



# Celebrating 100 Years

May 21, 2012

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

**Welcome to New Member Representative from Itochu** – Kenya Miyazaki of Itochu International has informed the NAEGA office that he is leaving Itochu's New York office and will no longer serve at Itochu's Member Representative. Nobukai Hironaka is taking his place as Member Representative effective immediately. Please join NAEGA in wishing Kenya the best of luck in the future and in welcoming Mr. Hironaka to the Association. His contact information has been added to the NAEGA Membership Directory on the NAEGA Member's Only site.

## **Member Action Opportunities:**

Upcoming Events Open to NAEGA Member Participation;  
London meeting with Iraq Trade Minister and Grain Board June 2012 Update;  
More Member Benefits from NAEGA.org;  
Container logistics and Canada grain marketing Task Forces;

## **Tracking NAEGA Actions:**

Canada, New Phytosanitary Requirement for all Imported Grain; Colombia, Certificate of Origin Issue; Vietnam, APHIS requests Vietnam drop Methyl Bromide Fumigation Requirement; U.S., GIPSA Response on New Moisture Meter Technology; U.S., NGFA & NAEGA Response to CME Group Change to Electronic Trading Hours, NAEGA Workshop at 2012 International Grains Conference

## **FYI Related News:**

G8 Action on Food Security & Nutrition

## **Calendar and Website:**

NAEGA Holiday Hours, Upcoming events and Website News

## **Member Action Opportunities:**

*The Following Events are open to NAEGA Member Participation. Full Details on Each Event can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the [NAEGA Member's Only Page](#) and the [Personal Pages Website](#)*

**Tokyo, Japan – Industry Dialog and NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event  
– May 23, 2012**

**Seoul, Korea – Industry Dialog and NAEGA Centennial Celebration Event –  
May 25, 2012**

**London, UK – 2012 International Grains Council Conference, International  
Grain Trade Coalition Meeting, meeting with Iraq Trade Minister and Grain  
Board – June 6-8, 2012**

**Bogota, Colombia – U.S. Wheat Associates Latin American Buyers  
Conference – June 27-29, 2012**

**Alexandria, Virginia – 2012 U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council  
FAS Attaché Meetings & Seminar – July 11-12, 2012**

**Portland, Oregon – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – August 20 – 1 -5  
PM.**

**Portland, Oregon – NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21,  
2012**

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2012 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – August 30 –  
September 1, 2012**

**London meeting with Iraq Trade Minister and Grain Board June 2012 Update** –Iraq Minister of Trade Dr. Khairallah Hassan Babiker has accepted NAEGA’s invitation to meet in London, England during the afternoon of Wednesday June 6. The meeting will be in advance of the 2012 International Grains Council Conference that begins with a reception that evening. Pending final travel plans including visa arrangements, the Minister will be joined by a team from Iraq that includes

1. Hassan Ismail Ibrahim, Acting General Manager - Iraqi Grain Board
2. Mr. Riadh Fakhr Al-Hashimi – General Manager – Iraqi State Company for Grain Processing
3. Ms. Najah Ibrahim Mohammed – Director of the General Contracts Department – Minister of Trade’s Office
4. Ms. Rasha Salah Mehdi – General Contracts Department – Information Studies and Stock Exchange Division - Minister of Trade’s Office

The time and location of the meeting is currently being arranged, and we will publish that information as soon as it is available. The Minister has also accepted an invitation to a U.S. Industry dinner hosted by U.S Wheat Associates. The dinner will be on Thursday, June 7 after the close of the IGC conference.

NAEGA members that would like to have a representative take part in this meeting or attend the dinner should contact the NAEGA office as soon as possible. Please understand that the meeting and dinner are still pending confirmation of travel plans and visas for the Iraq government.

**More Member Benefits from NAEGA.org** – As NAEGA prepares to launch our new public website in early June, NAEGA members and staff will be able to enhance their own use of the NAEGA Members Personal Pages website.

