



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH May 28, 2013

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Member participation opportunity:

- Presentation on Cuba’s Agricultural Sector – Washington, DC, May 30, 2013
- 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

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- NAEGA Submits UES Application for 2014 MAP Funds
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NAEGA member participation opportunity

Presentation on Cuba’s Agricultural Sector – Washington, DC, May 30, 2013 – NAEGA member personnel are invited to attend a presentation on Cuba’s agricultural sector by the Office of Global Analysis (OGA) of USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS). OGA will be presenting their findings on the impact of agricultural policy reforms on Cuba’s agricultural sector on Thursday, May 30, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5066-S, USDA South Building, 14th and Independence Avenue S.W. in Washington, D.C., If you are interested in participating, please contact the individuals indicated on the invitation, [which you can find here](#). Seating will be limited, so if you would like to attend RSVP as soon as possible.

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

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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:

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. A draft agenda [can be found here](#), and more details will be posted to

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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

NAEGA Submits UES Application for 2014 MAP Funds – Following direction from the April 18, 2013 meeting of the Board of Directors, NAEGA has submitted a 2014 Unified Export Strategy (UES) application for USDA Market Access Program (MAP) funding. The UES defines NAEGA’s goals and strategy for the use of MAP funds in 2014. MAP (formerly Market Promotion Program) has been a part of NAEGA operations since 1992. The 2014 UES has been posted to the [International Programs committee website](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages](#) site.

U.S., Biotech Labeling Requirements – In response to two amendments regarding mandatory biotech labeling offered to the 2013 Farm Bill by Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Barbara Boxer (D-CA) NAEGA and other associations representing U.S food and agricultural producers have sent a letter to U.S. Senate staff working on the legislation, strongly opposing any amendment that would require mandatory special labels for food and beverages that contain ingredients derived from agricultural biotechnology.

The letter argues that a special label would unnecessarily alarm consumers and provides no health or safety benefits and that the significant negative consequences would be evident in reduced agricultural productivity, research, risk management, and environmental protections made possible by the adoption of biotechnology. Senator Sander’s amendment in particular would cause states to require thousands of products be repackaged and relabeled if they contain ingredients derived from biotechnology. This change in U.S. government policy would harm farmers, grocers, food companies and small businesses and the customers they serve by raising food costs and creating burdensome paperwork requirements for businesses.

Further, the letter points out that FDA’s current science-based policy requires labeling only when foods produced through biotechnology are changed in any way relevant to health, safety or nutrition. In addition, FDA has guidelines that companies can use in making voluntary claims regarding products produced with, or without, the use of biotechnology. The offered amendments to require mandatory labels for foods and beverages that contain ingredients derived from agricultural biotechnology are not based on science but on misperception about biotechnology. The letter has been posted to the NAEGA Public Website under [“Public Comments and Policy Statements”](#).

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World, NAEGA MAP Trip Reports Posted – The Market Access Program (MAP) trip report for the recent NAEGA missions to Gdansk, Poland by NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter and Rome, Italy by NAEGA President Gary Martin & NAEGA Senior Advisor Kendell Keith have been submitted to USDA/FAS and is now available for NAEGA members to view. The reports have been posted to the [International Programs committee website](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages](#) site.

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

May

29 – Pre-hearing briefs and statements due to International Trade Commission on ITC investigation of the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under the TPP: http://usitc.gov/research_and_analysis/documents/TA_131_038_notice05092013sgl.pdf

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>

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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 Burma Sign Trade & Investment Framework Agreement - The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has announced the U.S. and Burma, also known as Myanmar, have signed a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA), as a platform to increase cooperation on trade and other areas. The signing took place May 21, 2013 during a visit of Burmese President Thein Sein and other senior Burmese officials to Washington, D.C., and comes just three weeks after the prospect of a TIFA was first mentioned

According to USTR, the TIFA calls for the two sides to work together to identify initiatives that support the ongoing reform program and promote inclusive development that benefits the people of Burma, including the poorest segments of its population.

As a result of the easing of sanctions on Burma that took place in 2012, U.S. trade with this country has seen a significant increase, especially on the export side. USTR also mentioned that as part of the TIFA, the U.S. will work with the government in Myanmar to ensure that labor rights regulations are being implemented. Full details have been [posted at USTR’s website](#).

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

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

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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

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.

14-19 – Anchorage, Alaska – Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit – Gary Martin attending and presenting

August

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

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

March

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

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

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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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