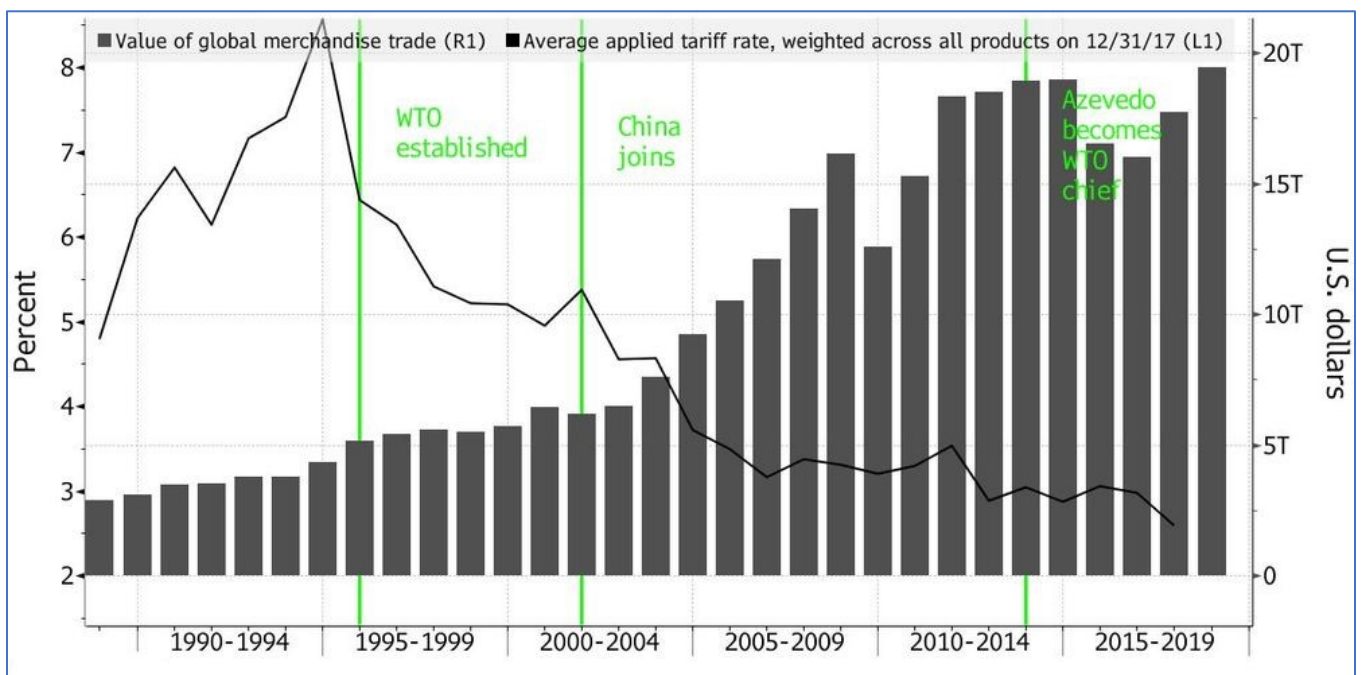


Outreach

May 19, 2020

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Image of the Week:
Growth in Global Trade Since the Establishment of the WTO



Source: The World Bank

Recent Actions:

- COVID-19 Response
- Letter in Support of IICA

Current Opportunities & Actions:

- Thailand Bans on Chlorpyrifos and Paraquat
- China MRLs
- Korea MRLs
- AgriVida Petition for Nonregulated Status of GE Corn
- Bayer/Monsanto Petition for Nonregulated Status of GE Corn
- USDA Seeks Input into the Agriculture Innovation Agenda

News:

- U.S.-China Phase One
- USDA Releases Final SECURE Rule
- OFAC Issues New Sanctions Advisory

Ongoing Opportunities & Actions:

- U.S. ITC Investigation of MRL Impacts on Trade
- Advancing Virtual Communication
- Policy Teams
- Contracts and Best Practices Seminars – Your advice requested

Recent Actions:

COVID-19 Response

The Global Pandemic continues to be the priority for Association action. In the March 23, 2020 edition of Outreach, we described NAEGA's message on the war against COVID-19 and our information sharing plans related to COVID 19 response and mitigation. We welcome and appreciate your advice and comment.

