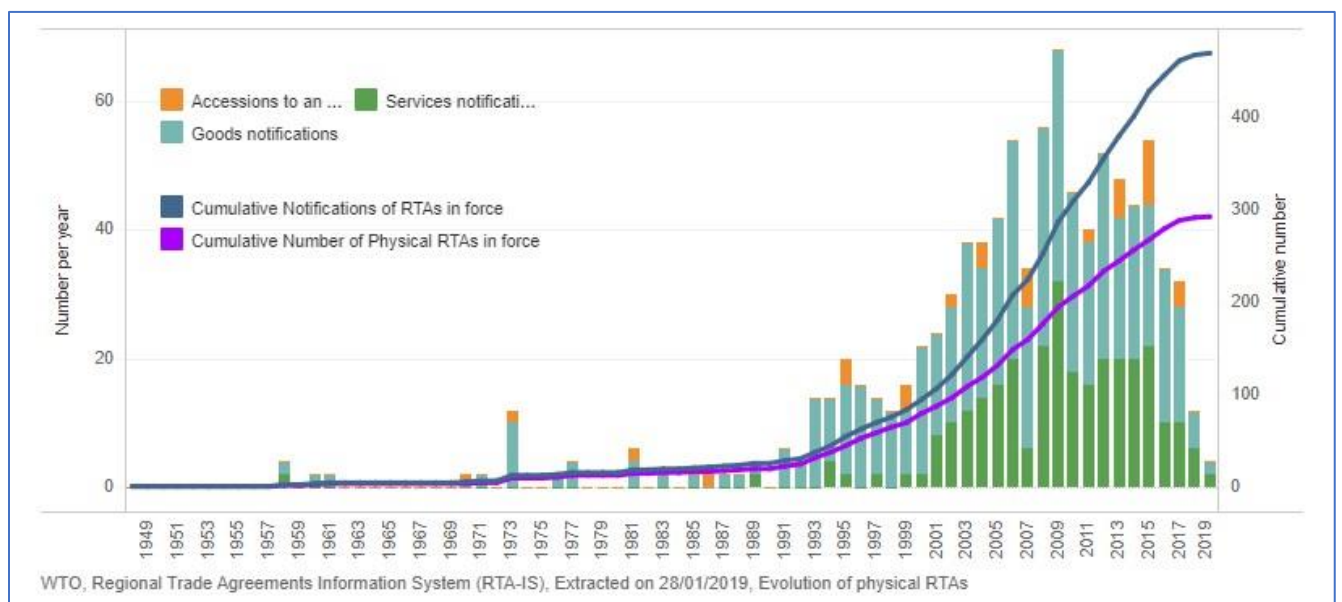


Outreach

July 15, 2020

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Image of the Week:
The Growth in Regional Trade Agreements 1949-2019



Source: <https://www.oecd.org/trade/topics/regional-trade-agreements/>

Recent Actions:

- USAEDC Attaché Seminar
- Bayer/Monsanto Petition for U.S. Nonregulated Status of GE Corn
- China COVID-19
- Vietnam NTR 190

Current Opportunities & Actions:

- BASF Petition for U.S. Nonregulated Status of GE Soybean
- Contracts Committee Meeting
- MRLs - Australia
- MRLs - Japan
- Thailand Ban on Chlorpyrifos & Paraquat
- U.S. Food and Agricultural Dialogue for Trade Webinars
- USDA APHIS Invites Comment on NAPPO Documents

- USDA Agriculture Innovation Agenda

News:

- U.S. Government FCPA Resource Guide
- USDA/APHIS 2019 Annual Report Published
- WTO Annual Report on World Tariff Profiles

Ongoing Opportunities & Actions:

- Policy Teams
- Contracts and Best Practices Seminars – Your advice requested
- Office Reopening and Communication

Recent Actions:

USAEDC Attaché Seminar

On July 7-9, NAEGA staff attended the 2020 U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) Attaché Seminar, which took place via virtual meeting. Staff met with USDA Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) attaches who will soon be travelling to Belgium, China, Italy, Egypt and Kenya, to discuss NAEGA and IGTC policy files as well as discuss country-specific agricultural issues. In addition to these one-on-one consultations, USAEDC speakers during the seminar including Ted McKinney, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs at USDA and Robert Johansson, Chief Economist at USDA, to provide updates and insight into the current status and future of U.S. agricultural trade.

