



## OUTREACH --- September 4, 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;  
Requesting NAEGA Member Signatures - Rapid Response TPP Letter  
Meeting with Egypt & Libya Trade Team – September 7, 2012  
The new NAEGA.org;  
NAPPO Annual Meetings - October 15-18, 2012 - Louisville, Kentucky

### **Tracking NAEGA Actions:**

FGIS Delays Implementation of New Moisture Meter Technology; USTR Seeks Comments on WTO Complaint against Argentina; Nicaragua Issues Phytosanitary Notice on Kudzu Bug

### **FYI Related News:**

FGIS Delays Implementation of New Moisture Meter Technology; USTR Seeks Comments on WTO Complaint against Argentina; Nicaragua Issues Phytosanitary Notice on Kudzu Bug

### **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](#)*

#### **This Week**

Washington, DC – Meeting with Egypt & Libya Trade Team, NAEGA Office, 2PM – September 7, 2012

#### **September – November:**

Louisville, Kentucky - NAPPO Annual Meetings – October 15-18, 2012 – [Details Available Here](#)

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

**Requesting NAEGA Member Signatures - Rapid Response TPP Letter** – NAEGA is seeking Member Company Signatures for two letters to Douglas Bell, Chairman of the Trade Policy Staff Committee at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative regarding the inclusion of Mexico and Canada in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and to present the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) to provide a commercially-meaningful method by which to resolve trade disputes related to sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) measures and technical barriers to trade (TBT).

During the recent Board of Directors meeting, NAEGA found strong support for this initiative to include the RRM in the TPP. The two letters, which can be found on the [NAEGA Grades & Inspections Website](#) and under TPP Issue Tracking on the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#), build on several related efforts over the past 12-18 months to deploy an RRM to link commercial and official actions, improve value chain wide communication, increase the application of sound science to provide for the least trade distortive and improved national actions related to SPS and TBT measures.

The opportunity to comment to USTR as it considers the inclusion of Canada and Mexico in the TPP is a logical next step to help bring into practice an RRM. The TPP, with Canada and Mexico as parties, is an ideal environment to deploy an RRM and would provide for a launching pad for expanded use. For example, the provisions for a TPP RRM would act as a guide for the RRM concept that is already established in the USDA – China AQSIQ soybean quality MOU we are now implementing.

Comments on the inclusion of Mexico and Canada in the TPP are due to USTR at 12:00PM TODAY, Tuesday, September 4, 2012. If you your company wants to be included as signatory to this letter, please let the NAEGA office know by 11:30AM on September 4.

**Meeting with Egypt & Libya Trade Team – September 7, 2012** – NAEGA Members Representative are invited to a meeting with a trade team from Egypt and Libya on Friday, September 7, 2012 at 2PM Eastern time at the NAEG office in Washington, DC. U.S. Wheat Associates is hosting the team, which includes:

**Egypt:**

Dr. Mohamed Refaat Rasmy El-Adawy, Head, Central Administration of Plant Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture, Cairo, Egypt

Mr. Beshay Marzouk, Chairman, Horus Trading Company, Cairo, Egypt

**Libya:**

Mr. Nagi El-Tabouli, General Manager, Al-Abiar Flour Mills Company, Al-Abiar, Libya

Mr. Farag El-Mabrouk, General Manager, Al-Jawddah Flour Mills, Saloug, Libya

Mr. Ahmed El-Bira, Manager, FARMCO, Benghazi, Libya

**USW Staff:**

Mr. Hesham Hassanein, Regional Marketing & Special Projects Manager, U.S. Wheat Associates, Inc. Cairo, Egypt (Team Manager)

Your advice on what topics should be discussed and if you or a member of your organization will be attending is requested by 5PM on Tuesday, September 4, 2012.

**The New NAEGA.org** – NAEGA’s public website at [www.NAEGA.org](http://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.

**NAPPO Annual Meetings** – NAEGA plans to support the 2012 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Annual meeting, NAEGA is currently assembling sponsorship for dinner or reception at the meetings. NAPPO has been a key part of the discussion on setting standards on the International Movement of Grain, and recommendations from the [Vancouver Workshop where NAEGA presented the U.S. position](#) on the standards will be presented. This and several specific phyto-sanitary pest management issues impacting trade of agricultural products are likely to be discussed at this meeting of government officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States. NAEGA members are welcome to join NAEGA representatives at the meeting in Louisville, Kentucky from October 15-18, 2012. The invitation and draft agenda are posted to the Upcoming Events section of the NAEGA Member’s Only Site and the NAEGA Personal Pages website. More and updated information can be [found at the meeting website](#). Please let NAEGA know if you plan to attend.

