



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH May 20, 2013

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

NAEGA Holiday Office Hours – In recognition of Memorial Day in the United States, the NAEGA office will be closed on Monday, May 27. The office will reopen at 9:00am Eastern time on Tuesday, May 28. We wish all of you a Happy Memorial Day.

Member participation opportunity:

- IGC International Grains Conference – London, United Kingdom, June 10-11
- USAEDC Agricultural Attaché Conference – Alexandria, Virginia, July 9-10
- 2013 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum– Cancun, Mexico, August 15-17

Action Reports

- EU, Reaction to EU Parliament Resolution on Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership

New Issues

- U.S. and Turkey Agree to Deepen Bilateral Trade Relations

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming events and notices for members

NAEGA member participation opportunity

IGC International Grains Conference – London, United Kingdom, June 10-11, 2013 – NAEGA member personnel are invited to participate in the 2013 International Grain Council (IGC) International Grains Conference. The theme of this year’s conference is *“Assessing prospects, addressing challenges”*. The IGC Grains Conference brings together key decision makers, industry representatives and other stakeholders to discuss the latest developments in the grain and oilseed markets together with the policy challenges they present. We continue to find the conference to be an excellent venue during and around which to meet with key government and industry leaders. NAEGA President Gary C. Martin plans to attend and looks forward meeting with NAEGA members at the Reception and Meetings

NAEGA may be setting up meetings with key attendees. We will keep you informed.

Meanwhile your participation is welcome in 3 different ways:

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1. **Literature distribution:** We will have a table top display at the IGC Exhibition. NAEGA members are welcome to send us promotional material to include on the table top. Please contact Patrick to make sure your company’s material is included on the NAEGA display.
2. **Workshop Participation:** We are sponsoring a workshop at the IGC Conference on June 11, 2013 entitled “Prospects and Challenges Key to the International Grain Trade and Markets”. There is still time for NAEGA member company personnel to join the panel discussion. Please contact Gary if you or a colleague would like to make remarks.
3. **Discount Registrations:** A limited number of discounted registrations are available to NAEGA members for the IGC Conference. Please contact Patrick and let us know as soon as possible if you would like to take advantage of this discount offer.

An agenda for the full IGC Conference and registration information is [available on the IGC website](#).

USAEDC Agricultural Attaché Conference – Alexandria, Virginia, July 9-10 – The U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) has announced the agenda and for its 2013 Agricultural Attaché conference, which will be held in Alexandria, Virginia on July 9-10. USAEDC is a non-profit trade association of U.S. commodity trade associations, farmer cooperatives and state regional trade groups. The approximately 80 members expect USAEDC to assist them in their export promotion efforts, specifically those in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). NAEGA, because of our use of the Market Access Program (MAP) is a member of USAEDC.

The attaché conference gives USAEDC members an opportunity to meet with overseas FAS attachés and staff and to discuss country-specific issues facing U.S. agricultural exports. NAEGA member representatives are encouraged to attend, and if interested should contact the NAEGA office for information on registering. More information is available [through think link](#).

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 20th 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 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. More details will be posted to the [NAEGA Member’s Only Website](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#) as they become available.

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

EU, Reaction to EU Parliament Resolution on Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (T-TIP) – A resolution by the European Parliament demanding the EU maintain unjustifiable sanitary & phytosanitary (SPS) barriers and the precautionary principle caused NAEGA and others representing the vast majority of U.S food and agricultural producers, processors and exporters to write an unsolicited letter to Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs Michael Froman, who has recently been nominated to be U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), and point out strong objections. The letter points out that the intent of the Parliament’s resolution undermines the U.S. goal of including sound scientific measures in the T-TIP and ultimately the agreement itself.

The EU Parliament’s resolution demands that the European Commission defend in T-TIP negotiations trade barriers and the precautionary principle on which they were based, yet, on the other hand, it calls on the United States to lift its ban on EU beef as a trust-building measure.

The EU’s non-scientific notion of “precaution” has led to the adoption of many trade-restrictive measures that have resulted in several high-profile World Trade Organization (WTO) disputes in which the EU’s defense of the precautionary approach has been ruled to be inconsistent with WTO rules. Such precautionary measures are often based on mere hazard identification, public perception and political considerations rather than proper, science-based risk assessments, as required by the WTO. “Precaution” in the EU has become a pretense for import protectionism under the pretext of consumer safety. As a result, U.S. exports have repeatedly paid the price.

