



Celebrating 100 Years

February 27, 2012

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

Member Action Items:

NAEGA 2012 Annual Meeting; Dennis Stephens Presented with the Amstutz Award; Global Industry Reception & Gala Centennial Dinner; NAEGA Membership Dues

NAEGA Action Items:

China, Agreement with Argentina on Corn; Iraq, Joint Invitation to Iraq Minister of Trade; and U.S., APHIS Extends Public Comment Period for Dow Herbicide-Tolerant Corn

Related News:

FGIS Announces 2012 Updates to PCIT; Asian Gypsy Moth Season

Calendar and Website:

Upcoming events an Issue Tracking

MEMBER ACTION ITEMS:

NAEGA 2012 Annual Meeting – NAEGA Committee, Membership, and Board meetings took place on February 23, 2012, and NAEGA hosted a Global Industry Reception on February 22 and Gala Centennial Dinner on February 23 as the Association made plans for actions in 2012 and celebrated 100 years of “Working Together to Make Trade Work”. Approximately 50 representatives from 20 member companies attended all or part of the meetings on February 23 at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia.

At the Meeting of NAEGA Membership, NAEGA Members elected 13 industry leaders to their Board of Directors. Members renewed the terms of the 6 Board members, whose terms will now expire in 2014. Two members of the Board stepped down from their positions after the election: Board Chairman Gary Anderson of CHS and Secretary/Treasurer Candace Roper of CoBank. Mr. Anderson nominated Brian Schouvieller of CHS to take his place on the Board and Todd VanHoose of CoBank nominated Holly Womack to take over Ms. Roper’s term on the Board. The membership accepted these changes with a unanimous vote.

With the new elections and retirements the 6 board members with new terms are: Joe Taets, ADM.; Brian Schouvieller, CHS, Inc.; Steve Campbell, Louis Dreyfus Commodities; Terry James, Richardson, International; Dave Houts, Bunge, and Garry Truman, Gavilon Grain. The 7

Board members with terms expiring in 2013 are: Steve Smalley, Cargill, Inc.; Holly Womack, CoBank; Tom Hammond, Columbia Grain; Yutaka Sano, Mitsui & Co.; David Parker, Nidera; and Charles Colbert, Zen-Noh Grain.

The NAEGA Board of Directors elected its leadership: Tom Hammond of Columbia Grain was elected as Chairman of the Board; the 4 current Vice-Chairmen, Steve Campbell of Louis Dreyfus, Charles Colbert of Zen Noh Grain, Steve Smalley of Cargill, and Joe Taets of ADM, along with new member Brian Schouvieller of CHS, were elected as Vice Chairman and Holly Womack of CoBank was elected to serve as Secretary and Treasurer.

Committee Reports to the Board will be posted to the [Board of Director's Website](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Page's Site](#) in the coming days.

The Board took the following actions:

1. Established a task force to review regulatory changes and other impacts from the elimination of the Canadian Wheat Board.
2. Established a task force to review USDA regulations and requirements related to container shipping.
3. Approved Contracts Committee request to publish an updated NAEGA Approved Arbitrators List ([available here](#)).
4. Gave unanimous approval to the Biotech Committee request that NAEGA to sign the "Memorandum of Understanding on Improving Communication throughout the Value Chain on Biotechnology and Trade Issues".
5. Approved a budget for 2013
6. Directed NAEGA staff to apply for Market Access Program (MAP) funds for 2013 if they are available
7. Directed NAEGA staff to arrange for 2013 Annual Meetings to be held in San Francisco, California in conjunction with the 2013 National Grain and Feed Association Convention in March 2013.

Meeting materials are posted to the Members only section of www.naega.org. Draft Minutes of the Board and Membership meetings will soon be available on the Member's Only section of the website. The updated membership listings and contact information are [already available](#).

Dennis Stephens Presented with the Amstutz Award –



Retiring Secretariat of the Canadian Grains Council (CGC) and the International Grain Trade Association (IGTC) Dennis Stephens was presented with the Amstutz Award, NAEGA's highest honor, during the NAEGA Gala Centennial Dinner on February 23, 2012. The Amstutz Award is given by NAEGA in honor of former NAEGA President Dan Amstutz and in recognition of his outstanding and extraordinary service to the export grain and oilseed trade from the United States. The Amstutz Award is given to persons who have exhibited exceptional accomplishments in promoting export grain and oilseed trade from the United States. Recipients may be a citizen of any country and may be involved directly or indirectly.