### **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.*

**EU, Development of a Marketing Program to Promote the Sustainability of U.S. Agriculture** – NAEGA has joined a proposed Global Broad-based Initiative (GBI) of fellow USDA Market Access Program (MAP) collaborators to develop a marketing program to promote the sustainability of U.S. agriculture in the European Union. The program, which is being led by the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), is entitled “The USA Sustainable Agriculture” program, would include seafood, rice, grains, poultry, eggs, American hardwoods and soy and would target and communicate to first tier buyers and consumers in the EU that U.S. agricultural production is environmentally sustainable. In addition to USSEC, NAEGA’s collaborators on this project include Alaska Seafood; USA Rice Federation; Food Export Midwest; Food Export Northeast; USA Poultry and Egg Council, and the American Hardwood Export Council.

If approved by USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS), the GBI would last for three years. During the first year the work of the GBI will focus on identification of specific USDA and other government programs conducted at the national level that will provide the foundation for the sustainability messaging moving forward; Compile relevant and impactful U.S. Sustainability private sector success stories; Inventory currently EU-recognized sustainability standards or certification schemes related to each export group involved in this GBI and identify the concerns those standards intend to address.

As a direct result of the GBI program, a thorough review of existing USDA programs will be conducted to provide the basis or foundation for a sustainability messaging campaign. The cooperators will craft messages on U.S. Sustainability that focus on showing buyers exactly what the cooperators are doing to remain sustainable, how that is being measured, and how the combined industries are determined to implement plans for continuous improvement.

Final product development will be determined by the cooperators in consultation with FAS once the research phase is completed. It could be envisioned that the products would include but not be limited to hard copy literature, videos demonstrating sustainable practices, testimonials from producers and buyers to add credibility, and of course open access to data collected from the cooperators by the various USDA agencies responsible for compliance and compliance education. Each cooperating organization may also take the overarching message and tailor it to fit their specific market place, thus maximizing the overall value of the GBI investment.

The full text of the GBI proposal as submitted to FAS is available on the [NAEGA MAP Committee webpage](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

**EU, Sustainability Requirements** – NAEGA is taking part in a U.S. soybean industry stakeholders trip to the European Union (EU) to promote an alternate approach to meeting the sustainability requirements of the EU’s Renewable Energy Directive (RED) from September 9-15, 2012.

NAEGA Senior Advisor Kirk Miller will be joining a team of stakeholders led by the U.S. Soybean Export Council and travelling with the assistance of NAEGA’s Market Access Program (MAP) funds. Kirk will travel with the team first to The Hague in the Netherlands, then to Madrid, Spain and finally to Lisbon, Portugal. At each destination they will meet with local Government officials, USDA Foreign Agriculture Service staff and local oilseed and grain trade representatives to present and discuss a U.S.-industry produced alternative to the RED requirements. NAEGA has been tracking the EU RED issue on the [NAEGA personal pages](#) and the [NAEGA Board of Directors webpage](#). The agenda for this trip has been posted to those sites.

**Upcoming NAEGA MAP Travel to Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom** – NAEGA Senior Advisory Jerry Cotter will travel with the assistance of NAEGA’s Market Access Program (MAP) funds to Belfast, Northern Ireland from September 13-16 for the UNISTOCK annual meetings and London from September 17-21 for the meeting of International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on Dangerous Goods.

UNISTOCK is the European association of professional portside storekeepers for agribulk commodities within the European Union and a NAEGA partner. Jerry will represent NAEGA at the meeting and deliver a presentation on “U.S. export grain logistics and quality control”. During the IMO meeting in London, Jerry will represent NAEGA as head of the International Bulk Terminals Association (IBTA) delegation at the meeting, with a focus on the discussion regarding port personnel training under the new IMO International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code. These meeting will be tracked on the [NAEGA MAP Committee webpage](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#).

**NAEGA MAP Travel to Mexico** – A NAEGA team travelled to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico for the 19<sup>th</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum, held from August 30-September 2. The NAEGA team, which

was led by Director of Operations Patrick Hayden and included NAEGA Senior Advisors Sam Bonilla, Jerry Cotter, Kendell Keith and Kirk Miller, hosted the opening night reception and dinner, a celebration of NAEGA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and our ongoing partnership with Mexico. During the meeting NAEGA led a panel discussion entitled "A Wide Range Outlook on Food Security and Trade", with presentations from all 4 NAEGA Senior Advisors. The agenda for the forum and copies of the presentations given by the NAEGA team are available on the [NAEGA MAP Committee webpage](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#). A full trip report will be posted soon.