For more information about NAEGA's involvement at the USAEDC contact Staff

Bayer/Monsanto Petition for U.S. Nonregulated Status of GE Corn

NAEGA and NGFA [submitted joint comments](#) to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS), responding to Bayer's [petition](#) seeking a determination of nonregulated status in the U.S. of a corn variety intended for hybrid seed production genetically engineered for tolerance to dicamba, glufosinate, quizalofop, 2,4-D, and tissue-specific glyphosate tolerance. In the comments we thank Bayer for its willingness to answer questions from industry and reiterate our position that technology providers bear a responsibility to lead comprehensive educational efforts to inform other stakeholders and consumers about the benefits and risks, if any, associated with plant-breeding innovation. We also recommend Bayer's petition be given "full, fair and prompt consideration" by APHIS. The comments as submitted [can be found here](#).

China COVID-19 Requirements

We continue to investigate and respond to reports that Chinese buyers are seeking written commitments to compliance with Chinese law and assurance that shipments of food and agricultural commodities are free of the COVID-19 virus. As of this writing, NAEGA is not aware of any shipments of grains or oilseed from North America that have been refused by China due to. A unofficial translation of a report from China's GACC shows that between June 11-17, China tested 32,174 samples of imported meat, aquatic products, vegetables, fruits, aquatic animals,

short-term or low-temperature transportation industrial products, and their packaging and operating environment for COVID-19 and that the no positive tests were reported.

Additionally, the United States has circulated [this statement](#) at the WTO's Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures, reaffirming U.S. commitment to a science based approach to COVID 19 management in trade. The statement asks that WTO members "base their actions to protect public health and safety amid the COVID-19 pandemic on scientific principles and evidence of risk, and to avoid unnecessary barriers to food trade that is vital to global food security in this crisis."

We will continue to provide the best information for your consideration and will be updating you periodically as new information becomes available. Information that NAEGA has collected on this issue [can be found here and will be updated regularly](#).

Vietnam NTR 190

NAEGA, along with NGFA and NOPA, [has sent this letter](#) to U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Food & Drug Administration regarding Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) new National Technical Regulations on Animal Feeds and Ingredients for production of Aquatic Feeds (NTR 190).. The letter alerts them to our concerns regarding NTR 190, including the criterion for "no detection" for salmonella in many agricultural products, and requests that they work with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative "and encourage them to oppose Vietnam's unnecessary and unworkable trade provisions." Other members of the Pan American Coalition of grain and oilseed trade associations (ANEC, ABIOVE, APPAMEX, CAPECO and CIARA CEC) are sending similar letters to their respective governments founded in our joint efforts to provide for technical information as well as strategy.

In addition to our work with the Pan American Coalition of like-minded trade associations we are reaching out to trading partner governments and other stakeholders and will continue to monitor, act and inform on developments on NTR 190.

Current Opportunities & Actions:

BASF Petition for U.S. Nonregulated Status of GE Soybean

BASF Corporation (BASF) [submitted a petition](#) to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) seeking nonregulated status in the U.S. of a soybean variety developed using genetic engineering for resistance to soybean cyst nematode, a microscopic parasitic worm, and for herbicide tolerance. BASF has reached out to NAEGA [and provided a fact sheet on their product for members to review](#). BASF also took part in a joint consultation with the NAEGA Production Technology Committee and NGFA Crop Technology Committee on Tuesday, July 14. We are considering submitting comments to APHIS on the petition, [which can be found here](#), and any input from members would be welcome. Comments are due July 27, 2020 [and can be submitted here](#).

Contracts Committee Meeting – July 23, 2020

The NAEGA Contracts Committee will meet on Thursday, July 23 at 3:00pm-4:30pm Eastern Time. If you are not a member of the Committees and would like information on taking part in this calls or joining the Committee, please contact NAEGA staff (Patrick Hayden,

phayden@naega.org; Sydnie Sousa, ssousa@naega.org and Gary Martin, gcmartin@naega.org) for assistance.

