



Celebrating 100 Years

April 30, 2012

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

Over the next month, NAEGA will be changing the look and approach to communication. For instance, in this issue of OUTREACH you will see new categories on Member Action opportunities and Tracking NAEGA Actions that will tie into upcoming to the website.

Member Action Opportunities:

NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event in Tokyo, Japan– May 23, 2012;
NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event in Seoul, Korea – May 25, 2012;
Container logistics and Canada grain marketing Task Forces;
Latin America, Wheat Buyers Conference;

Tracking NAEGA Actions:

EU, RED; World, International Movement of Grain; NAEGA-NGFA Comments to APHIS on Dow Deregulation Request; NAEGA-NGFA Workshop with FGIS; and Arent Fox Presentation on FCPA Added to Member's Only Website

FYI-Related News:

USTR Seeking Comment on Ecuador Trade Preference and USDA Confirmations & Appointments

Calendar and Website:

Upcoming events and Website News

Member Action Opportunities:

Announcements of NAEGA meetings or upcoming events held by NAEGA and our partner organization that offer opportunities for NAEGA Member participation are posted in this section. They are posted under “Events” on the NAEGA Website.

NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event in Tokyo—On **May 23, 2012**, NAEGA will be hosting two events as part of our Centennial Celebration in Tokyo, Japan. The first, a “Dialog on Food security & Trade” with presentations from NAEGA Staff, will be held from 1:30 -5pm at the Belle Salle Izumi Garden Conference Center in Tokyo. That evening, from 6-9pm, NAEGA will

host a celebration at the [ANA Intercontinental Hotel](#) that includes a buffet reception featuring remarks from U.S and Japanese government and corporate officials.

The focus of the celebratory events will be to commemorate the history of NAEGA and U.S.-Japanese trade and celebrate NAEGA's Centennial Year. An updated NAEGA history will be unveiled. The current draft agenda is posted below:

NAEGA Tokyo Seminar & Reception
ANA Intercontinental Hotel – Tokyo, Japan
May 23, 2012

Dialog on Food Security and Trade

1:30pm-4:45pm at the Belle Salle Izumi Garden Conference Center
7th Floor, Izumi Garden Tower, 1-6-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo
Moderator from Japan industry (TBD)

Featured Panel Comments:

- Global Food Security and Trade 2012 and beyond, deploying technology and technique for reliable and sustainable supply, Gary Martin
- Innovations in Trade Risk Management, Contracts and Best Commercial Practices, Sam Bonilla
- Meeting consumer, regulatory and trade needs for Quality & Safety, Arvid Hawk
- Critical transportation elements of Ocean Freight and Port Operations, Jerry Cotter
- Latest developments in US and North American Supply and Policy, W. Kirk Miller

Industry and Government Leaders Reception

6:00pm-9:00pm Galaxy III Room - ANA InterContinental Hotel
1-12-33, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052, Japan
Buffet Reception

Featuring remarks from:

Geoff Wiggin, Minister-Counselor for Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Embassy;
Shuji Yamada, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, MAFF (Invited);
Mr. Hiroaki Nakayama, Chairman of Grain Importers Association of Japan;
Tom Hammond, NAEGA Board Chairman (Invited)

Invitations are being conveyed this week. If you have not already done so, Please contact the NAEGA office if your company has personnel or colleagues and associates who should be invited to Seminar and the Reception.

NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event in Korea – NAEGA is pleased to announce we will be a Centennial Celebration in Seoul, South Korea on **May 25, 2012**. The focus of the celebration will be to commemorate the history of NAEGA and U.S.-Korea trade and celebrate NAEGA's Centennial Year.

NAEGA will be hosting two events on May 25, an afternoon "Dialog on Food Security and Trade" and evening reception, at the [Intercontinental Seoul COEX Hotel](#). NAEGA members are

requested to help us identify participants for both events. An updated draft agenda is posted below:

NAEGA Korea Seminar & Reception
Intercontinental Seoul COEX Hotel – Seoul, South Korea
May 25, 2012

Dialog on Food Security and Trade
2:00pm-5:00pm in the Moderato Room
Moderator Bill Kim of Cargill

Featured Panel Comments:

- Global Food Security and Trade 2012 and beyond, deploying technology and technique for reliable and sustainable supply, Gary Martin
- Innovations in Trade Risk Management, Contracts and Best Commercial Practices, Sam Bonilla
- Meeting consumer, regulatory and trade needs for Quality & Safety, Arvid Hawk
- Critical transportation elements of Ocean Freight and Port Operations, Jerry Cotter
- Latest developments in US and North American Supply and Policy, W. Kirk Miller

Industry and Government Leaders Reception

6:00pm-9:00pm - Vivace Room - Buffet Dinner

Featuring remarks from: U.S. Embassy, Government of Korea, U.S. and Korean Industry

Please contact the NAEGA office as soon as possible if your company has personnel or colleagues and associates who should be invited to these events in either country. We will post more details and convey invitations soon!

