

# **OUTREACH July 8, 2013**

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

## **Member participation opportunity:**

- FGIS and Industry Workshop Portland, Oregon August 13
- 2013 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum- Cancun, Mexico August 15-17
- USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission to Southern Africa September 16-19

# **Action Reports**

- China BASF's CV127 Import Certificates available by August.
- Indonesia New Regulations on Soybeans
- U.S.- EU Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Negotiations
- U.S. Update on Biotech-Enhanced Wheat

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- EU and Co2 Emissions From Ships

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• Upcoming events and notices for members

# **NAEGA Member Participation Opportunity**

# FGIS and Industry Workshop – Portland, Oregon, August 13

A NAEGA-NGFA hosted regional Industry and Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Workshop is now scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, 2013. An agenda and details on location will be coming soon.

The Workshop is a continuation of a series of meetings at export port locations which are intended to expand understanding and identify needs related to U.S. Official grain inspection. The workshops have proven to be an excellent venue for direct interaction with FGIS leadership and local personnel. All NAEGA member companies are welcome to attend these Workshops.

## 2013 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Cancun, Mexico, August 15-17

The 2013 Asociación de Proveedores de Productores Agropecuarios México (APPAMEX) - NAEGA Forum has been scheduled for August 15-17, 2013 at the in Cancun, Mexico. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA forum, and the theme is "Mexico's Integration in the Global Food Security: 20 years of Commerce for the Service of the Mexican Agri-Food Industry". An

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agenda for the forum is being developed and NAEGA members are invited to attend. If you or a member of your company would like to be a speaker at the forum or take part in a panel, please contact the NAEGA office. A draft agenda and registration information have been posted to the NAEGA Member's Only Website and the NAEGA Personal Pages site under upcoming events.

## USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission to Southern Africa – September 16-19

Small-and-medium-sized U.S. agribusinesses are invited to apply to attend a U.S.- Southern Africa Agribusiness Trade Mission (ATM) taking place in Johannesburg, South Africa during the week of September 16-19, 2013. Interested NAEGA members are welcome to apply.

Applications, which can be found here, are due to USDA by June 28, 2013. Application forms ll be reviewed and a decision communicated to the point of contact by July 3, 2013. Please respond with your application to <a href="mailto:Shane.Danielson@fas.usda.gov">Shane.Danielson@fas.usda.gov</a> (tel.: 202-720-1230) and <a href="mailto:Ammara.Bokhari@fas.usda.gov">Ammara.Bokhari@fas.usda.gov</a> (tel.: 202-690-1339).

Full Details on Upcoming Events can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the <u>NAEGA Member's Only Page</u> and the <u>Personal Pages Website</u>

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# **Reports on NAEGA Actions**

# China - BASF's CV127 Import Certificates available by August.

BASF has notified NAEGA that they plan to make China import certificates for the newly approved soybean event CV127 available via a BASF website. Information on how to access the certificates for the soybean that may contain the GMO event should be available by the end of this month. We understand CV127 soybeans are likely to be commercialized in Brazil.

## **Indonesia – New Regulations on Soybeans**

In early May the Government of Indonesia (GOI) released regulations which directed the National Logistics Agency (BULOG) to maintain stable prices and distribution of soybeans in Indonesia. Most recently the Indonesian Ministry of Trade (MOT) issued four new implementing regulations to implement the domestic soybean price stabilization program.

These regulations are as follows:

- 1. Minister of Trade Regulation No. 23, 2013 (Regulation No. 23) provides a general set of guidelines and rules concerning how soybeans can be imported, procured locally and distributed to domestic end users. Specifics can be found in the subsequent regulations.
- 2. Minister of Trade Regulation No. 24, 2013 (Regulation No. 24) provides the rules for importing soybeans; Importers must apply to become 'registered' and must then apply for an import permit. Whenever domestic beans are available (to be determined by GOI), proof of domestic bean procurement is a requirement for import permit applicants.

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- 3. Minister of Trade Regulation No. 25, 2013 (Regulation No. 25) fixes prices for domestically procured soybeans at the farm gate level;
- 4. Minister of Trade Regulation No. 26, 2013 (Regulation No. 26) fixes prices for sales of soybeans to the tempeh and tofu producer cooperative (KOPTI)

The Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) at the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta is working with GOI interlocutors, local stakeholders and the U.S. Soybean Export Council to try to clarify the following requirements. Moreover, Embassy officials are engaging with GOI officials to address challenges contained in the regulations.

A copy of the FAS GAIN report on these regulations can be found here.