Global Industry Reception and Gala Centennial Dinner –



NAEGA's 2012 Annual Meetings kicked off with a Global Industry Reception the evening of February 22, 2012. Over 120 guests from a dozen countries joined NAEGA members at the Bin 1700 lounge at the Marriott Crystal Gateway for conversation, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres. The reception was co-sponsored by ADM, CHS, Degesch America, Mitsui & Co., Thionville Surveying, National Grain & Feed Association, U.S. Grains Council (USGC), U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) and U.S. Wheat Associates USW). USGC, USSEC and USW set up displays and provided literature about their operations for guests to browse through. The newly published NAEGA History Booklet was distributed for the first time to attendees. That history will be continually updated, and the most up to date edition has been posted to the [Member's Only site](#) and is available for [direct download here](#).



The Annual Meetings closed with a Gala Centennial Dinner at the Trump National Golf Club in Sterling, Virginia. 115 guests for 10 countries gathered in the Club Ballroom for a night of

celebration and recognition of NAEGA's 100 years. Guest of Honor Canadian Minister of Agricultural and Agri-Food Gerry Ritz delivered the keynote address of the evening, reflecting on Canada's close relationship with the United States and NAEGA and outlining a vision of the future for the trade, retiring NAEGA Board Chairman Gary Anderson of CHS was recognized for his 4 years of service in that position, and the Capitol Steps provided an hour of comedy and song. The Steps gave guests a copy of their latest album, and provided NAEGA with several free copies to distribute to members. If you would like one, please contact Patrick Hayden at the NAEGA office. The evening was a "once in a lifetime" event as NAEGA kicked off its Centennial year.

NAEGA Membership Dues – Payments for NAEGA's 2012 Membership Dues were due on February 1. If you have not yet submitted your payment, prompt action is appreciated. Thank you to all NAEGA members who have already submitted their payments. If you have any questions, please contact the NAEGA office.

NAEGA Action Items:

China, Agreement with Argentina on Corn – China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) has signed a "Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements" with Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture regarding the export of corn from Argentina to China that has the potential to impact the U.S.-AQSIQ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Soybean Export to China. A copy of the China-Argentina agreement [is available here](#). NAEGA is considering next steps on this issue and we would welcome any input from members on how we should proceed. Please contact the NAEGA offices if you have any suggestions on how to approach this issue.

Iraq, Joint Invitation to Iraq Minister of Trade – NAEGA has co-signed a letter with U.S. Wheat Associates and USA Rice Federation, in cooperation with USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, to the Iraq Minister of Trade, inviting him to nominate a team of up to 12 senior Ministry Officials involved with Iraq's grain trade to attend a 2 day seminar on special grain trading issues to be held in Istanbul Turkey on May 7-8, 2012. The goal of the event is for the U.S. grain industry to demonstrate to the Iraqi delegation the capabilities and reliability of the U.S. commercial grain system to deliver high quality wheat and rice on time. If they Minister accepts, NAEGA will help to host the team's travel to Turkey using Market Access Program (MAP) funds. The full letter can be found online on the [NAEGA Member's Only MAP Committee page](#) and the issue will be tracked on the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

U.S., APHIS Extends Public Comment Period for Dow Herbicide-Tolerant Corn - In the February 22, 2012 edition of the Federal Register, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced a 60-day extension to the comment period on the Dow AgroScience Petition for nonregulated status of GMO corn DAS-40278-9, genetically engineered for resistance to broadleaf herbicides. The due date for comments has been moved from February 27, 2012 to April 27, 2012. The Federal Register notice announcing the extension and with details on how to comments is available through this link: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/brs/fedregister/BRS_20120222.pdf

RELATED NEWS:

APHIS Announces 2012 Updates to PCIT – USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has announced its plans for improvements to the Phytosanitary Certificate and Issuance Tracking system (PCIT). In the coming months PCIT will begin automatically transferring phytosanitary certificates to foreign countries receiving U.S. exports, reducing previous delays associated with paperwork verification. In addition, APHIS is expanding the availability of user-printed phytosanitary certificates, eliminating the need for users to pay for shipped documents.

PCIT was created in 2005 to automate the issuance of phytosanitary certificates for agricultural commodities exported to foreign countries. In fiscal year 2011, APHIS and state and county governments issued more than 530,000 export certificates for individuals and businesses through the PCIT system.

Asian Gypsy Moth Season – USDA APHIS has requested that industry be notified that we are entering Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) interception season. Please find the memo from APHIS on the [NAEGA Grades Committee Website](#).