Such non-science-based measures have become the most challenging barrier to U.S. food and agricultural exports to the EU and should be specifically addressed as part of the negotiations, not simply left to some future consultative mechanism as some EU parliamentarians have suggested and SPS provisions negotiated under this T-TIP must be enforceable.

The letter to Froman reminds the USTR that we believe the best way to achieve an outcome in T-TIP we can strongly support is to use the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiating structure as the template. The letter stressed that this same type of approach should be undertaken with the EU if the agreement is to succeed. The full letter can be found on the [Public Comments & Policy Statements](#) of the NAEGA public website.

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

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June

9 – Comments due to USTR on negotiation objectives with regards to Japan's participation in the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-07/pdf/2013-10724.pdf>

9 – Deadline to request to attend USTR hearing on negotiation objectives with regards to Japan's participation in the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-07/pdf/2013-10724.pdf>

17 – Written comments due to International Trade Commission on ITC investigation of the probable economic effect of the TPP: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=ITC-2013-0136-0001>

18 – Written comments due to International Trade Commission on ITC investigation of the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under T-TIP:

http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/131_037_notice04182013sgl.pdf

25 – Comments due to USDA/APHIS on the proposed extension of information collection associated with the regulations for the importation of seed and screenings from Canada:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/04/26/2013-09911/notice-of-request-for-extension-of-approval-of-an-information-collection-importation-of-seed-and>

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

U.S. and Turkey agree to Deepen Bilateral Trade Relations –The U.S. and Turkey agreed to establish a high-level committee that will examine ways to deepen bilateral economic relations and liberalize trade. The committee will be associated with the Cabinet-level Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation launched which works to improve the trade and investment climate in both countries by working through obstacles to increased market access and identifying new areas of collaboration.

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) to be negotiated between the U.S. and the European Union is expected to feature prominently in the new committee's discussions. Because Turkey is part of a customs union with the EU it would be required to extend duty-free treatment to imports from the U.S. once the TTIP is implemented, but the U.S. would not be required to reciprocate. Turkey Prime Minister Recep Erdogan and other Turkish officials have expressed support for a free trade agreement (FTA) between the U.S. and Turkey to avoid such an unbalanced outcome. Senior U.S. officials have not ruled out an FTA.

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The White House has issued a fact sheet on the committee’s work, which [can be found through this link](#).

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

May

21-24 – Washington, DC – IPC Global Food Security Symposium 2013

27 – NAEGA office closed for Memorial Day in the U.S.

28 – Unified Export Strategy application for 2014 Market Access Program funds due to USDA/FAS

29-30 – Washington, DC – Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Hearings on T-TIP

June

5 – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission Hearing on the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under T-TIP

5-7 – Opatija, Croatia - 2013 Zagreb and Croatian Association of Feed Producers, Technologists and Nutritionists (KRMIVA) Feed Conference – NAEGA invited to attend & present

10-11 - London, United Kingdom - 2013 IGC International Grains Conference - NAEGA Members invited to participate

10-14 – Istanbul & Izmir, Turkey – USDA U.S.-Turkey Agribusiness Trade Mission – NAEGA Members invited to participate

11 – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission Hearing on the probable economic effect of the TPP

19-20 – Minneapolis, Minnesota – Possible NAEGA Contracting & Best Practices Seminar

26-27 – Kansas City, Missouri – Possible NAEGA Contracting & Best Practices Seminar

July

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2 – Washington, DC – Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Hearing on negotiations to address certain non-tariff measures that will be conducted bilaterally in parallel to the TPP negotiations

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

August

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

November

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

March

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

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

Member Notices

The New NAEGA.org – NAEGA’s public website at www.NAEGA.org has been redesigned and launched as of June 18, 2012. The new NAEGA.org features a more user-friendly interface, a better search engine, and integration with the NAEGA Personal Pages website. The new site also features social media tools for sharing public NAEGA actions on a wider scale. NAEGA accounts have been established at LinkedIn and Twitter, and stories on the public site can be shared on Google Plus. NAEGA members and staff should take the opportunity to enhance their experience with a NAEGA Members Personal Page. NAEGA Director of Operations Patrick Hayden is will assist you to setup and maintain your NAEGA Personal Page.

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