



Outreach May 21, 2021

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NAEGA Media of the Week

Agriculture Dialogues International Presentation on the NAEGA UNFSS Document Library
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Agriculture Dialogues International



Presentation of the NAEGA UNFSS 2021 Library

11 May 2021



Source: Agriculture Dialogues International

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Member Notices & Opportunities:

U.N Food Systems Summit Policy Team– Your Involvement Requested!

As we continue to engage with governments and relevant stakeholders on the [U.N. Food Systems Summit \(Summit\)](#), NAEGA is forming a policy team to help guide our efforts. The policy team will include NAEGA member personnel and your involvement is requested! As part of the NAEGA Policy Team on the UNFSS, members will work through virtual meetings to help guide our multifaceted effort to promote the positive contribution of the trade of grains and oilseeds to sustainable food systems. We plan to convene the first meeting of this team as soon as we are able. If you or a colleague has an interest in joining this policy team, please contact Gary or Patrick.

NAEGA U.N. Food Systems Summit Webpage

NAEGA has launched a new section of our [Member's Only website dedicated to the U.N. Food Systems Summit](#). In addition to different forms of media and links to outside resources, the page provides access to a trade document library that is exclusive to NAEGA members. The library was developed with a unique trade policy lens to review documents, declarations and outcomes related to the 2021 UNFSS. There are two "Collections", the first with resources directly linked to the UNFSS, and the second with background pre-UNFSS resources. The library is operationalized by Agriculture Dialogues International (ADI) and is for the use of NAEGA members only.

NAEGA Staff to Attend NGFA Convention in June

Gary Martin and Patrick Hayden will be attending the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) 2021 Convention in person, on June 3 and 4, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Any NAEGA members who would like to set up a meeting with Gary or Patrick during their time in Colorado should let us know. We look forward to this chance to meet in person!

Joint NAEGA-NGFA Grades Committee Meeting – May 26, 2021

The NAEGA Grades & Inspections Committee will meet jointly with the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) Grain Grades & Weighs Committee on Wednesday, May 26 at 11am Eastern.

The joint meeting is being held to discuss the recent meeting of the U.S. Grain Inspection Advisory Committee and other topics of mutual interest. If you would like more information about joining the Grades & Inspections Committee, or any other NAEGA committee, please contact Gary or Patrick.

Register for PBIE Access

Members are invited to register to access the [NAEGA Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange \(PBIE\)](#). Developed by and at the request of membership, the PBIE contains detailed information on commercialized and pre-commercialized gene-edited and transgenic seeds used to produce the crops you use and market. To our knowledge, the PBIE is the first and only platform to contain a searchable database of gene-edited seeds.

Currently, only NAEGA members have access to this unique tool. **As part of membership your company is allowed up to 5 unique users for the PBIE at no cost.** Member representatives should send the names and email addresses of their company's users to Patrick at phayden@naega.org. He will connect with them individually with login information and guide them in the use of the platform. Please let us know if you have any questions!

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars – Your interest requested

We are now scheduling virtual Contract and Best Practice Seminars for several NAEGA members companies over the next several months. We are also considering virtual and in person **private** (staff from only one company) and **public** (staff from two or more companies).

. The seminars are an intensive and informative review of commercial and official practices taught in an interactive environment. We recently completed extensive work with Senior Advisors built around a private Virtual Contracts and Best Practices Seminar that included critical review of trade execution documents.

Please let us know when, how and where you would like to participate in the NAEGA Contracts and Best Practice seminars. [Click here](#) for more information on the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Office Operation Status and Communication

The NAEGA office in Arlington, VA continues to operate and restrictions are being reduced. While we continue to work remotely and via virtual platforms we are beginning travel plans and increasing our time and number of meetings in the office.

Current & Ongoing Activities:

BIO & NAEGA to Host USDA/FAS New Tech Value Chain Dialogue

NAEGA and the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) will host a value chain dialogue with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) New Technologies and Production Methods Division on Monday, May 24. The purpose of the meeting is to re-connect FAS with the broader agricultural biotechnology value chain and exchange information on existing and emerging trade issues related to food and agricultural biotech products. FAS will introduce new staff, discuss

priority activities for 2021 and provide an overview of biotechnology trade issues from global and regional perspectives.

Canada Proposes Guidance on Novel Foods

The Government of Canada is proposing [to update to its guidance for novel foods](#) to “provide better clarity and predictability in how the Novel Food Regulations are applied to products of plant breeding.” The proposal includes products produced using gene editing technologies. An “efficient and predictable pathway to commercialization” is a suggested result. The proposed update is split into two documents. The first, [available here](#), addresses when a food that was derived from a plant developed through breeding is a “novel food” and the second, [available here](#), is on the pre-market assessment of foods derived from “Retransformants”.

There is an open consultation period through May 24, 2021. Your input or comments to support NAEGA’s consideration is welcome. The Production Technology committee will be considering a response. In addition to potential comments directly to Canada, we may also engage with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS), the lead agency for the U.S. government review and comment.