- The Members only password protected website will be fully integrated with the new Public Site.
- Members only “Personal Pages” will be used to facilitate business networking and easy information access.
- NAEGA members and staff, using their own, individual “Personal Page” will now be able to post new documents to, as well as directly search and retain files from, NAEGA's growing digital library. Each personal page is unique, with contact information, retained information and news relevant to committee and other interests of the subscribed individual.

**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.

## **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.*

**Canada, New Phytosanitary Requirement for All Imported Grain** – One of the issues of concern for the Task Group on U.S. and Canada Grain Trade established by Canada Grains Council and NAEGA was notified to the World Trade Organization this week. The Task Group has been formed to deal with various issues related to cross border trade grain and oilseed trade between Canada and the U.S.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is proposing that all imports of grain into Canada will be required to be certified free from *Eriochloa villosa* (woolly cup grass) in addition to any existing phytosanitary requirements. All shipments will require proof of absence of *Eriochloa villosa*, such as a phytosanitary certificate with additional declarations or another method of verifying freedom from contaminants that is approved in writing by the CFIA.

The proposed date of adoption for this requirement is 30 July 2012. The phytosanitary requirements put in place to regulate *Eriochloa villosa* will be incorporated within the draft Directive D-12-01 Phytosanitary requirements to prevent the introduction of plants regulated as pests in Canada, as well as other directives where appropriate. The notice is on the web at: [http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2012/sps/CAN/12\\_1695\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2012/sps/CAN/12_1695_00_e.pdf)

We are working closely with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to address the risk assessment and practical applications as well as precedent that will be set by the change in CFIA approach to phyto requirements for U.S. grain imports.

The Task Group on U.S. and Canada Grain Trade has its first meeting scheduled for June 14. NAEGA has requested the CFIA action, as well as the immediate focus of the Task Group is to develop a communications strategy and factual materials to inform stakeholders on U.S. and Canada cross-border trade of grains and oilseeds, with an immediate focus on what Canadian and U.S. farmers need to know about each country's system for a typical shipment of wheat or barley, and consider policy recommendations to further facilitate trade between the two countries, be included on the agenda for that meeting.

**Colombia, Certificate of Origin Issue** – As reported in the May 14, 2012 edition of OUTREACH, NAEGA has been working with USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) to clarify Colombia's Decreto 0730/2012 which provides instructions for issuing a Certificate of Origin for goods covered under the recently enacted U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

Colombia's regulation requires that the a certificate of origin show the name and address, telephone number and e-mail of the "producer", and if the exporter is different, then the exporter's name and address, telephone number and e-mail would also have to be declared. Since grain is often sourced from many farmers and with logistics that rely on efficiencies of comingling grain during transportation and handling, identifying individual farmers as producers is practically impossible.

The language in the U.S.-Colombia FTA is similar to that in U.S.-Peru FTA. When the U.S.-Peru FTA was implemented, it took some time before Peru's Customs officials agreed to accept a definition of producer as an entity that assembles the goods and allowing for a Certificate of Origin that lists the US exporter listed as the producer.

We are continuing to pursue clarification from Colombian officials regarding how to identify the producer on the Certificate of Origin. Meanwhile we understand Colombia may accept Certificate of Origin form that identifies the producer as "unknown".

The U.S.-Colombia FTA officially entered into force on Tuesday, May 15, 2012. The Embassy of Colombia simultaneously launched a newly updated version of its official website – [www.colombiaemb.org](http://www.colombiaemb.org). The site has been updated with a new design and content, all aimed at highlighting key information about Colombia, its history and culture, and the longstanding bilateral alliance between Colombia and the United States.

