



OUTREACH -- August 6, 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;
USSEC Soy Exporter Meeting – August 22, 2012, St. Louis, Missouri;
The new NAEGA.org

Tracking NAEGA Actions:

Biotech, Issues Update; Biotech, Industry Roundtable; Canada-U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Information Site Update; North America, Increase in Asian Gypsy Moth Incidents;

FYI Related News:

USDA/APHIS Highlights Work on Trade

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, 2012,
1-5 PM, Wells Fargo Center**

**Portland, Oregon – NAEGA/NGFA-FGIS Regional Workshop – August 21,
2012, 8AM-3PM, Crown Center Portland Convention Center Hotel**

**St. Louis, Missouri – USSEC Soy Exporters Meeting – August 22, 2012,
10AM-Noon, Ballpark Hilton Hotel**

**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 in Belmont Room at the Crowne Plaza Portland Convention Center Hotel, located at 1441 N.E. 2nd Avenue in Portland. NAEGA partners U.S. Grains Council, the U.S. Soybean Export Council and U.S. Wheat Associates will also be participating in the workshop. 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. A draft agenda for the meeting, prepared by FGIS, is available on the [NAEGA Member’s Only Home Page](#) for your review and comment. Please contact the NAEGA office if you or any colleagues plan to attend.

USSEC Soy Exporter Meeting – August 22, 2012, St. Louis, Missouri – The U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) has invited NAEGA members to participate in a meeting for U.S. soy exporters in St. Louis on August 22, 2012. The objective of the meeting is to discuss USSEC’s “High Impact” projects which are targeted toward market diversification to build and rebuild markets for U.S. soybeans. USSEC is seeking industry input on the strategic direction of the multi-year, checkoff-funded projects. In addition, the meeting will address industry’s ideas for new projects and include a review of the U.S. Soy Family’s sustainability efforts. This meeting will immediately precede a plenary session of the Biotech Working Group hosted by the American Soybean Association and the National Association of Corn Growers that afternoon.

NAEGA members who are interested in attending should contact Nelleke Weese at nweese@ussec.org or via telephone at (636) 449-6414 for information on registering and obtaining lodging in St. Louis. A draft agenda for the event has been posted to the [NAEGA Member’s Only Home Page](#) and added to the Meetings section of the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

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.

Biotech Issues Update –

- NAEGA met with the office of the U.S. Trade Representative to discuss measures to deal with the lack of synchronized regulatory approvals. There are several upcoming opportunities where NAEGA will encourage synchronization; provide for bi-lateral mutual recognition between national regulatory bodies; and develop multinational or global as well as national low level presence policies (LLP).
- On the subject of U.S. policy, NAEGA has been asked to point out what events might be in imports to the U.S. that the U.S. would presumably have a zero-tolerance for. Possible LLP incidents may come from Brazil. Their current biotech approval list is online on their [Ministry of Agriculture website](#). Brazil has not yet published a list updated for anything that might be planted for the 2013 harvest. NAEGA will be monitoring Brazil's approval list for updates and improved information.

NAEGA's view is that right now, the U.S. would not take action related to corn events if found in a grain or oilseed import as they are all approved in the U.S. However, NAEGA believes that the U.S. might take action on a shipment that is alleged to contain the BASF soybean event Cultivance, BPS-CV-127-9 / BASF EMPRAPA, which is approved in Brazil but not in the U.S. The oft stated U.S. LLP policy is USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) "We will know it when we see it". APHIS has not said when or how they will tell industry when they see or if they will accept shipments with LLP.

- Given the current global supply and demand situation, the Canadian LLP initiative, our off again on again work with U.S. producer associations, supportive efforts by members of the International Grain Trade Coalition and the effort of the Value Added Biotech Coalition regarding U.S. Biotech regulation via Congress, the asynchronous approval situation may get some more and important attention in the next 12 months.

NAEGA will continue to track these and other Biotech issues on the [Biotech Committee Webpage](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

Biotech, U.S. Industry Roundtable – USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) has an invited NAEGA President Gary Martin to take part in an Industry Roundtable on Biotech issues that is part of a joint USDA/FAS-Michigan State University "International Agricultural Biotechnology Short Course" program for international government officials. On Thursday, September 20 from 9am to Noon at USDA's Whitten Building in Washington, DC, Gary will join other industry leaders will give their perspective on biotechnology commercialization, trade

and consumer acceptance issues and take part in a roundtable discussion on topics related to biotech regulation.