As a hitchhiking pest, AGM is a significant risk to forest resources and is the highest agriculture risk non-native pest that can be carried on ship's superstructure. Far East Russia, Japan, Korea, and Northern China remain all countries where AGM is prevalent and where seasonal risk occurs. Offshore ship inspections for Asian gypsy moth have increased greatly since last year. Russia has had inspections since 1994 and Japan has participated since 2007 and in 2007 expanded to include additional ports which greatly increasing that program. Additionally, Korea began participating for the first time in 2010 and China began inspections in 2011. It also should be noted that certification will be required for all vessels coming to the United States from all high risk AGM areas for the 2012 shipping season.

Offshore inspections are only one aspect of keeping Asian gypsy moth out of North America. Port of entry inspections by United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) staff continue to increase yearly. These inspections provide quality assurance that offshore inspections and ship inspections by crew prior to arrival are being carried out in a satisfactory manner. As such, USDA strongly recommends that ships take advantage of AGM certification to reduce the chance of costly delays which can exceed \$50,000 per day. In 2011, eleven (11) vessels were found to have egg masses out of 2709 reported inspections by CBP. Vessels found to be infested with AGM run the risk of being escorted out of the port into international water to be cleaned and will not be allowed back into port to discharge cargo until cleaning, follow up inspection and clearance (re-inspection) occurs. U.S. and Canada continue to work with experts to more precisely determine AGM flight periods for foreign port areas. Currently, late June through September are considered the risk periods. Any port would be a shipping risk if egg masses can be deposited on ships from female flying AGM. For 2012, there is guidance on flight periods for all regions on AGM procedures at the following website:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/index.shtml

CALENDAR & WEBSITE

Official Comments Calendar

February

27 -Comments due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto's Petition for nonregulated status of GMO soybean MON 87769, genetically engineered to produce stearidonic acid, an omega-3 non-fatty acid not found in conventional soybeans:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-27/pdf/2011-33002.pdf>

27 - Comments due to USDA's Farm Service Agency on the proposed extension of currently approved information collection that supports the End-Use Certificate Program:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-29/pdf/2011-33443.pdf>

April

9 – Comments due to U.S Customs and Border Patrol on the proposed extension without change of the following information collections: Country of Origin Marking Requirements for Containers or Holders ([Click here](#)) and CBP Form 300, Bonded Warehouse Proprietor's Submission ([Click here](#))

27 - Comments due to USDA/APHIS on the Dow AgroScience Petition for nonregulated status of GMO corn DAS-40278-9, genetically engineered for resistance to broadleaf herbicides:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-27/pdf/2011-33009.pdf>

Activities Calendar

February

28 –Public Meeting of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling at the FDA's Harvey Wiley Building: 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD

March

8-9 – Buenos Aires, Argentina – Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Western Hemispheric Workshop on Low Level Presence – Gary Martin Attending

18-20 – Charleston, SC – NGFA 2012 Convention

21-23 – Vancouver, BC, Canada – International Event on Low Level Presence hosted by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Gary Martin attending and Presenting

29-31 – Brighton, England – Dry Bulk Terminal Group Meetings. Jerry Cotter attending for NAEGA

April

10 – New Orleans, LA - 4th Annual Port of New Orleans Critical Commodities Conference – Gary Martin attending and Presenting

May

7-8 – Istanbul, Turkey – U.S. Industry Seminar on International Grain Trade Issues for the Iraq Ministry of Trade

7-9 – Kansas City, Missouri – 2012 International Food Aid & Development Conference

June

7 – London, United Kingdom – 2012 International Grains Council Grains Conference – www.igc.int

October

1-5 – Hyderabad, India – COP/MOP 6 to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

4-12 – Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom - 52nd European Commodities Exchange
<http://www.ece-edinburgh2012.com/>

NAEGA, Issue Tracking – NAEGA has updated the NAEGA Personal Pages website to include the new Issue Tracking system, which will improve the way NAEGA communicates to members regarding progress on issues.

NAEGA Issues & Decision Memos have been added to the site under the section currently titled “Events”. The events section will be retitled to “Current Issues”, and each Issue has its own page, containing background information on the issue and updates on current progress on the issue. The Issue Pages can be updated by Board, Committee and other persons who have been granted access to add information. New issues will be posted as NAEGA begins work on them. The issues will be sorted by the most recent updates, and the Personal Pages site can be searched by subject. All persons who have set up a Personal Page can access this information.

If you have not yet registered for the Personal Pages, or have forgotten your log in information, please contact Patrick Hayden at phayden@naega.org. He will set up your account or reset your log in information and send you a temporary password. You can find a user’s guide for the [Personal Pages here](#).

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA.

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