**Vietnam, APHIS Requests Vietnam drop Methyl Bromide Requirement** – NAEGA is supporting the USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) official request for

Vietnam to accept phosphine fumigation of grain in lieu of methyl bromide. This week, APHIS sent the Deputy Director- General Plant Protection Department of the Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development a package that included a description of the procedures and official certification of in-transit phosphine fumigation of U.S. grain cargos, published, peer-reviewed articles describing related experimental results attesting to the efficacy of ship board phosphine fumigation, U.S. government recognized label instructions, and guidelines for the official monitoring and certification of in-transit fumigation. The letter to the Deputy Director and the accompanying documents has been posted to the [NAEGA Grades Committee Webpage](#) under “Vietnam”. NAEGA will continue to monitor the issue.

**U.S., GIPSA Response on New Moisture Meter Technology** – In response our concerns regarding the Federal Grain Inspection Services’ (FGIS) implementation on new Universal Grain Moisture Algorithm (UGMA) moisture meter technology the USDA’s Grain, Inspection Packers & Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has established a dedicated public website at [www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/equipment.html](http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/equipment.html) which includes information on UGMA technology as well as information on implementation of the new moisture meters and the current commodity implementation schedule for the meters. In their response, they included a list of where the new meters will be located. The letter from GIPSA announcing the creation of the website and the list of UGMA-compatible meter locations has been posted to the [NAEGA Public Website under “Current News”](#) and the [Personal Pages Issue Tracking page](#) for Moisture Meter Technology.

**U.S., Industry Response to CME Group Change to Electronic Trading Hours** – NAEGA joined the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) in a press releases commending the CME Group for amending its plan to expand its Globex electronic trading hours. Previously, the exchange had planned to close electronic trading from 4 to 6 p.m. Central time. In response to industry concerns that sufficient time be provided during normal business hours to reconcile trading accounts and perform other required administrative functions that occur following the daily market close for grain and oilseed futures and options contracts, the result of this week’s change will be a 21-hour electronic trading day that runs from 5 p.m. to 2 p.m. Central time, Sunday through Friday.

As reported on in the May 14, 2012 edition of OUTREACH, NGFA and NAEGA wrote the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) on May 10 to request a 30-day public comment period before trading hours were changed. The letter stressed that we did not oppose “some reasonable and properly constructed expansion” of electronic trading hours. NGFA negotiated a response from the CME under which they will close electronic trading in grain and oilseed from 2 to 5 p.m. Central time. Subsequently NGFA & NAEGA withdrew their request for a 30-day comment period.

NGFA and NAEGA will continue to work with the CME Group and others to address a still-unresolved industry concern – the release of key USDA statistical and economic reports during electronic trading hours. Currently, electronic and open-outcry trading does not begin until 9:30 a.m. Central time, two hours after the release of crop production, crop progress, grain stocks, planted acreage and other potentially market-moving USDA reports. There is concern from many market participants that the release of such USDA reports during electronic trading hours could increase market volatility and disadvantage some market participants because of unequal access to USDA report data in a timely manner because of such factors as lower Internet bandwidth speeds in rural areas.

The press released noted that NGFA & NAEGA are pleased that the CME Group has committed to continuing dialogue with the two organizations and other stakeholders on issues surrounding the release of USDA reports during trading hours in an effort to minimize industry concerns. The full text of the press release is available on the [NAEGA Public Website under “Current News”](#).

**NAEGA Workshop at 2012 IGC Conference** - NAEGA member personnel attending the June 7 International Grains Council (IGC) Conference in London are encouraged to attend our Workshop – “*Facilitating International Grain Trade – Dialog on Progress in Key Elements with International Grain Coalition Members*”. The NAEGA sponsored event, scheduled for 4:00PM following the IGC Conference, will engage Government leaders and commercial operators on constraints and opportunities for policy and logistics in the world’s grain market. NAEGA President and CEO Gary C. Martin will chair the workshop which will include these presentations:

1. Understanding Commercial Implications as we work to Improve Global Food Security - Paul G. Green, Consulting Agricultural Economist.
2. Reducing Barriers by Providing for Co-existence with Crop Biotechnology, Accommodating Low Level Presence - Dennis G. Stephens, Executive Director, Canada Grains Council.
3. Global Sourcing of Agricultural Commodities to meet Food, Feed and Industrial Needs - COCERAL.
4. Australia’s Market Transition – Successes and the Path Forward - Geoff Honey CEO Grain Trade Australia.

