



**Outreach
July 1, 2021**

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Happy Canada Day & Fourth of July!

NAEGA would like to wish everyone in Canada a happy Canada Day on July 1st. [Celebrate the 154th anniversary of Confederation here!](#)

We would also like to extend a Happy Fourth of July to our colleagues in the United States!

NAEGA Media of the Week

Video Summary of the U.N. Food Safety Summit Member State Dialogues
Carried Out as of July 1, 2021

Click the Image To View the Video



Member Notices & Opportunities

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- USDA/APHIS Plant Health Technical Bilateral Meetings – July 2021
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- USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee
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- UNFSS Event on Plant Health and Global Food Security

News:

- CFTC Recommends SOFR Replace LIBOR
- Vietnam Amends NTR 190

Member Notices & Opportunities:

Webinar on Egyptian Import Requirements – July 5, 2021

NAEGA members are invited to attend a webinar on Egypt's new "single window" import requirements that will now go into effect on October 1, 2021. . The webinar, rescheduled from June 15, will be hosted by USDA/FAS Cairo on Monday, July 5 at 10:00am Central time. The Egyptian government will be presenting on the new customs system and the webinar is limited to 250 participants. If you registered to attend the original event on June 15, you will receive a new invitation from USDA. If you wish to attend and have not registered, please email eagcairo@usda.gov.

Register Now – Virtual Networking & Information Session – July 20, 2021

The Virtual Membership Networking & Information Session originally scheduled for June 29 has been rescheduled for July 20. You and any co-workers with an interest in NAEGA are invited and welcome to join the Session, on Tuesday July 20, from 2:00pm-3:00pm Central Time. This session will provide members updates on NAEGA activities, including the NAEGA Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange and will feature a spotlight presentation from non-NAEGA member Bayer Crop Science on glyphosate.

You can [register here](#) or through the [NAEGA Member's Only site](#). Once registered you will be sent the weblink you will need to join the session.

This event is part of a series of NAEGA member exclusive one-hour sessions that we began earlier in 2021 and are holding a least once a month.

All members may be featured during a future networking and information session. If you would like your company to take part in a session as a presenter, or if you have any questions, please let us know.

USDA/APHIS Plant Health Technical Bilateral Meetings – July 2021

Your advice related to upcoming bilateral meetings between the USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service and its counterparts is welcome. We would like to advise the Phytosanitary Issues Management (PIM) staff at APHIS upcoming virtual Plant Health Technical Bilateral Meetings. Currently plans are being considered for:

- July 14 - U.S. - Kenya
- July 21 - U.S. - Viet Nam
- TBD - U.S. - Ecuador

The meetings are an opportunity to acquire, expand, or maintain export and import agricultural markets by:

- Exchanging information about specific commodities.
- Amending current phytosanitary requirements based on updated information.
- Documenting agreements made and next steps.
- Establishing time frames for completion of items/resolution of issues.
- Establishing joint working groups to explore and resolve issues of mutual concern.

U.S. Coast Guard Alternate Security Workshop – September 9, 2021

NAEGA-NGFA Alternative Security Program (ASP) Subscribers are welcome to attend the U.S. Coast Guard's annual Alternative Security Program (ASP) Workshop on Thursday September 9, 2021 at the offices of Witt O'Brien in Washington, DC. NAEGA provides the ASP to help grain export facilities comply with Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA). Facilities operated by members in good standing are welcome to subscribe and use the ASP. If you are interested in attending or would like more information on the NAEGA-NGFA ASP, please contact Patrick at phayden@naega.org.

Board of Directors Meeting – September 13-14, 2021

The NAEGA Board of Directors will meet in person at the NAEGA Offices in Arlington, VA on September 13-14, 2021. In advance of this meeting, NAEGA Committees will meet to discuss items of interest and prepare presentations to the Board. More information on the Board and Committee meetings will be released in the coming weeks. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in person in September!

Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange

NAEGA members are also invited to register to access the 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!

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 be reviewing and you are welcome to comment [on this draft NAEGA statement](#).

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.

Member's Only Document Library

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 members can contact ADI directly through the library website.

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). See the calendar below for currently scheduled seminars.

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!

Current & Ongoing Activities:

Entry Requirements for U.S. Wheat to Fiji

USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has requested NAEGA review proposed entry requirements for U.S. wheat imported to Fiji. The requirements, for both [container shipments](#) and [hold shipments](#), have been modified to their current form in response to comments from the U.S. Government. The Grades & Inspections Committee is considering comments. Your input and comments are welcome.

USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) [is seeking nominations for members of the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee](#). The Committee meets at least once annually to advise AMS on programs and services delivered under the U.S. Grains Standards Act.

NAEGA will support applications from members who wish to serve on the Committee. If you are interested in applying you can fill out form AD-755, [found here](#), and submit it to Kendra Kline of AMS at Kendra.C.Kline@usda.gov. You may also contact NAEGA staff for further information. USDA will consider all applications received by August 9, 2021

U.S. Standards for Wheat

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

Comments are due July 19, 2021. The Grades & Inspections Committee is considering comments. Your input or comments are welcome.