EU Notification on Maximum Levels for Ergot

The European Union has [notified new draft regulations](#) to the World Trade Organization which would revise the maximum level set for ergot sclerotia in cereal grains, with the exception of maize and rice, and establishes maximum levels for ergot alkaloids in milling products of barley, wheat, spelt, rye and oats, wheat gluten, processed cereal based foods for infants and young children. The proposed revisions [can be found here](#).

USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service has asked for comments by May 24, 2021, and final comments are due to the WTO on June 13. The Grades & Inspections Committee is considering comments. Your input or comments are welcome.

USDA Seeks Comments on Food System Supply Chains – Deadline Extended

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking comments on a “Department-wide effort to improve and reimagine the supply chains for the production, processing and distribution of agricultural commodities and food products.” This request, [which can be found here](#), comes in response to U.S. President Joseph Biden’s [Executive Order on America’s Supply Chains](#) of February 24, 2021.

USDA is asking for comments that will assist the Department in developing a report that assesses the critical factors, risks, and strategies needed to support resilient, diverse, and secure supply chains. The comment deadline has recently been extended to June 21, 2021. NAEGA is considering providing comments and your input is welcome.

U.S. Standards for Sorghum and Wheat

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Federal Grain Inspection Services (USDA/FGIS) is requesting comments on the U.S Standards [for Sorghum](#) and [for Wheat](#) under the U.S. Grain Standards Act. The current U.S. standards for sorghum [can be found here](#) and for wheat [can be found here](#).

Comments due dates are: Sorghum, June 24, 2021 and Wheat, July 19, 2021. The Grades & Inspections Committee is considering comments. Your input or comments are welcome.

Recent Actions:

Letter to White House on USTR Chief Agricultural Negotiator

NAEGA joined a broad coalition of food and agriculture trade associations in signing a letter to U.S. President Joe Biden, encouraging the President to quickly nominate a new Chief Agricultural Negotiator for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. The letter as submitted [can be found here](#).

Vietnam NTR 190 Update

Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) issued a draft amendment to its National Technical Regulations on Animal Feeds and Ingredients for production of Aquatic Feeds (NTR 190). The publication confirms revisions eliminating zero tolerances for Salmonella and heavy metals in traditional feed of plant origin we have previously reported on. An unofficial translation of the draft amendment [can be found here](#). MARD has asked for feedback to assist in drafting supporting documents. NAEGA is considering providing comments and your input is welcome.

News:

USMCA Free Trade Commission Meeting and Mexico's plans for Glyphosate and GMOs

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai met virtually with Mexican Economy Minister Tatiana Clouthier and Canadian Trade Minister Mary Ng in the initial meeting of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Free Trade Commission, the governing body for the trade deal that went into effect in 2020. Following their meetings on 18, the three Ministers [released a statement](#) noting that they had held "robust" talks on and confirmed their "desire to work within the mechanisms established under the USMCA as we continue to work towards full and complete implementation of the Agreement."

The outcome of the USMCA FTC meeting appears to be very supportive of NAEGA's position on the implementation of USCMA and our approach to the December 31, 2020 decree from Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador that articulates an intent to ban the use and imports of glyphosate and take actions to restrict the use genetically modified (GM) corn, effective January 1st, 2021. Since its release, we have not seen details on how Dec. 31, 2020 decree might be enforced, and as of this writing we are not aware of any enforcement or implementation.

Calendar & Member Notices:

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

2021

May

24 – USDA/FAS Tech Value Chain Stakeholder Virtual Meeting Hosted by NAEGA & BIO

26 – Joint NAEGA-NGFA Grades & Inspections/Grain Grades & Weights Committee Meeting - Virtual

30-31– G7 Trade Minister Meeting – U.K

June

2-4 - NGFA Annual Convention – In person/Virtual Hybrid

7-11 – London Grains Week – London, UK – In person/Virtual Hybrid

7 – International Grains Council Meeting– London, UK –Virtual

7 – IGTC Welcome Reception for London Grains Week – Virtual

8-9 – International Grains Council Conference – Virtual

8 – IGTC Session on Official Practices, Trade and Resilient Food Systems at IGC Conference – Virtual

9 - IGTC Session on Benefits and Challenges of E-Phyto In Africa at IGC Conference – Virtual

7-11 – Commodity Trading Week – Virtual

8-9 – Dry Bulk Terminal Group Operational and Technical Conference – Antwerp – In person/Virtual Hybrid

25 – United Export Strategy for 2022 Market Access Program Funding Due to USDA

July

8 – USAEDC’s FAS Attaché Seminar – Virtual

19-21 – U.N. Food Systems Summit Pre-Summit Events – Rome, Italy & Virtual

September

TBD - U.N. Food Systems Summit

TBD – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Arlington, VA

October

11-24 – Meeting of the Convention on biological diversity (CBD) COP 15 and COP-MOP 10 - Kunming, China - Tentative

30-31 – G-20 Summit – Rome, Italy

November

15-18 – USAEDC Annual Workshop – Baltimore, MD

29 - 12th WTO Ministerial Conference – Geneva, Switzerland

2022

March

13-15 – NGFA Annual Convention – Charleston, SC

December

TBD – COP 16 – CBD – Turkey

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