



OUTREACH --- July 23, 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;
Roundtable Lunch Meeting with Ukrainian Grain Association at NAEGA office - July 25, 2012;
NAEGA Board of Director's Meeting – August 20, 2012, Portland, Oregon;
NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21, 2012, Portland, Oregon
Survey Available for NAEGA Members on Trade with Sub-Saharan Africa
The new NAEGA.org

Tracking NAEGA Actions:

Canada-U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Information; Canada, MAP Travel to Saskatchewan; North America, USTR Soliciting Comments on TPP Inclusion of Canada & Mexico, NAEGA Actions on the U.S. Farm Bill and NAEGA MAP Trip Report Posted

FYI Related News:

USDA Issues First Report on Availability of Shipping Containers; U.S. to Expedite Work on Upgrading East Coast Ports; and Russia PNTR Bill Introduced in House

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](#)

Washington, DC – Roundtable Lunch Meeting with Ukrainian Grain Association at NAEGA office – July 25, 2012, Noon-2PM

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**

Roundtable Lunch Meeting with Ukrainian Grain Association at NAEGA office – July 25, 2012 – NAEGA members are invited attend an "Agricultural Markets in Ukraine in 2012" informal, off-the-record, roundtable discussion and working lunch with Volodymyr Kylmenko, President of the Ukrainian Grain Association (UGA) and Mykola Gorbachov, Vice-President of UGA. Planned discussion topics include the trade and investment climate related to agricultural production, domestic and export markets and agricultural policy in Ukraine and the USA in 2012. Morgan Williams President/CEO, U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC) is hosting the UGA team and will join NAEGA President Gary Martin to chair this meeting.

The UGA, <http://uga-port.org.ua/en>, is a major private, not-for-profit trade association, headquartered in Kyiv, Ukraine. Among UGA members there are more than 46 companies that operate in Ukraine's markets of grain and agricultural products, including large Ukrainian trading companies, subsidiaries and representative offices of international trading houses, including many US companies, transportation and shipping agencies, and media companies.

The meeting and luncheon, co-sponsored by NAEGA and USUBC, is being held on Wednesday, July 25, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in the NGFA-NAEGA Conference Room at 1250 I (Eye) Street, N.W., Suite 1003, Washington, D.C. Lunch will begin at approximately 12:15 PM. If you plan to attend please RSVP to the NAEGA office by close of business **on Monday, July 23**.

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.

Survey Available for NAEGA Members on Trade with Sub-Saharan Africa –NAEGA Member Representatives are invited to share information or thoughts on trade and investment in Sub-Saharan Africa, meaning all countries south of the Sahara Desert such as Senegal, Niger & Chad and reaching south to the tip of the Continent, including already significant grain markets like Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa. Your response to the 4-question survey will be used to respond to a request from USDA for guidance on a strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa. The USDA/FAS request follows the publication by the Obama Administration of a strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa. You can find the complicated and lengthy articulation from the White House here: http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/africa_strategy_2.pdf.

Your response to the survey will be very helpful. If you would like to further discuss trade with Sub-Saharan Africa, please let us know. The survey will close at 12pm Eastern Time on Tuesday, July 24. You can [take the survey by clicking here](#).

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.

Canada-US Grain & Seed Trade Information – With the support of both the U.S. and Canadian Government and via the industry wide contributions of non-profit trade and farmer associations in both countries, NAEGA plans a public launch on or before July 30 of the effort to provide information to facilitate the marketing and grain and seed between the U.S. and Canada. The centerpiece of the effort is a NAEGA-developed website: www.Canada-USGrainandSeed.info. Now in final stages of development the website will initially include information for grain producers in the form of frequently asked questions with answers (FAQ). Two additional modules of information, one for the commercial grain trade and one for the seed trade, will be part of the second phase of the project. The most recent draft of the first Q&A module, for Grain Producers, is available at the [NAEGA Grades & Inspections Committee Website under “Canada”](#) and on the [NAEGA Personal Pages Site](#) under Issue Tracking for the Canada-U.S. Task Group.

Canada, MAP Travel to Saskatchewan – NAEGA Associate Volunteer Dave Fairfield of the National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA) travelled to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, with the assistance of NAEGA Market Access Program (MAP) funding, from July 15-18 to attend meetings of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) meeting and Cross Border Livestock Health Conference (CBLHC) taking place at the Pacific North West Economic Region ([PNWER](#)) Annual Summit in Saskatoon. The AWG meeting was on July 16 and the CBLHC meeting was

on July 17 & 18th. As we reported in the June 18, 2012 edition on OUTREACH, NAEGA was invited to participate in the two meetings by Nithi Govindasamy Associate Deputy Minister for Policy & Programs of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Mr. Fairfield is preparing a MAP Trip report, and we will notify members when it has been posted to the NAEGA Member's Website.

North America, USTR Soliciting Comments on U.S. TPP Objectives for Canada & Mexico

– The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is accepting comments, due September 4, 2012, on U.S. negotiating objectives with respect to the participation of Canada and Mexico in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. USTR will also hold a public hearing on this subject on September 24 in Washington, D.C., and has requested that the International Trade Commission (ITC) provide its advice on the probable economic effects of including these two countries in the TPP.

