NAEGA/NGFA Grades and Inspections and Grain, Grades, and Weights Committees for their work and help in submitting this successful input.

For more information on this announcement, please visit the [www.naega.org](http://www.naega.org) website or click [here](#).

## **Future Actions**

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

### **NAFTA Certificate of Origin Under Review**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is seeking comments through July 25 on a proposed extension of NAFTA Certificate of Origin and Verification of Origin Questionnaire forms. The Certificate of Origin is used in NAFTA trade to certify that a good being exported in the trilateral North American trade qualifies as an originating good for preferential trade purposed under NAFTA. The Verification Questionnaire is used to gather sufficient information from exporters and producers to determine whether goods imported into the U.S. qualify as originating goods for the purpose of preferential tariff treatment under NAFTA.

CBP is seeking comment on the proposed extension of these forms by July 25. Please let either Gary or Ryan know if you have any comments or input on these forms.

### **Korean Corn Buyers Team**

On July 20 NAEGA will host at its Washington, D.C. office a U.S. Grains Council corn buyers team from Korea. The group includes group that includes executives from top corn buying groups and corn starch companies in South Korea and discussion will include registration requirements for Korea's Special Act on Food Safety and BCFM issues.

All NAEGA members are welcome to attend. Please contact Gary or Ryan for more information.

### **U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange**

NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin, at the invitation of the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana on August 31-September 1 to speak before the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange. Gary will be presenting on the topic *A Global View of Key Dynamics in Policy and Commerce for Grains, Oilseeds and other Agri-bulks*. Gary's presentation will include discussion on how reliable, sustainable and affordable commodity supplies are driving governments and the trade to respond and engage, including a review of key developments in commercial trade and regulation that provides for critical understanding of several important opportunities and challenges for the farmer to consumer in the soybean value chain.

If you are interested in attending the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange, please click [here](#). Please contact Gary if you would information or to contribute to his presentation.

### **Russian Suspension of U.S. Soybean Imports**

NAEGA is working closely with the USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regarding the recent suspension of soybean imports into Russia by the Russian Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS). VPSS has suspended U.S soybean imports due to the presence weed seeds, including ambrosia, in soybean shipments. This suspension of imports follows a series of letters, actions and meetings between VPSS and APHIS regarding the presence of quarantine weeds in soybean shipments, including letter in 2012, and February, March, and June of 2016. In APHIS' most recent letter on June 2 the agency lays out a point by point clarification

of the information sought by APHIS regarding this emergency action and reiterates its belief that this suspension is unjustified and trade distorting under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

NAEGA will continue to follow this issue closely as events unfold. A copy of the APHIS letter to VPSS can be found [here](#). For more information, please contact Gary or Ryan.

### **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](#).

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## **Information for your Consideration**

### **EU Extends Glyphosate for 18 months**

On Tuesday June 28 the European Commission extended the approval for the herbicide glyphosate by 18-months after an extended period of deliberations that put the chemical's future legality in the EU in questions. This 18-month extension follows previous Commission proposals to extend the herbicide for up to 15 years. Passage of the extension follows a non-binding resolution in the European Parliament opposing the renewal on grounds that the chemical is linked to cancer. The 18-month renewal of glyphosate will not include a scientific study by EU authorities to explore this claim.

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

### **NAPPO Releases Regional Standard for Karnal Bunt**

The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) has released its regional standard on Karnal Bunt Pest Free Areas in North America (RSPM 13). The standard will now be circulated to the NAPPO Executive Committee for final approval/signature.

A copy of the regional standard can be found [here](#). For more information, please contact Gary or Ryan.

*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**

#### **July**

**6-8** – UN GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland

**14-15** – China International Cereals and Oils Industry Summit – Chengdu, China

**20** – U.S. Grains Council Corn Buyers Team Meeting – Washington, D.C. – 9:00am-10:00am

**25** – Customs and Border Protection comments due on NAFTA certificates of origin.

**20-** U.S. Grains Council Corn Buyers Term Meeting – Washington, D.C. – 9:00am-10:00am

**25** – Customs and Border Protection comments due on NAFTA certificates of origin.

#### **August**

**31-September 1** – U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange – Indianapolis, Indiana – Please register [here](#).

#### **June- October**

**TBD** – Regional Workshop USG Government Agencies and Industry– Pacific Northwest

#### **August-September**

**TBD** – IGTC General Assembly and Strategy Session

**TBD** – NAEGA Board Meeting

#### **September**

**TBD** – IMO Subcommittee on the Carriage of Cargoes and Containers Meeting – London, United Kingdom – Cotter Attending.

#### **October**

**5-8** – NAEGA/APPAMEX Forum, Iberostar Hotel, Cancun, Mexico.

#### **November**

**8** – Election Day – U.S. House, Senate and Presidential elections.

#### **December**

**7-15** – COP-MOP Meetings to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols – Cancun, Mexico

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

**2017**

**March**

**19-21** – NGFA Annual Convention – New Orleans, LA

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