The two week long “International Agricultural Biotechnology Short Course” offers international participants an in-depth view of U.S. Agricultural Biotech practices, with participants 15 countries including India, Bangladesh, Ukraine, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Uganda, Mozambique, Kenya, Nigeria, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Algeria, and the U.S. participating. The full agenda for the Short Course has been posted to the [Biotech Committee Webpage](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

Canada-US Grain & Seed Trade Information –On August 1, 2012 Canada’s Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act went into force. NAEGA and the Canada Grains Council have co-chaired a coalition of industry and producer trade associations to facilitate new trade opportunities between Canada and the United States arising from the passage of the Act. The centerpiece of the effort is the NAEGA-developed website, www.Canada-USGrainandSeed.info, which was launched on July 30, 2012 ahead of the implementation of the act. Currently, the website includes information for grain producers in the form of two sets of frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs) for producers from both the U.S. and Canada. The information will help producers understand the similarities and differences between the two systems to help avoid issues in marketing and delivering their grain across the border. New questions and other updates to the website and the FAQs have been made since it was launched on July 31. Those updates, and future updates, will be tracked on the site’s [“News and Updates” page](#).

Two additional information paths, one for the commercial grain trade and one for the seed trade, will be part of the second phase of the project.

North America, Increase in Asian Gypsy Moth Incidents – USDA and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have notified shippers of an increase in the number of incidents where Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) live egg masses have been found on vessels entering U.S. and Canadian Port and in the past several weeks United States and Canadian authorities have intercepted a large number of commercial marine vessels with live Asian gypsy moth (AGM) egg masses on the superstructures of ships and cargo. These events pose high risks for spreading this pest in North American and require that infested vessels be expelled from port until all egg masses are removed from the vessel, leading to delays in cargo loading or discharging activities and in routine clearance have been significant and result in the loss of revenue to the shipping line and associated parties.

USDA and CFIA have issued a joint memo detailing instructions for an arriving vessel if that vessel has visited ports in China, Korea, Japan and Far East Russia anytime during period of May through September:

1. Vessels must obtain pre-departure certification and forward a copy of the certification that the vessel is free of GM life stages to their U.S or Canadian agents. The inspections should be performed as close to departure time from the regulated port as possible.
2. Shipping lines are to perform intensive vessel self-inspections to look for, remove (scrape off), and properly destroy all egg masses and other life stages of AGM prior to

entering U.S. and Canadian ports to avoid facing inspection delays; re-routing and other potential impacts associated with mitigating the risk on entry to North America.

3. All vessels should, five days prior to the vessel's arrival at its first US or Canadian port, perform their own comprehensive self-inspection and confirm to the agents whether their vessel is free of any infestation. Additional images of recent detections are also available and are attached.

4. At least two days prior to the vessel's arrival to please forward to agent a copy of the vessel's voyage memo in order agents may provide to the local U.S. and Canadian inspectors an opportunity to review the vessel's history of ports and dates.

It is the responsibility of the shipping lines to meet all requirements for entry to the U.S. and Canada for freedom from AGM and other pest concerns. APHIS notes that this is a season where AGM populations in Northeast Asia are considered to be high. The full memo from USDA & CFIA is available here.

FYI Related News:

USDA/APHIS Highlights Work on Trade – USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has highlighted the work it has done in 2012 to remove foreign trade barriers and expand foreign market access for U.S. agricultural products. APHIS notes that their efforts have helped push agricultural exports to record levels since 2009.

APHIS states that over the past year it has worked with federal, international and industry partners to arrange for the release of 209 shipments of U.S. products valued at more than \$39 million that were detained at foreign ports of entry pending resolution of various animal and plant health questions.

In addition, APHIS claims to have helped to open or maintain more than \$51 million in overseas markets for U.S. agricultural products. This includes negotiating to reopen the Chinese market for U.S. log exports in a six-month pilot program, facilitating the first export of 1,400 cattle to Angola, and helping California producers ship stonefruit to Mexico.

APHIS notes that it has launched a [new Web site](#) that will help exporters find information on its services, including trade information and regulations. This Web site also serves as the news hub for APHIS trade updates, with links to trade-related feeds from the APHIS newsroom, Twitter and the USDA blog. A press release from APHIS detailing their actions on behalf of trade [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

August

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

10 – Washington, DC – Export Credit Working Group Meeting with Deputy Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service Darci Vetter to Discuss the GSM-102 Program

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

27-28 – Washington, DC – USDA Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture Meeting. Details available online at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-08-06/html/2012-19113.htm>

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

20 – Washington, DC – Industry Biotech Roundtable at USDA – Gary Martin Participating

26-28 – New Orleans, Louisiana – Dry Bulk Terminal Group Annual Meeting – Westin Hotel New Orleans, NAEGA invited to attend

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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