USTR states that comments and testimony may address the reduction or elimination of tariffs or non-tariff barriers on any articles provided for in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the U.S that are products of Canada or Mexico, any concession that should be sought by the U.S., or any other relevant matter. Comments are particularly sought on the following issues that should be addressed in the TPP negotiations:

- economic costs and benefits to U.S. producers and consumers of the removal of tariffs and the removal or reduction of non-tariff barriers
- the treatment of specific goods, including product-specific import or export interests or barriers, experience with particular measures, and approaches to tariff negotiations, including recommended staging and ways to address export priorities and import sensitivities
- the adequacy of existing customs measures to ensure that qualifying imported goods from TPP countries receive preferential treatment
- existing sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical barriers to trade
- relevant issues concerning electronic commerce, trade-related intellectual property rights, investment, competition, government procurement, the environment and labor
- how the participation of Canada and Mexico might affect new and emerging issues being addressed in the TPP, such as promoting innovation and competitiveness, encouraging new technologies and emerging economic sectors, increasing the participation of small and medium-sized businesses in trade, and supporting the development of efficient production and supply chains that include U.S. firms

NAEGA supported and continues to support the inclusion of Canada and Mexico in the TPP negotiations and is considering comments to USTR on the above issues. The request for comments from USTR on Canada [is available here](#) and the request for comments on Mexico [is available here](#). If you have any suggestions for how NAEGA should respond to the request, please contact the NAEGA office.

U.S. Farm Bill, GSM-102 Program and Biotech Regulation– On July 12, the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture approved its latest version of the Federal Agricultural Reform and Risk Management Act, commonly known as the Farm Bill. NAEGA is very much involved on addressing two elements of the U.S. Legislation: First, and the subject of much of our work over the past month, is Biotech regulations which are only in the House version of the bill. NAEGA is

working with a coalition that includes the Grain Manufacturers Association, Snack Food Association, North American Millers Association, National Oilseed Processors Association, and the National Grain & Feed Association in considering these provisions. Second, covered in both the Senate and House versions, is the USDA Export Credit Guaranteed Program (GSM-102). NAEGA continues to lead the Export Credit Working Group in addressing, with Congress and the Administration, the legislative, regulatory, operations and World Trade Organization decision compliance aspects of the GSM-102 program.

NAEGA MAP Trip Report Posted – The Market Access Program (MAP) trip report for the recent NAEGA mission to London, United Kingdom by NAEGA President Gary Martin and NAEGA Member Representative Paul Green has been submitted to USDA/FAS and is now available for NAEGA members to view. MAP activity is tracked under the MAP committee and the trip reports are available on the [NAEGA personal pages](#) site and the [MAP Committee Website](#).

FYI Related News:

USDA Issues First Report on Availability of Shipping Containers – USDA recently released its first Ocean Shipping Container Availability Report (OSCAR), which provides shippers, particularly those in the agriculture sector, with participating carriers' estimates of equipment availability for the current week as well as projected weekly container availability for the subsequent two weeks. According to the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC), this report contains information about five types of ocean shipping containers at 18 different U.S. intermodal locations in an effort to provide a more transparent view of container flows, increase efficiency and provide additional information to help U.S. exporters locate equipment to move their products. The OSCAR report includes the following information. The full report is available online [through this link](#).

U.S. to Expedite Work on Upgrading East Coast Ports - The White House has announced seven infrastructure projects will be expedited to help modernize and expand the ports of Jacksonville, Miami, Savannah, New York/New Jersey and Charleston. The White House also announced the establishment of a multi-agency task force that will develop a federal strategy and coordinated decision making principles that focus on the economic return of investments into coastal ports and related infrastructure to support the movement of commerce throughout the U.S.

- **Port Projects:** The port projects are largely focused on enabling the ports to accommodate the larger cargo vessels and other ships that will be able to transit the Panama Canal once its ongoing widening is complete in 2014. Details on these projects [are available here](#).
- **Task Force on Ports:** A White House fact sheet states that U.S. coastal ports are facing new challenges and increased competition and new opportunities, including those that will result from the expansion of the Panama Canal. The Task Force on Ports will examine these and other issues from a national perspective. It will be comprised of senior officials from the National Economic Council, the Office of Management and Budget, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of the

U.S. Trade Representative, and the departments of the Army, Commerce, Homeland Security, Transportation and the Treasury. The Fact Sheet can [be found online here](#).

Russia PNTR Bill Introduced in House – House Ways and Means Committee leaders from both parties have introduced legislation to grant permanent normal trade relations (PNTR) status to goods imported from Russia. Committee leaders state that while a review of the legislative text of the PNTR bill passed by the Senate Finance Committee is still pending, the House bill “is expected to mirror” it. Provisions designed to address concerns about human rights violations in Russia, which were added to the Senate bill before the Finance Committee passed it, are expected to be included in the House bill.

Ways and Means is planning to mark up the House bill the week of July 23. This step could improve chances that PNTR for Russia will be approved by both the House and Senate before they begin their month-long summer recess. That, in turn, would allow U.S. businesses to take full advantage of the trade liberalization concessions Russia will implement once it formally joins the World Trade Organization in August. The statement from the House Ways and Means Committee leadership [is available here](#).

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

4 – Comments due to USTR on U.S. TPP Objectives for Canada:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/07/23/2012-17932/request-for-comments-on-negotiating-objectives-with-respect-to-canadas-participation-in-the-proposed#p-34>

4 – Comments due to USTR on U.S. TPP Objectives for Mexico:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/07/23/2012-17933/request-for-comments-on-negotiating-objectives-with-respect-to-mexicos-participation-in-the-proposed>

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

July

25 – Washington, DC – Lunch Meeting with Officials from the Ukrainian Grain Association – NAEGA Office, 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, 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

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



Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA.
To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list
please send a message to membersonly@naega.org with the phrase
“Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.

This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

