



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH August 19, 2013

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Member participation opportunity:

- Vietnam Plant Law Team to Visit the U.S. – Washington, D.C. – August 21
- Taiwanese Goodwill Mission – Washington, D.C. – September 10
- 2013 U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange – Davenport, Iowa – September 16-18
- NAEGA Fall Board Meeting – Minneapolis, Minnesota – September 18
- NAPPO Annual Meeting 2013 – Guelph, Ontario-Canada – October 28-November 1

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NAEGA Member Participation Opportunity

Vietnam Plant Law Team to Visit the U.S. – Washington, D.C., August 21

A Vietnam Plant Health Law team will visit the United States and meet with NAEGA and U.S. industry on August 21 from 11:00am to 12:30pm at NAEGA’s office at 1250 I St. NW Washington, D.C. 20005. Topics of the meeting include a draft law on Plant Protection and Quarantine, recent directives on animal feed as well as other issues of concern to importers and exporters of grain and oilseeds. We will use the opportunity to discuss the Transpacific Partnership negotiations, our Rapid Response Mechanism and concerns related to The International Plant Protection Convention development of an International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures on grain.

The following officials are included in the Vietnamese team:

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- Mr. Nguyen Vinh Ha, Vice Chairman, NA Science and Technology Committee (team leader)
- Dr. Phung Duc Tien, Commissioner, Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Office of NA
- Dr. Nguyen Xuan Hong, Director General, MARD/PPD
- Dr. Nguyen Quy Duong, DG, MARD/PPD/ICD
- Dr. Tran Xuan Dung, NA Science and Technology Committee
- Ms. Tran Ngoc Hoa; NA Science and Technology Committee
- Ms. Tran Thi Huong Giang, Legal Advisor, FAEA’s Representative
- Ms. Nguyen Thi Huong Nguyen, FAS, Hanoi

A file with documents for the meeting can be downloaded [here](#). Lunch will be served in conjunction with the meeting. NAEGA members are welcome to attend. Please contact Kyle or Gary if you plan to attend.

Taiwanese Goodwill Mission – Washington, D.C., September 10

NAEGA will co-host a Taiwanese goodwill mission reception on September 10, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm EDT at the National Press Club in Washington D.C.

The Taiwanese Mission will sign Letters of Intent (LOI) to show that the industry people from Taiwan intend to buy stipulated quantities of grains and co-products from the U.S. during 2014 and 2015. The primary function of this mission is to help enhance the face-to-face relationships with grain producers, key leaders of related associations, and government leaders.

NAEGA Member representatives are invited. If you would like to attend, please let Gary or Kyle know.

2013 US Soy Global Trade Exchange – Davenport, Iowa, September 16-18

NAEGA is supporting the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange where it is anticipated that the Chinese will be signing soybean contracts worth \$500 million. The Exchange is hosted by the U.S. Soybean Export Council and the Midwest Shippers Association in the Quad Cities – Davenport, Iowa from September 16-18. NAEGA President, Gary C. Martin, is scheduled to moderate a panel during the Exchange.

A preliminary agenda can be found [here](#).

NAEGA Fall Board Meeting – Wayzata, Minnesota, September 18

NAEGA’s fall board meeting is scheduled to meet on September 18, 2013 from 10:00am (CDT) to 3:00pm (CDT) at Cargill, 15407 McGinty Road West, Wayzata, Minnesota.

All NAEGA Members are invited to attend. A draft agenda, including reports from all NAEGA Committees will be developed in August. **Please let us know what issues you want on the agenda by Friday August 23.**

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Nearby hotels are: Sheraton Minneapolis West 12201 Ridgedale Dr. Minnetonka, MN 952-593-0000 and Radisson-Plymouth 3131 Campus Dr. Plymouth, MN 1-800-992-2694

NAPPO Annual Meeting 2013 – Guelph, Ontario, October 28

The 2013 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) annual meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2013 to November 1, 2013 at the Delta Hotel in Guelph, Ontario in Canada. More information will be coming soon. NAEGA will likely participate. Updates on agenda are forthcoming at: <http://www.nappo.org/en/>

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

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Reports on NAEGA Actions

North America – 2013 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum

Asociación de Proveedores de Productores Agropecuarios México (APPAMEX) and NAEGA hosted a forum last week in Cancun, Mexico. This was the 20th anniversary of the Forum. NAEGA staff, Sam Bonilla and Gary Martin, participated worked on changes to Mexico’s controls on grain and oilseed imports related to phyto-sanitary and quality concerns at the Forum. They also presented on key topics of NAEGA interest, including trade frustration at the U.S.-Mexico border where Mexican officials have held up grain entering Mexico due to alleged excess soil on the grain.

Gary’s PowerPoint presentation can be found [here](#). A trip report on the Forum will soon be completed and posted under the “International Programs Committee” on the NAEGA website and an agenda from the Forum can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, feel free to ask Gary.

U.S. – FGIS and Industry Workshop

Last week NAEGA and NGFA hosted the regional Industry and Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Workshop in Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the Workshop was to expand understanding and identify needs related to U.S. Official grain inspection.

More than 50 people attended the off the record Workshop. New information was discussed in relation to:

- the finding of the Round Up ready genetic material in wheat plants from a field in Oregon;
- Phytosanitary Certification for Canadian grain imported to or transiting through the U.S.,
- wheat class determination for the new “Sprinter” wheat variety and;
- enhancements to the FGIS Quality Management System (QMS).

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PowerPoint presentation used by FGIS and APHIS officials during the Workshop can be found [here](#). A report on the Workshop will soon be available and an agenda will be posted [here](#). If you have any questions about the Workshop, feel free to contact Gary or Senior Advisor Arvid Hawk.