MRLs - Australia

Australia has notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of changes in their Schedule 20 – “Maximum Residue Limits to the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code”. The notification and full text that lists the MRLs that will be affected [can be found here](#).

USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service (USDA/FAS) is collecting comments through the WTO and is asking for input on any MRLs set in these changes that raise concerns. Input from members on if and how we should comment is welcome. Please review the documents linked above and let us know if there are any MRLs you are concerned about. Comments are due to FAS Close of Business on Friday, July 24. If you have any items of concern please let us know by Thursday, July 23 so we can submit them to FAS.

MRLs – Japan

Japan has notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of proposed changes in their Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for the agricultural chemicals Heptachlor and Fipronil. The notifications [can be found through this link](#).

USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service (USDA/FAS) is collecting comments and is asking industry for comment on if these proposed changes concerns. Input from members on if and how we should comment is welcome. Please review the documents linked above and let us know if there are any MRLs you are concerned about. Comments are due to the WTO on August 30, 20. If you have any items of concern please let us know as soon as possible so we can submit them to FAS.

Thailand Ban on Chlorpyrifos & Paraquat

[Thailand’s Food and Drug Administration \(TFDA\) extended the public comment period](#) on the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH)’s draft Notification implement bans on chlorpyrifos and paraquat used in crop protection products from June 15, 2020 to July 18, 2020. NAEGA and USSEC are jointly convening virtual meetings with U.S. government and other stakeholders to share information and develop a response. If you would like to take part in these meetings, please contact Gary or Patrick.

U.S. Food and Agricultural Dialogue for Trade Webinars

The U.S. Food & Agriculture Dialogue for Trade (USFADT) is developing two webinars to take place in the next several weeks. The first, entitled "The Intersections of the U.S.-UK, UK-EU and U.S.-EU Negotiations and the Outlook for Agricultural Trade", will take place on Wednesday, July 22 at 10am Eastern. Featured speakers include Sharon Bomer Lauritsen, former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Agricultural Affairs and Joao Pacheco, Senior Fellow at Farm Europe and formerly Deputy Director-General at the EU Directorate for Agriculture.

The second, being developed by NAEGA along with the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and the United States Department of Agriculture’s Foreign

Agriculture Service (USDA/FAS) is entitled “U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports to Sanctioned Countries”. This will be a virtual, confidential, and off the record briefing and discussion experts from OFAC and USDA/FAS on U.S. exports to sanctioned countries. Topics such as utilizing the general license for agricultural commodities and current developments related to Iran sanctions will be covered, as well as a number of different sanction programs that OFAC administers, which can be found at [OFAC programs](#). The date for this event is not yet set.

For more information on either webinar, please contact NAEGA staff

USDA/APHIS Invites Comment on NAPPO Documents

The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) opened the 2020 NAPPO Country Consultation period, which provides an opportunity for stakeholders to comment and review, for the three NAPPO documents on Regional Phytosanitary and Science & Technology Documents, [found here](#).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is encouraging U.S. stakeholders to submit comments on these documents, through the APHIS Plant Protection & Quarantine (PPQ) service. Comments should fall into one of three categories: substantial, technical, or editorial. Details on how to comment to NAPPO through PPQ [can be found here](#). The country consultation is open for 90 days (June 1 – August 31, 2020) for the two regional standards and for 60 days (June 1 – July 31, 2020) for the new Science and Technology Document

NAEGA’s Grades and Inspections Committee will be asked to consider a response. Your advice is welcome.

USDA Agriculture Innovation Agenda

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) [is soliciting comments and suggestions](#) on objectives and opportunities leading to research goals and informed product goals to facilitate transformative breakthroughs to enable U.S. agriculture to meet the Department’s goal of increasing agricultural production by 40 percent to meet the needs of the global population in 2050 while cutting the environmental footprint of U.S. agriculture in half. This effort is part of USDA’s Agricultural Innovation Agenda, the Department’s commitment to the success of American farmers, ranchers, producers, and foresters in the face of future challenges. NAEGA is considering providing input to this request. All comments are due August 1, 2020. More details [can be found here](#).

News:

U.S. Government FCPA Resource Guide

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) have recently published an updated edition of “[A Resource Guide to the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act \(FCPA\)](#)”. First published in 2012, the guide is a detailed compilation of information and analysis regarding the FCPA and related enforcement, authored by experts at DOJ and SEC.