Recent related actions include:

The Contracts Committee has considered implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Takeaways from the Committee discussion were reported in the May 11, 2019 edition of Outreach and are available [through this link](#)

The International Grain Council (IGC) hosted a virtual seminar on Thursday, May 14 entitled "Impact of COVID-19 on the grains value chain". NAEGA President Gary Martin presented on behalf of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC). Gary's presentation, "Responses to Covid-19 and the paths forward for the grain trade", [can be found here](#).

The National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA) will be hosting a free webinar on workplace safety as it relates to COVID-19 on May 20, 2020 from 3:00-4:00pm Eastern Time. The webinar, entitled "COVID-19 Updates for Grain, Feed and Processing Industry: OSHA Guidance and Workplace Health and Safety Issues" will break down the workplace safety implications of the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration's (OSHA's) recently issued "Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19," which defines risk categories and provides recommendations on how to protect employees. NAEGA members are invited to attend [and can register here](#). NGFA continues to update its webpage to provide employers and workers with current information on COVID- 19, including links to important material on the CDC and OSHA webpages regarding the use of PPE - ngfa.org/covid-19.

The International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) is providing intelligence on developments in trade and supply chains around the world related to COVID-19. IGTC is now convening bi-weekly MS

Teams meeting to facilitate information. The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, May 21, 2020. If you would like more details on IGTC's reporting, please contact NAEGA staff.

The Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG) will host a webinar on Thursday, May 28 entitled "On Dry Bulk Terminals - Managing Covid-19 and Our Lessons Learnt". The Webinar will cover how COVID-19 has impacted dry bulk terminal operations, impacts on employees and what lessons have been learned and used for the future. If you are interested in taking part, [you can register here](#). Please note that the webinar will begin at 11:00am London, UK time.

Our ongoing thoughts are with everyone affected by the coronavirus outbreak, particularly those on the front lines helping to battle this disease and ensure agricultural products continue to move to markets around the world. We continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic on our industry and are updating entities who value and bear the risk for transboundary movements of grain, oilseeds and other agri-bulks with relevant information as it becomes available.

We have implemented a new and temporary policy in light of COVID-19 to minimize the contagion and the support public health. We have a robust telework system and while we are often working remotely, we are prepared to help through these extraordinary times. Thank you for your understanding and use of email to contact us. We know you share our hope that we can get back to more normal operations soon.

Letter in Support of IICA

NAEGA has joined as a signatory to a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in support of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). The letter highlights the work IICA has done in reducing non-scientific barriers to trade, it's work in supporting trade agreements between the U.S. and its partners in the Americas, and it's coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in on a number of issues, including the fight against COVID-19. A copy of the letter [can be found here](#).

Current Opportunities & Actions:

Thailand Bans on Chlorpyrifos and Paraquat.

Thailand continues to move forward with its plan to implement bans on chlorpyrifos and paraquat used in crop protection products on June 1, 2020. As NAEGA has been reporting, the no detection /a zero tolerance for the presence of both chemicals will apparently apply to import, sale, use, production, and residues in food. We are working on several fronts to encourage Thailand to provide for practical and science based Maximum Residue Levels for both chlorpyrifos and paraquat. We are also continuing to seek information on how Thailand plans to implement the ban. Insights and analysis from NAEGA members are welcome.

China MRLs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) has reported that on April 30, 2020, China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) released, domestically, three draft pesticide maximum residue limits (MRL) measures for public comment. Comments are due May 31, 2020.