Recent Actions:

2022 Unified Export Strategy

On Friday, June 25, NAEGA sent a 2022 Unified Export Strategy (UES) application to the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). The UES sets the framework under which NAEGA will administer its Market Access Program funding in the 2022 program year. The 2022 UES highlights planned initiatives and past success and serves as a blueprint for activities NAEGA intends to engage in over the next year, including efforts to promote the electronic exchange of commercial and official trade documents and efforts to address market access barriers through ongoing trade negotiations. This year's UES acknowledges the potential impact of the U.N. Food System Summit on the trade, the continued threat of COVID-19 and our efforts on identification and utilization of information needed to complete trade.

FAS anticipates that the initial funding selections will be made by the end of October and the initial award dates estimated to be by the end of December 2021. A copy of the 2022 UES application can be found on the [NAEGA web site](#). For more information, please contact NAEGA staff.

Comments on U.S. Food System Supply Chains

NAEGA submitted comments to the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a “Department-wide effort to improve and reimagine the supply chains for the production, processing and distribution of agricultural commodities and food products” which was initiated in response to U.S. President Joseph Biden’s [Executive Order on America’s Supply Chains](#).

We emphasized “key to maintaining and advancing the successful U.S. supply and market for these products are competitive markets that provide for consumer-focused commercial responses that place the interests of people first. Such markets are and will be built upon the pillars of trade, investment, and security.” NAEGA also noted lessons learned from the global COVID 19 Pandemic, including the need to encourage contingency plans to achieve continuity of U.S. grain exports in the case the U.S. export supply chain experiences reductions in force, and highlighted the need to improve the environment for Phytosanitary Certification with added transparency and effectiveness of the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the global network of official, recognized competent plant health authorities. The comments as submitted [can be found here](#).

Comments on U.S. Standards for Sorghum

NAEGA and the National Grain & Feed Association submitted joint comments to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Federal Grain Inspection Services (USDA/FGIS) on the U.S. standards for sorghum. The comments noted the important role that U.S. standards play in marketing and that changes should only be made if they can be shown to demonstrably improve or correct significant flaws in the existing standards. The comments argue that current U.S. Standards for Sorghum and grading practices are meeting their stated purpose and should be retained without change. The comments as submitted [can be found here](#).

Production Technology Committee Meeting

The NAEGA Production Technology Committee met on Tuesday, June 15. The Committee heard an update on the recent EU report on New Genomic Techniques from the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) New Technologies and Production Methods Division and reviewed the draft [NAEGA Statement on Pesticide MRLs](#). If you are not a member of the Committee and would like information on joining, please contact NAEGA staff.

UNFSS Event on Plant Health and Global Food Security

In his capacity as IGTC President, Gary C. Martin spoke on June 29, 2021, alongside the governments of Finland, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Kenya, Libya and USA at an event on plant health and global food security. The event took place in the context of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) series of webinars during the United Nations International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and was an independent dialogue for the U.N. Food Systems Summit (UNFSS).

Gary's presentation focused on "facilitating safe trade of grain" and the progress that has been made to promote commercial and official practices that provide for safe products, manage plant pests and disease and secure resilient, reliable, responsive and robust supply of plant products. The presentation will be uploaded to the [NAEGA Member's Only UNFSS page](#).

News:

CFTC Recommends SOFR Replace LIBOR

The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) [has recommended a market best practice](#) for switching interdealer trading conventions from the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) for U.S. Dollar linear interest rate swaps. CFTC recommends that on July 26, 2021, and thereafter, interdealer brokers replace trading of LIBOR linear swaps with trading of SOFR linear swaps. This step will cause trading activity amongst swap dealers on these platforms, which account for a substantially large share of trading in the interest rate swap markets, to switch from LIBOR to SOFR.

LIBOR benchmark rates will no longer be provided and financial markets will not list LIBOR contracts after December 2021. LIBOR provisions are common in loan agreements and swaps. They may also be found in commercial contracts, including contracts that incorporate provisions of the NAEGA 2 FOB contract. ***Members will want to consult with their counsel and review commercial contracts for references to LIBOR and consider the use of various alternative reference rates.***

Vietnam Amends NTR 01-190

Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) issued has issued the Circular No. 05/2021/TT-BNNPTNT, amending its National Technical Regulations on Animal Feeds and Ingredients for production of Aquatic Feeds (NTR 190). The Circular "revokes regulations on indicators of Salmonella, Arsenic Total (As), Cadmium (Cd), Lead (Pb), Mercury (Hg) for traditional feeds, ingredients for production of aquatic feeds derived from plant as specified in Section III, Appendix I", eliminating proposed zero tolerances for Salmonella and heavy metals in traditional feed of plant origin that NAEGA has previously supported and reported on. An unofficial English translation of the amended NTR [can be found here](#). This amended NTR goes into effective July 1, 2021.

Calendar & Member Notices:

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

2021

July

- 5** - Webinar on Egyptian Single Window Import Requirements
- 8** – USAEDC's FAS Attaché Seminar – Virtual
- 14** - U.S.-Kenya Plant Health Bilateral Meeting
- 14-15** - Private Virtual NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar
- 20** – NAEGA Membership Networking & Information Session - Virtual

19-21 – U.N. Food Systems Summit Pre-Summit Events – Rome, Italy & Virtual
21 - U.S.-Viet Nam Plant Health Bilateral Meeting, virtual, July 21
TBD - U.S. - Ecuador Plant Health Bilateral Meeting

August

9 – Application for USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Due
TBD - Private Virtual NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar

September

TBD - U.N. Food Systems Summit
13-14– 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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