Container logistics and Canada grain marketing – Member personnel are invited to join new industry efforts established at the NAEGA Board of Director’s Meeting on February 23, 2012 that are intended to:

1. Identify and address changes in the procedures and policies related to shipment of grains and oilseeds with containers; and
2. Review the impact of Canada’s changes in regulation of grain marketing including the Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act and to make recommendations for industry actions to support a successful transition as well as long term successful commercial market environment resulting from those changes.

The two approved briefing memos proposing the task forces have been posted to the [Board of Director’s Website](#) and Issue Tracking for each has been set up at the [NAEGA Personal Page’s website](#). Please let us know if you would like to be included in the work of these new task forces.

Latin America, Wheat Buyers Conference – U.S. Wheat Associates has invited NAEGA to participate in their 2012 Latin American Buyer’s Conference, to be held at the Bogota Hilton in Bogota, Colombia on June 27-29. We will be posting more information on registering for the conference as it becomes available. Member volunteer Kurt Haarmann, Vice President of Columbia Grain, plans to attend the conference and represent NAEGA.

Tracking NAEGA Actions:

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.

EU, RED – The U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) via Soy Export Sustainability LLC., a wholly-owned subsidiary of USSEC, is planning to provide for shipment specific recordkeeping and documentation to operationalize information and analysis which demonstrates the national aggregation of U.S. soybean production practices, (soil conservation programs combined with land and energy use farming techniques) and commodity handling and transportation logistics achieve a level of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and sustainable land use which corresponds to the criteria established by the European Union's Renewable Energy Directive (RED). Utilization of the voluntary sustainability scheme currently identified as the "USSEC scheme" will be available to shippers of U.S. Soybeans upon approval by one or more governments implementing the RED. NAEGA, via the Task Force on the RED established in 2011 has supported a U.S. soybean value chain wide effort to provide for the USSEC Scheme as well as the development of a U.S.-EU Bilateral Agreement in response to RED provisions.

Three documents related to the USSEC scheme have been added for member consideration to NAEGA tracking on www.naega.org. They are: 1. U.S. Soy Biodiesel Sustainability Assurance Scheme, 2. US regulations – RED benchmark synthesis and 3. Analysis of the Methodology – final (updated soy ag).

World, International Movement of Grain – The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) has requested the Standards Committee of the International Plant Protection Commission (IPPC) to develop a specification on the topic of International movement of grain, considering the results of the workshop in Vancouver. NAEGA reported on the workshop and NAEGA's efforts to promote the U.S. approach to standard in the [December 12, 2012 edition of OUTREACH](#).

The IPPC will send the specification for member consultation, revise it and submit a recommendation to the CPM on how to move forward. Note that the use of the term 'standard' has been avoided in order to provide the CPM with flexibility on options.

As a result, the North America Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Executive Committee has decided that the NAPPO Grains Panel should exchange ideas on the draft specifications during the country consultation phase. NAPPO member countries will then reply on behalf of their own NPPO.

NAEGA will continue to track this issue on the [Grades & Inspections Committee Webpage](#) and under "International Movement of Grain" on the [NAEGA Personal Page's Website](#).

Biotech, NAEGA-NGFA Comments to APHIS on Dow GMO Corn – NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) have submitted comments to the USDA's Animal

& Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regarding Dow AgroScience's request for nonregulated status for biotechnology-enhanced corn event DAS-40278-9 that has been genetically engineered for increased resistance to broadleaf herbicides in the phenoxy auxin group, such as the herbicide 2,4-D.

The comments note that NGFA and NAEGA believe biotechnology providers have several corporate responsibilities associated with the commercial introduction of biotechnology events they intend to introduce into the U.S. commodity system. One of the most important of those is to voluntarily restrict commercialization under corporate stewardship plans until such time as the technology provider has obtained sufficient authorizations from key foreign governments. Any biotechnology trait that lacks approval in a country of import will confront an impossible-to-achieve zero tolerance that country, which could impede the ability of importing countries to provide for food security, imperiling present and future market opportunities for U.S. farmers and unrecoverable and extensive product and shipment-rejection costs to the U.S. production and marketing system.

Dow has not been successful in obtaining sufficient international authorizations for import of DAS-40278-9. NAEGA & NGFA believe that failing to do so in key grain and oilseed importing markets of Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan would create a risk of significant economic losses to U.S. grain and oilseed producers and markets if this event becomes present in shipments intended for such countries.