According to FAS, the MARA notice contains three appendices: “Maximum Residue Limits of 147 Pesticides in Foods (including 2,4-D Dimethylamine)” (Appendix 1), "Maximum Residue Limits of 17 Pesticides in Foods (including (Ethametsulfuron)" (Appendix 2) and "Maximum Residue Limits of 30 Pesticides in Foods (including Crotoxyphos)" (Appendix 3).

The Appendix 1 contains 35 pesticides that have not yet included in GB2763 (National Food Safety Standard - Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides in Foods). It also expands the scope of use of 110 pesticides, and modified MRLs of three pesticides (modified the MRL of fluxapyroxad in corn from 0.01*mg/kg to 0.05*mg/kg, modified the MRL of tricyclazole in cereal from 0.1mg/kg to 0.02mg/kg).

The Appendix 2 contains MRLs of pesticides banned in China.

The Appendix 3 lists 30 pesticides that are not yet registered in China, with 810 new residue limits.

The MARA public notice, which is only available in Chinese language form, [is available here](#). FAS/Beijing is working to translate this measure into English and will make it available as soon as they can. FAS expects that the MRLs will be notified to the World Trade Organization for comments by trading partners sometime in the future. NAEGA will continue to monitor and report on these developments.

Korea MRLs

Korea [has notified to the World Trade Organization \(WTO\)](#) “Proposed Amendments to the Standards and Specifications for Foods” which includes proposals for Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for 117 pesticides. The list of MRLs, [which can be found here](#), includes Peironyl batoxide, Triticanzole , Terbufos, Navluron, Flathiacel- methyl and Oxytetracycline. NAEGA is considering submitting comments on the proposed MRLs through USDA and any input from members would be welcome. Comments are due to USDA on May 26, 2020, and to WTO on June 20.

AgriVida Petition for Nonregulated Status of GE Corn

AgriVida, Inc. has submitted a petition to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) seeking a determination of nonregulated status of Maize Event PY203, a corn variety genetically engineered for the production of phytase enzyme for nutritionally enhanced food and feed use. As we reported in the May 11, 2020 edition of Outreach, the NGFA Crop Technology Committee and NAEGA Production Technology Committee held a consultation with AgriVida on their plans for PY203. NAEGA is considering submitting comments to USDA/APHIS on the petition, [which can be found here](#), and any input from members would be welcome. Comments are due June 15 [and can be submitted here](#).

Bayer/Monsanto Petition for Nonregulated Status of GE Corn

Bayer/Monsanto has submitted a petition to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) seeking nonregulated status 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. The petition [can be found here](#) and USDA/APHIS is accepting comments on the through July 7, 2020. NAEGA is considering

comments on this petition and any input from members would be welcome. [Comments can be submitted through this link.](#)

USDA Seeks Input into the 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. - China Phase One

We continue to monitor developments in the implementation of the U.S.-China Phase One trade agreement.

The U.S. and Chinese governments continue to escalate their argument related to the outbreak of, and response to, COVID-19, though China is still increasing purchases of U.S. agricultural products. The U.S. Department of Agriculture [reported that Chinese importers](#) bought 1.19 million metric tons of corn, 1.17 million metric tons of cotton, 1.6 million metric tons of soybeans and 244,532 metric tons of pork between March 1 and May 7. In addition USDA has been notified of sales of [roughly 730,000 metric tons more soybeans](#) since May 7. These numbers are below the expected targets set by the terms of the Phase One deal, but many commentators believe the lower number [are a result of the pandemic.](#)

In addition to closely watching developments, we are providing leadership, advice and coordination across the value chain. **NAEGA Member input remains critical and needed** to identify practices to support a more efficient trade. Please contact us as soon as possible with your advice and questions on practices to support a more efficient trade with China.

