



OUTREACH --- July 16, 2012

Working Together to Make Trade Work – Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Member Action Opportunities:

Upcoming Events Open to NAEGA Member Participation;
NAEGA Board of Director's Meeting – August 20, 2012, Portland, Oregon;
NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21, 2012, Portland, Oregon
The new NAEGA.org

Tracking NAEGA Actions:

Burma, Sanctions Lifted; Canada, Comments on WTO Notifications on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; Canada, Task Group on Grain Seed & Trade; Colombia, Colombian Ambassador Thanks NAEGA; and U.S., Joint Comments on Public Release Time of Statistical Reports

Calendar and Website:

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](#)

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

Portland, Oregon – NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21, 2012, Wheat Marketing Center

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

Amman, Jordan – U.S. Grain Industry Seminar with Iraq Ministry of Trade and Iraq Grain Board – November 13-14, 2012

NAEGA Board of Director's Meeting – August 20, 2012 in Portland, Oregon – The NAEGA Board of Directors will hold their next meeting at 1:00pm, Pacific Time on August 20, 2012 in

Portland, Oregon. The meeting will take place in the 21st Floor Conference Room of the Wells Fargo Center, located at 1300 SW Fifth Avenue in Portland. There are several hotels in the area, and if you need assistance in booking a room, please contact the NAEGA office. A draft agenda will be distributed to the Board and posted to the NAEGA Member's Only Website soon. Attendance is open to all NAEGA members. Please let us know if you plan to attend

NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21, 2012, Portland, Oregon – NAEGA's Grades and Inspections Committee will co-host a NAEGA/NGFA-Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Workshop in Portland, Oregon on August 21, 2012. The workshop will be held at the Wheat Marketing Center, located at 1200 N.W. Naito Parkway, Suite 230 in Portland. The workshop, a continuation of series of workshops at export port locations, is designed to expand understanding and identify needs related to U.S. Official grain inspection and to provide for expanded communication with local FGIS personnel.

All NAEGA member companies are welcome to attend the Workshop. An agenda for the meeting is being developed. The meeting will likely encompass all of the topics covered in the workshop held in [New Orleans on April 24, 2012](#). Please contact the NAEGA office if you or any colleagues plan to attend.

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.

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.

Burma, Sanctions Lifted – As NAEGA reported in the July 2, 2012 edition of OUTREACH, the Obama administration has begun to lift economic sanctions on Burma and has nominated the first ambassador to the Country in over 20 years in response to the Burmese government's recent moves towards free elections and recognition of human rights. NAEGA supported the nomination of Ambassador Derek Mitchell, who was confirmed by the Senate on June 29, 2012, as a full ambassador would allow for the quick issuance of a General License for trade with Burma.

On July 11, 2012, the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) announced that the U.S. will ease certain financial and investment sanctions on Burma, as a way to support the country's ongoing reform efforts. OFAC also announced two general licenses that would authorize the exportation of financial services and new investment in Burma.

The new general licenses are:

- OFAC General License No. 16 - Authorizes the Exportation of Financial Services to Burma.
- OFAC General License No. 17 - Authorizes New Investment in Burma.

OFAC explains that the policy is “aimed at supporting democratic reform and reconciliation efforts while aiding in the development of an economic and business environment that provides benefits to all Burma’s people.” The policy does not authorize new investment with the Burmese Ministry of Defense, state or non-state armed groups, or entities owned by those groups. U.S. companies are effective immediately, able to begin exporting grains, oilseeds and their related products to Burma, as long as they abide by the rules set out in General License 17. The full details on the General Licenses are [available on the OFAC website](#).

Canada, Comments on WTO Notifications on the Khapra Beetle and Woolly Cupgrass – NAEGA and the National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA) submitted comments to the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on their recent notifications to the World Trade Organization Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, proposing that imports of whole seed and grain be subject to a phytosanitary certification requirement, with additional declarations stating freedom from *T. granarium* (Khapra Beetle), and to Environment Canada (EC) on their proposed woolly cupgrass regulations

- **Comments on Khapra Beetle:** NAEGA & NGFA request that CFIA fully assess the impact of proposed changes to their import policy directives within the context of the upcoming changes to the bi-lateral U.S.-Canadian Grain marketing system, specifically that effective August 1, 2012, the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) will no longer issue export licenses for shipments of Canadian wheat and barley, including products derived therefrom, to the United States and other foreign countries. This important development may result in very significant changes to logistics related to trade of all grains and oilseeds moving both ways across the border between the U.S. and Canada. New and different pathways for pest introduction as well as new options for management of the risks related to the Khapra beetle and other quarantine pests need to be considered prior to any action in this regard.
- **Comments on Woolly Cupgrass:** The proposed woolly cupgrass requirements are intended to be implemented on August 1, 2012 and will serve as a “pilot program” under the Canadian Plant Protection Act. Phase 1 of that program will soon include additional quarantine weed seeds. NAEGA & NGFA note that the proposed woolly cupgrass requirements and further implementation of the “pilot program” as it now stands may not represent the least trade-restrictive measure for the import of grains and oilseeds from the United States. NAEGA & NGFA believe that Canada has not sufficiently considered viable options for imports from the United States that achieve its objectives.

The comments request that EC fully assess the impact of proposed changes to their import policy directives within the context of the upcoming changes to the bi-lateral U.S.-Canadian Grain marketing system, specifically the upcoming changes to the CWB. \ Time is needed to define, communicate and consider the impact, including precedent that may be set and unintended consequences that may result from the proposed as well as potential related changes.