# U.S Food and Agriculture Working Group of the Business Coalition for Transatlantic Trade (BCTT) - TTIP Principles

With the start of U.S. - EU trade negotiations during the week of July 8, the Food and Agriculture Working Group for the BCTT, co-chaired by NAEGA President, Gary Martin, has finalized principles for the negotiations. Key points of the Working Groups principles are:

- 1. Include all aspects of trade and investment
- 2. Eliminate of all European Union import duties and tariff-rate quotas (TRQs)
- 3. Establish science-based decision making and not the precautionary principle as the defining principle for mechanisms and systems that address both today's SPS and other non-tariff barriers and those of the future
- 4. Remove and prevent unjustified nontariff barriers, including SPS and TBT measures used to block food and agricultural trade
- 5. Provide for full and timely implementation and enforcement of all agricultural-related provisions, including SPS and TBT provisions
- 6. Establish a Rapid Response Mechanism to provide for shipment-specific trade facilitation that would address frustration of trade as a result of implementation of SPS and TBT measures

Co-chaired by NAEGA President Gary Martin, the Working Group is part of NAEGA's ongoing work that will last through out the negotiation process. The full principles paper can be found here

## **U.S.** Update on Biotech-Enhanced Wheat

Regarding the finding of the Monsanto CP4-71800 event in wheat plants in a single field on a single farm in Oregon, NAEGA continues to pursue new information and dialog with the U.S. Government, counterpart organizations, and key importing governments to assist in efforts to prevent and repair damage to trade.

The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) is currently conducting its own testing of U.S. wheat. In a press release, MAFF indicated that all tests have come back negative as of July 5<sup>th</sup>. Once continual tests results are negative, it will then sell the wheat to

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mills. After this system of testing confirms no contamination, MAFF will then begin new tender of U.S. wheat imports.

If costs to trade result, "commercial assurances" from Monsanto to cover those costs will be encouraged. Hearing, as soon as possible, from NAEGA members on what might be needed in the way of commercial assurances would be very helpful. MAFF plans to provide for some degree of insurance coverage in Japan. Knowing just what the insurance covers and does not cover would also be useful.

A letter recently sent on behalf of NAEGA and NGFA expressed appreciation for the efforts undertaken to date by the Secretary and USDA in attempting to restore all classes of wheat to the Japanese as soon as possible. The letter also references testing data and requests to meet with USDA to review lessons learned from this experience.

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

#### 2013

**TBD** – Comments to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on draft directives D-12-05: http://www.naega.org/images/pdf/CFIA\_Draft\_D-12-05.pdf

**July 17** – Comments due to USDA/APHIS on Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement regarding the regulatory status of soybean event MON 87708: http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2013-0043-0001

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.

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

# **Biotechnology Scientists awarded World Food Prize**

Marc Van Montagu of Belgium, Mary-Dell Chilton and Robert T. Fraley of the United States, three scientists known for their work in agricultural biotechnology, were named co-winners of the 2013 World Food Prize at a June 19 ceremony at the U.S. State Department that featured Secretary of State John Kerry.

More information on the 2013 World Food Prize recipients can be found here.

# **EU Proposed Legislation would Monitor CO2 Emissions of large Ships using EU Ports**

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The European Commission (EC) issued a press release stating that it proposed legislation which would, if adopted, require owners of large ships using EU ports to monitor and report the ships' annual carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. The EC also published a Communication setting out its strategy to address and reduce these emissions, preferably through measures at the global level, as well as a memo providing details regarding the proposal.

A copy of the press release 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**

**July 9-10**– Alexandria, Virginia – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) 2013 FAS Attaché Meetings & Seminar – NAEGA staff attending, NAEGA Members invited to participate.

**14-19** – Anchorage, Alaska – Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit – Gary Martin attending and presenting

**29** -- Washington, D.C. -- Roundtable discussion on Agricultural Trade with Ambassador Michael Froman -- NAEGA President, Gary Martin, has been invited to discuss NAEGA's trade priorties with the new Trade Ambassador, Michael Froman.

# August

13—Portland, Oregon FGIS and Industry Workshop

15-17 - Cancun, Mexico - APPAMEX NAEGA Forum - NAEGA Members Invited to Attend

**26** – Chicago, Illinois – Illinois Soy International Biotechnology Symposium – Gary Martin invited to attend

#### September

**16-19** – Johannesburg, South Africa – USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission to Southern Africa – NAEGA Members invited to attend.

#### **November**

**TBD** – Washington, DC – One Day USDA/USAID Food Aid & Development Meeting with Stakeholders

**4-6** – San Antonio, Texas – American Nutrition Forum – Gary Martin attending and presenting

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**12-15** – Lisbon, Portugal - 6th International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains: <a href="https://www.gmcc13.org">www.gmcc13.org</a>

**19-21** – Baltimore, Maryland – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) 2013 Annual Workshop – NAEGA Members invited to participate

#### 2014

**January -- TBD** – Egypt – 2013 Middle East Regional Trade Conference hosted by U.S. Wheat Associates in cooperation with NAEGA, U.S. Grains Council and U.S. Soybean Export Council

## March

31 – 2014 NAEGA Annual Meetings – Hilton Head, South Carolina

**30-April 1** – 2014 NGFA Convention – Hilton Head, South Carolina

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