USDA Releases Final SECURE Rule

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released its Final Rule for 7 CFR Part 340 on Thursday, May 14, 2020 updating and modernizing the USDA's biotechnology regulations under the Plant Protection Act. The final rule, dubbed the "Sustainable, Ecological, Consistent, Uniform, Responsible, Efficient (SECURE)" rule does NOT require mandatory notification before gene-edited and other plant breeding innovation traits are introduced into the marketplace. USDA's announcement and a copy of the SECURE rule [can be found here.](#)

OFAC Issues New Sanctions Advisory

The U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) has [issued a new Sanctions Advisory](#) focused on sanctions compliance for the shipping industry entitled "Guidance to Address Illicit Shipping and Sanctions Evasion Practices". The Advisory lays out U.S. expectations on compliance programs, including active monitoring of vessels. It intended primarily

to provide guidance to the following: ship owners, managers, operators, brokers, ship chandlers, flag registries, port operators, shipping companies, freight forwarders, classification service providers, commodity traders, insurance companies, and financial institutions. The full Advisory [can be found here](#).

Ongoing Opportunities & Actions:

U.S. ITC Investigation of MRL Impacts on Trade

In 2019 the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) began an investigation into the global economic impact of maximum residue level (MRL) policies for pesticides. In response to a request by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), ITC indicated that MRLs, particularly those that are missing or low, can serve as barriers to U.S. agricultural exports.

The ITC will release two reports on the impact of MRL policies. The first report will be issued on June 30, 2020. The second report is scheduled for a November 2, 2020 release and submissions for the second report are due June 5, 2020. [The notice from ITC can be found here](#).

Advancing Virtual Communication

We continue to increase use of new tools to provide for improved communication. One key tool is the Microsoft Teams platform for virtual meetings. Since the beginning of the pandemic, NAEGA and IGTC have hosted over 30 meetings of committees, working groups and policy teams, as well as consultations with industry and U.S. Government, via the Teams platform. We continue to be encouraging members to [review this 5-minute video tutorial](#) that 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 Hayden at phayden@naega.org.

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!

NAEGA ad hoc policy teams of member personnel working largely through conference calls are helping to guide our multifaceted effort to address the evolving trade environment. A policy team focused on the Asia-Pacific Market is already established. 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

Due to COVID-19, NAEGA is currently only available to hold virtual Contracts and Best Practices Seminars, with the direction of the NAEGA Contracts Committee. Please let us know when, how and where you and your colleagues are interested in participating in the NAGA Senior Advisor led seminars. The Committee will consider locations for in person contract seminars once it is safe for the NAEGA team to travel.

NAEGA seminars are an intensive and informative review of commercial and official practices taught in an interactive environment.

NAEGA conducts both public and private seminars, and curriculum can be tailored to your needs. Please contact NAEGA staff if you are interested in hosting a private, tailored Virtual Seminar. [Click here](#) for more information on the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

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

May

20 – NGFA Webinar - OSHA Guidance and Workplace Health and Safety Issues – [Register Here](#)

25-26 - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Annual Meeting – Paris, France – Postponed

*28 – 2020 U.S. Coast Guard Alternate Security Program Workshop – Washington, DC – **Cancelled***

28 – Dry Bulk Terminals Group Webinar – Managing Covid-19 and Lessons Learnt – [Register Here](#)

June

8 – Global Low-Level Initiative Meeting – Indonesia - Postponed

8-12 – International Grains Week – London, UK – Now taking place virtually

*8-11 – World Trade Organization 12th Ministerial Conference – Kazakhstan - **Cancelled***

9-10 – IGC Grains Conference – London, UK – Now taking place via videoconference - [Details Here](#)

10-12 – G-7 Meeting - Camp David, MD – Now taking place via videoconference

27-28 – Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Trade Ministers Meeting – Malaysia - Moved from April

July

7-9 – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Conference's 2020 USDA/FAS Attaché Seminar – Now taking place virtually

September

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

23-24 - World Agri-Tech Innovation Summit – Sao Paul, Brazil

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

TBD – China World Grain Forum

November

2-6 – IGTC General Assembly – Singapore - Working with several others IGTC is planning for a series of meetings in Singapore 2 – 6 November 2020.

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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