The Guide addresses a wide variety of topics, including who and what is covered by the FCPA’s anti-bribery and accounting provisions; the definition of a “foreign official”; the jurisdictional

reach of the FCPA; types of proper and improper payments; application of successor liability in the mergers and acquisitions context; the hallmarks of an effective corporate compliance program; and the different types of civil and criminal resolutions available in the FCPA context. The guide and background information [is available here](#).

USDA/APHIS/PPQ Annual Report

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service Plant Protection and Quarantine division (USDA/APHIS/PPQ) has issued [it's 2019 annual report](#). This year's report details PPQ efforts over the past 5 years to improve phytosanitary protection efforts for products imported into the U.S. and to "promote a safe, fair, and predictable trade system." The report also highlights PPQ's work with the International Plant Protection Convention's global ePhyto system. More details on the report [can be found here](#).

WTO Annual Report on World Tariff Profiles

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has published "World Tariff Profiles 2020", an annual report which provides comprehensive information on the tariffs imposed by over 170 countries and customs territories. The publication also provides statistics on non-tariff measures, such as safeguards and anti-dumping measures, used by WTO members. The publication is jointly prepared by the WTO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre. The report [can be found here](#).

Ongoing Opportunities & Actions:

Policy Teams

With the evolving global trade environment, we expect many more fast-paced and dramatic developments that could greatly change the terms of trade for NAEGA members. Your involvement is needed!

Ad hoc policy teams of member personnel working largely through virtual meetings to help guide our multifaceted effort to address the evolving trade environment. A policy team focused on the Asia-Pacific Market is very active at this time. Full Details on policy team activity can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the [NAEGA Member's Only Page](#).

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars – Your advice requested

We are currently scheduling virtual Contracts and Best Practices Seminars. Please let us know when, how and where you would like to participate in the NAEGA Senior Advisor led seminars.

The seminars are an intensive and informative review of commercial and official practices taught in an interactive environment. Both public/multiple company and private/single company seminars are available and can be tailored to your needs. [Click here](#) for more information on the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Office Reopening and Communication

The NAEGA office in Arlington, VA is operating under a limited reopening until at least August 31, 2020 staff will continue to work remotely the majority of the time and have no travel planned.

We are conducting and participating in many virtual meetings. Most NAEGA hosted virtual meetings use Microsoft Teams. Teams ability to share documents and instantly connect with multiple users will enhance our ability to serve you. All you need to do is email NAEGA staff and request a consultation via Teams and we will set up a virtual meeting with you as soon as we can. We can always be reached via email or cell phone as well.

This [5-minute video tutorial](#) provides an introduction to using Microsoft Teams for virtual meetings. If you have had trouble using Teams and would like additional assistance, please contact Patrick at phayden@naega.org.

Calendar & Member Notices:

Click [here](#) for a copy of the IGTC Calendar

2020

Events that have been cancelled, postponed or changed to virtual events due to COVID-19 are italicized

July

22 – U.S. Food & Agriculture Dialogue for Trade Webinar on U.S-EU, U.S-UK & UK-EU Trade

30 – *Australian Grain Industry Conference - Taking Place Virtually*

August

4-6 - *U.S. Grain and Soy Buyers Conference – Taking Place Virtually, Gary Martin to present*

September

10 – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Via MS Teams

15-30 – *75th annual United Nations General Assembly - New York, NY*

October

TBD - *DBTG Operational & Technical Conference – Rotterdam, The Netherlands – Postponed from April 2020*

5 – G-20 Meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

TBD – *Convention on biological diversity (CBD) COP 15– Kunming, China – Postponed*

TBD – *China World Grain Forum - Postponed*

November

3-4 – *IGTC General Assembly – Now Taking Place Virtually*

3 - U.S. Presidential Election

12 - APEC in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

21-22 – G-20 Annual Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

TBD – *NAEGA Contracts & Best Practices Seminar – Tokyo, Japan - Tentative*

December

TBD – International Grains Council’s 52nd Session – London, UK

2021

March

14-16 – NGFA Annual Convention – San Diego, CA

2022

December

TBD – COP 16 – CBD – Turkey

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