### **FYI Related News:**

**FGIS Delays Implementation of New Moisture Meter Technology** – The USDA Federal Grain Inspections Service (FGIS) has delayed implementation of their new Unified Grain Moisture Algorithm (UGMA) moisture meter technology until September 10, 2012. The technology was scheduled to be implemented on September 1, 2012 for Extensive testing by FGIS and Perten Instruments has identified a temperature-related performance anomaly that might be present in a few AM 5200-UGMA moisture meters that have been shipped to customers. Perten has developed a quick and definitive test to confirm that a specific instrument is not affected by this anomaly. FGIS decided to delay the implementation of the new official moisture meters - both the Perten AM 5200-A and the Dickey-john GAC 2500 UGMA until September 10 to allow for verification of all official AM 5200-A meters, which will be used for testing corn, soybeans, sorghum, and sunflower seed.

**USTR Seeks Comments on WTO Complaint against Argentina** – In late August, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) announced that the U.S. Government is requesting consultations with the Government of Argentina under the dispute settlement provisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) concerning trade restrictive measures applied to all goods imported into Argentina. These measures include the broad use of non-transparent import licensing requirements that have the effect of unfairly restricting U.S. exports. In addition, USTR asserted that Argentina further disadvantages U.S. exports by requiring importers to agree to export as much as they import or undertake other burdensome commitments in exchange for authorization to import goods. USTR is accepting public comments on the issues raised in a complaint against the following import restrictions imposed by Argentina:

- Argentina subjects the importation of all goods to approval of a non-automatic import license through the Declaración Jurada Anticipada de Importación (DJAI) system.
- Argentina subjects the importation of certain goods to other product-specific non-automatic import licenses, or Licencias No Automáticas de Importación, in the form of Certificados de Importación (CIs).
- The issuance of CIs and approval of DJAIs are systematically delayed or denied by Argentine authorities on non-transparent grounds.
- Argentina often requires importers to undertake commitments to limit imports, to balance imports with exports, to make or increase investments in production facilities in Argentina, to increase the local content of products manufactured in Argentina (and

thereby discriminate against imported products), to refrain from transferring revenue or other funds abroad and/or to control the price of imported goods.

- Argentine authorities often make the issuance of CIs and the approval of DJAIs conditional upon importers undertaking to comply with the above trade-restrictive commitments.

Comments are due to USTR on September 24, 2012. The full Federal Register notice from USTR, including information on how to comment, [is available here](#).

**Nicaragua Issues Phytosanitary Notice on Kudzu Bug** –Nicaragua’s Agriculture Ministry (MAGFOR) has issued a circular in which they state that their plant inspections agency, known as GON, will be looking for Megacopta Cribraria (kudzu bug) from shipments coming from the United States and other countries and applying phytosanitary measures as warranted. Nicaragua has started doing this earlier than the issuance of this circular, though this officially puts the policy in writing.

A copy of the MAGFOR circular is available in English through this link. The notification states that this measure is applicable to plant products and is plant health related, though USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Service notes that they have had issues with countries in the region taking action related to the kudzu bug on animal products such as poultry products and containers.

## **Calendar & Website:**

### **Official Comments Calendar**

#### **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>

**28** – Comments due to USTR on the U.S. WTO Complaint against Argentina’s restrictive trade measures: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-09-04/pdf/2012-21729.pdf>

## **October**

**9** – Comments due to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on their new draft directive D-12-01 on Weed Seeds, describing the phytosanitary requirements to prevent the introduction of plants regulated as pests in Canada:  
[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)

## **Activities Calendar**

**9** – Leesburg, Virginia – Stakeholder Meeting with Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiators, Gary Martin planning to attend and promote Rapid Response Mechanism for SPS trade barriers

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

**12** – Washington, DC – Public Hearing by the International Trade Commission on the U.S.-Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement Including Canada and Mexico: Advice on the Probable Economic Effect of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports. Details on attending are here: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-08-10/html/2012-19636.htm>

**17-22** – Rosario, Argentina – Global LLP Initiative Industry Day Meeting – Gary Martin attending, presenting and traveling with MAP program

**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. Paul Green and Diana Felner traveling under NAEGA MAP program will 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

**3** – Washington, DC – Annual Inter-agency Trade Policy Staff Committee hearing on China WTO Compliance

**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. <http://www.cropworld-global.com/page.cfm/Link=12/t=m/goSection=4>

**13-14** – Amman, Jordan – Seminar with Iraq Minister of Trade - [Current agenda available here](#)

### **December**

**6** – London, United Kingdom – IGC "Roundtable Discussion the trade issues caused by GMO/LLP issues"

**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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