The comments conclude that NAEGA and NGFA cannot support deregulation of DAS-40278-9 until Dow obtains international authorizations for the import of the event and requests that APHIS deny Dow's request for nonregulated status. The full text of the comments can be found on the [NAEGA Public Website under "Current News"](#).

NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop — NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) held a workshop with USDA's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at the FGIS Field Office in Destrehan, LA. NAEGA Senior Advisors Arvid Hawk and Jerry Cotter attend and presented at the workshop, which also featured presentations from FGIS & NGFA staff. Topics discussed included: the Automated Barge Weighing System, the NAEGA-FGIS Intermarket Survey, proposed wheat standard changes, Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) regulations on fall protection, a discussion of new moisture meter technology and a presentation on sorghum odor protection.

The agenda for the meeting, a draft report by Arvid Hawk, and several of the presentations, have been posted to the [NAEGA Member's Only Page](#) under Events.

Arent Fox Presentation on FCPA Added to Member's Only Website - The presentation by Arent Fox, LLC on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) at the 2012 NAEGA Annual Meeting has been uploaded to the [NAEGA Member's Only Website](#). It is located under the article on the 2012 Annual Meeting on the front of the site.

FYI - RELATED NEWS

USTR Seeking Comment on Ecuador Trade Preference – The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is seeking public comments on whether Ecuador is continuing to meet

the eligibility criteria for benefits under the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA), as amended by the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act. ATPA was enacted in December 1991, to help four Andean countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru) in their fight against drug production and trafficking by expanding their economic alternatives. As of May 15, when the U.S.-Colombia free trade agreement takes effect, Ecuador will be the only remaining ATPA beneficiary, as the U.S.-Peru FTA is already in force and Bolivia's eligibility was suspended in 2009. Comments received in response to this notice will be used in developing USTR's report to Congress on the continued operation of the ATPA. Comments are due on May 22. The full Federal Register notice is available here:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/04/24/2012-9838/andean-trade-preference-act-atpa-as-amended-request-for-public-comments-regarding-beneficiary>

USDA Confirmations & Appointments–

- The U.S. Senate has confirmed the appointment of Michael T. Scuse as Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services FAS. Mr. Scuse had been serving as Acting Under Secretary since January of 2011. Prior to that he had been Deputy Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services for 2 years. Before that appointment, Mr. Scuse has been Secretary of Agriculture for the state of Vermont.
- USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack has appointed Suzanne Heinen as administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Ms. Heinen had been serving as acting administrator for the past year and she also continues to serve as the FAS General Sales Manager. Prior to that, she worked on food security issues in the Office of the Secretary and as Minister-Counselor for Agriculture at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome, Italy.

CALENDAR & WEBSITE

Official Comments Calendar

May

7 – Comments due to USDA on the Proposed Rule to add Distiller's Dried Grains (DDGs) to the export sales reporting requirements:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/03/08/2012-5486/export-sales-reporting-requirements>

22 – Comments due to USTR on Ecuador's eligibility for benefits under the Andean Trade Preference Act: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/04/24/2012-9838/andean-trade-preference-act-atpa-as-amended-request-for-public-comments-regarding-beneficiary>

Activities Calendar

May

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

23 – Tokyo, Japan – NAEGA Seminar & Centennial celebration

25 – Seoul, South Korea – NAEGA Seminar & Centennial celebration

28 – NAEGA Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday in the U.S

June

6-10 – London, United Kingdom – 2012 International Grains Council Grains Conference: www.igc.int and meeting of the International Grain Trade Coalition (www.igtglobal.com)

14 – St. Louis, Missouri – Soybean Industry Advisory Council Meeting with USSEC Regional Directors & Staff – NAEGA Invited

27-29 – Bogota, Colombia – 2012 US Wheat Associates Latin American Buyers Conference – NAEGA Member Volunteers attending

September

10-11 – Santa Fe, New Mexico – NGFA Board of Directors Meeting

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/>

December

9-11 – Omaha, Nebraska – NGFA 2012 Country Elevator Conference & Trade Show

2013

March

17-19 – San Francisco, California – NGFA Annual Convention

TBD - San Francisco, California – NAEGA Annual Meetings

NAEGA Website Changes & News – In June of 2012, NAEGA plans to launch a redesigned public web page and complete the transition to the NAEGA Personal Pages website. The new public site will be fully integrated with the Personal Pages and will eliminate the current Member's Only website. 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](#).

NAEGA Issues & Decision Memos have been added to the site under the "Current Issues" section, 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.

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA.

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