### **FYI Related News:**

**G8 Action on Food Security & Nutrition** – During the recent meeting of G8 leaders in the United States, G8 and African leaders announced a commitment to the “New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition” (New Alliance) which is part of the U.S.’s approach to global food security. In partnership with African governments the G8 plans to increase responsible domestic and foreign private investments in African agriculture, take innovations that can enhance agricultural productivity to scale, and reduce the risk borne by vulnerable economies and communities. The G8 will partner with the African Union, New Partnership for Africa’s Development and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme to implement the New Alliance”

Through the New Alliance, the G8 hopes to:

- Support the preparation and financing of bankable agricultural infrastructure projects, through multilateral initiatives including the development of a new Fast Track Facility for Agriculture Infrastructure.
- Support the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), with the goal of securing commitments of \$1.2 billion over three years from existing and new donors.
- Report on the progress of G8 development finance institutions in catalyzing additional private investment in African agriculture and increasing the range of financing options and innovative risk mitigation tools available to smallholder farmers and medium-sized agribusinesses.

- Announce the signing of Letters of Intent from over 45 local and multinational companies to invest over \$3 billion across the agricultural value chain in Grow Africa countries, and the signing by over 60 companies of the Private Sector Declaration of Support for African Agricultural Development outlining their commitment to support African agriculture and public-private partnerships in a responsible manner.
- Actively support the Scaling Up Nutrition movement and welcome the commitment of African partners to improve the nutritional well-being of their populations, especially during the critical 1,000 days window from pregnancy to a child's second birthday.
- Commit to improve tracking and disbursements for nutrition across sectors and ensure coordination of nutrition activities across sectors.
- Support the accelerated release, adoption and consumption of bio-fortified crop varieties, crop diversification, and related technologies to improve the nutritional quality of food in Africa.
- Develop a nutrition policy research agenda and support the efforts of African institutions, civil society and private sector partners to establish regional nutritional learning centers.

A full description of the strategies and goals of the New Alliance is available on the [U.S. State Department Website](#).

## **Calendar & Website**

### **NAEGA Holiday Office Hours**

In honor of Memorial Day in the U.S., the NAEGA office will close on Friday, May 25 at 1pm and will reopen on Tuesday, May 29.

### **Official Comments Calendar**

**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**

**23** – Tokyo, Japan – Industry Dialog & NAEGA Centennial Celebration

**25** – Seoul, South Korea – Industry Dialog & NAEGA Centennial Celebration

**25** –Market Access Program 2013 Universal Export Strategy Due to USDA/FAS

**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](http://www.igc.int) and meeting of the International Grain Trade Coalition ([www.igtglobal.com](http://www.igtglobal.com))

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

**19** – Washington, DC – Food and Drug Administration (FDA) holding public Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) meeting on [“International Capacity Building with Respect to Food Safety”](#)

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

### **July**

**14-15** – Alexandria, VA – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council USDA FAS Attaché Meetings & Seminar – NAEGA Members Invited to Attend

### **August**

**7** – Washington, DC – U.S. Coast Guard Alternate Security Program Workshop – Jerry Cotter Attending

**20** – Portland, OR – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting

**21** - Portland, OR - NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop

**30-September 1** – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2012 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Sheraton Bunganvilas Resort & Convention Center

### **September**

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

**17-19** – New Orleans, Louisiana – 2012 Soy & Grain Trade Summit  
<http://www.cvent.com/events/soy-and-grain-trade-summit-2012/event-summary-e825f86219fe423296fd676fcca69a70.aspx>

### **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/>

**15-18** – Louisville, Kentucky – 2012 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Meeting: <http://www.nappo.org/en/>

### **December**

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

### **2013**

#### **March**

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



**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](mailto: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.

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