Both sets of comments recommend that more time be allowed for appropriate consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection service, grain and oilseed producers, traders and commodity organizations regarding alternatives to the proposed regulations. Both comments, along with comments from U.S. Wheat Associates and the National Association of Wheat Growers in the Woolly cupgrass proposal are posted on the NAEGA public website under [“News & Press Releases”](#).

Canada, Task Group on Grain Seed & Trade – The Canada-U.S. Task Group on Grain & Seed Trade held its second meeting by conference call on July 13, 2012. Updated drafts of the Frequently Asked Questions & Answers (FAQs) on cross-border trade that are to be included in the industry wide communications as well as planning for the roll out of the public communication plan were considered. A new draft of the FAQs for Canadian and U.S. Farmers interested in moving their products across the border has been developed as a result.

NAEGA members are encouraged to review and comment on this draft of Producer FAQs. The Task Group is planning to publish them on a new NAEGA managed website, www.Canada-USgrainandseedtrade.info, in the next few weeks. The site will be used to convey this information to the public and receive feedback in the form of additional questions and related comments. The Producer FAQs have been posted to the [NAEGA Grades & Inspections Committee Website under “Canada”](#) and to the [NAEGA Personal Pages Site](#) under Issue Tracking for the Canada-U.S. Task Group.

The objective of the communication is primarily to provide producers and merchants, to the best of the Task Group's ability, regarding relevant commercial and regulatory processes and practices in marketing, transport and sales of wheat and barley on both sides of the Canada – U.S. border. A secondary objective is provide for background information and feedback from the targeted audience to facilitate consideration of recommendations for improvement of the policy and practices involved in Canada-U.S. trade of grains, oilseeds and other agribulks.

Colombia, Colombian Ambassador Thanks NAEGA – Colombia's Ambassador to the U.S., the Honorable Gabriel Silva, has sent NAEGA a letter of thanks on the occasion of his impending return to Colombia as his tenure as Ambassador comes to a close. Ambassador Silva expressed his gratitude for NAEGA's continued support for “strengthening U.S.-Colombia relations and in advancing the friendship between our countries and our people”. He thanked NAEGA for unwavering support for and commitment to the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement. He also thanked NAEGA President & CEO Gary C. Martin for “playing a key role in making real a new partnership” between Colombia and the U.S. NAEGA wishes the Ambassador well in his future work. The full letter has been posted to the NAEGA public website under [“News & Press Releases”](#).

U.S., Joint Comments on Public Release Time of Statistical Reports – NAEGA has joined with the American Farm Bureau Federation, American Soybean Association, the National Association of Wheat Growers, the National Corn Growers Association & National Grain and Feed Association in responding to a request by USDA for public comments on the release time of statistical reports.

In the comments we recommend:

1. Major statistical reports released by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) – in particular, “World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates,” “Acreage,” “Crop Production,” “Grain Stocks,” and “Prospective Plantings” reports – should be released publicly at a time of day when volume is heaviest and liquidity is deepest. This will help market participants cope with the added volatility we believe is virtually certain to occur as reports are released during an extended trading day.
2. Relevant agencies release a one-page summary of the pertinent information within relevant reports to be provided simultaneously with the full report. To the extent that certain participants are not able to gain access to full reports as quickly as others, or lack the capability to fully analyze the reports quickly, a summary containing the reports’ most important data would help ease, at least in part, competitive concerns driven by unequal access to report data.
3. A one-hour pause in trading around report release times that would help ensure timely and more equal access to a wide range of market participants and provide a short period of time in which to analyze the data contained in NASS reports before trading resumes.

The full comments can be found on the NAEGA public website under [“News & Press Releases”](#).

Calendar & Website:

Official Comments Calendar

August

8 – Comments due to the Federal Maritime Commission on the possible development of FMC container freight indices for U.S. agricultural exports.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/05/24/2012-12666/notice-of-inquiry-solicitation-of-views-on-requests-to-develop-and-release-container-freight-rate>

24 - Comments due to USDA on Proposed Rule requiring weekly export sales reporting from exporters of DDGs and Pork:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/06/25/2012-15437/export-sales-reporting-requirements>

September

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on BASF Plant Science’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for soybean event BPS–CV127–9: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17139.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Bayer Crop Science’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for soybean event FG72: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17136.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Dow AgroSciences’ Petition for Nonregulated Status for soybean event FG72: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17134.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on GENECTIVE SA’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for maize event VCO-01981–5: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17130.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for canola event MON 88302: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17132.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for maize event MON 87427: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17142.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for soybean event MON 87708: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17129.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for soybean event MON 87712: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17164.pdf>

11 – Comments Due to USDA/APHIS on Pioneer Hi-Bred’s Petition for Nonregulated Status for canola event DP–073496–4: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-17135.pdf>

Activities Calendar

15-19 – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada – Agriculture Working Group meeting and Cross Border Livestock Health Conference at the Pacific North West Economic Region Annual Summit, www.pnwer.org – Dave Fairfield, Vice President of Feed Services from NAEGA affiliate NGFA will represent us at the Summit.

August

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

20 – Portland, OR – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting, Wells Fargo Center – 21st Floor Conference Room

21 - Portland, OR - NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – Wheat Marketing Center

30-September 1 – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2012 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Hard Rock Hotel

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. NAEGA team to Join International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) effort at the Meetings.

2 – Rome, Italy - Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) Roundtable Meeting
<http://www.amis-outlook.org/> – NAEGA invited to attend

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/>

November

6-7 – London, United Kingdom – CropWorld 2012 Grains Congress –NAEGA invited to attend and Gary C. Martin to attend and present.

13-14 – Amman, Jordan – Meeting with Iraq Minister of Trade - Minister Babakr has accepted our invitation for his staff to attend the proposed seminar on 13 - 14 of November, 2012. *Link to invite letter*

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



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