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

2013

Sept. 12 – Comments to USTR on Russia’s implementation of WTO obligations. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-08-15/pdf/2013-19859.pdf>

Sept. 20 – Comments to USTR on China’s compliance to WTO obligations. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-08-15/pdf/2013-19846.pdf>

Sept. 27 – Comments to APHIS on Canada-United States Perimeter Approach to Plant Protection. <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/86a42b>

Nov. 26 – Comments to FDA’s proposed rule on importer/third-party accreditation of foreign foods: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/07/29/2013-17994/accreditation-of-third-party-auditors-certification-bodies-to-conduct-food-safety-audits-and-to-issue>

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

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

China and Russia – USTR Invites Input on WTO Compliance

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is asking for input on WTO compliance by China and Russia. Comments on China’s compliance to the WTO are due no later than September 20. The USTR will hold a public hearing on this topic on October 4. Requests to testify at the hearing are due no later than September 20.

The USTR also seeks comments on Russia’s implementation of its obligations as a WTO member, for the first time. Comments on Russia’s implementation of WTO obligations are due

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no later than September 12. USTR will hold a public hearing on the topic on September 27. Requests to testify at the hearing are due no later than September 12.

The Requests for Comments on China can be found in the [Federal Register](#), and the Request for Comments on Russia can be found [here](#).

U.S. – BIS Final Rule on Voluntary Self-Disclosure

The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) issued a final rule in a Federal Register Notice limiting the time allowance to submit a final, comprehensive narrative required as part of a voluntary self-disclosure (VSD), within 180 days after the initial notification.

Voluntary Self-Disclosures are part of section 764.5 of the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), which sets forth procedure for parties which might have violated the regulations, to disclose the facts to the Office of Export Enforcement (OEE). The procedure includes an initial notification, describing the general facts, to be followed by a complete review of the events.

The Final Rule becomes effective on September 9, 2013 and can be found [here](#).

U.S.-East African – Trade Negotiations

The United States Trade Representative (USTR) recently announced that formal negotiations on a Trade and Investment Partnership (TIP) will begin between the U.S and the East African Community (EAC). The countries included in the EAC are Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Ambassador Froman stated in the announcement that “USAID will transform the East Africa Trade Hub into a U.S.-East Africa Trade and Investment Center to expand U.S. regional trade programs, spur private investment, and scale up business-to-business and association-to-association partnerships.” The USTR also announced that Sanitary, Phyto-Sanitary Measures, and Technical Barriers to Trade will be included in the TIP negotiations.

A full copy of the USTR announcement can be found [here](#).

U.S. – FDA Public Meetings

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a notice announcing a public meeting to discuss two proposed rules—Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) and Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors. The purpose of the FSVP rule is to establish “requirements for importers to verify that their foreign suppliers are implementing modern, food safety practices called for by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), and the same food safety level as domestic growers.”

The Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors rule is to “strengthen the quality, objectivity, and transparency of foreign food safety audits on which many U.S. food companies and importers currently rely to help manage the safety of their global food supply chains.”

The full Federal Register Notice announcing the meeting can be found [here](#).

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U.S. – GAO Report on Export Promotion

The GAO recently released a report on the interagency Trade Promotion Coordination Committee (TPCC) and its use of resources for export promotion. The GAO found that TPCC does not comply with the needed information to analyze how export promotion resources are contributing to government priorities. This leads to a lack of understanding of how best to use resources for high priorities, such as increasing exports by small and medium sized businesses. Furthermore, TPCC suffers from inconsistent data computation due to a lack of a common definition of export promotion.

To rectify TPCC’s issues, the GAO recommends TPCC develop guidance on what information should be collected and report in its National Export Strategies on how resources are allocated by agency.

The full report 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

August

21 – Washington, D.C. -- Vietnam Plant Law Team to Visit the U.S. – NAEGA members are welcome to attend a meeting with the Vietnam Plant Law Team from 11:00am to 12:30pm.

26 – Champaign, Illinois – Illinois Soy International Biotechnology Symposium – Gary will attend and present.

September

16-20 – London, England – IMO/DSC Meeting – NAEGA’s senior advisor, Jerry Cotter, will attend the IMO/DSC meeting which will cover reception facilities for cargo and access to stockpiles by vessel representatives.

16-18 – Davenport, Iowa – U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange

18 – Wayzata, Minnesota – NAEGA Fall Board Meeting at Cargill.

18-20 - Durban, South Africa - Third Meeting of the Global Low Level Presence Initiative (GLI) – Kirk Miller to attend for NAEGA. Paul Green may also attend.

19 – Washington, D.C. – FDA Public Meeting on Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) and Accreditation of Third-Part Auditors.

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22-24 – Santander, Spain – Dry Bulk Terminals Group Meeting – NAEGA’s senior advisor, Jerry Cotter, will attend the DBTG meeting which will address Transportation Moisture Limit issues as well as operational and shipping issues and a grain elevator tour.

27 – Washington, D.C. – Public hearing at USTR on Russia’s implementation of its WTO obligations.

October

4 – Washington, D.C. – Public hearing at USTR on China’s compliance with its WTO obligations.

28 – Nov. 1 – 2013 NAPPO Annual Meeting – NAPPO’s annual meeting has been scheduled for October 28, 2013 to November 1, 2013 at the Delta Hotel in Guelph, Ontario in Canada. More information will be coming soon.

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

12-15 – Lisbon, Portugal - 6th International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains: www.gmcc13.org

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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