



## Outreach

February 15, 2022

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

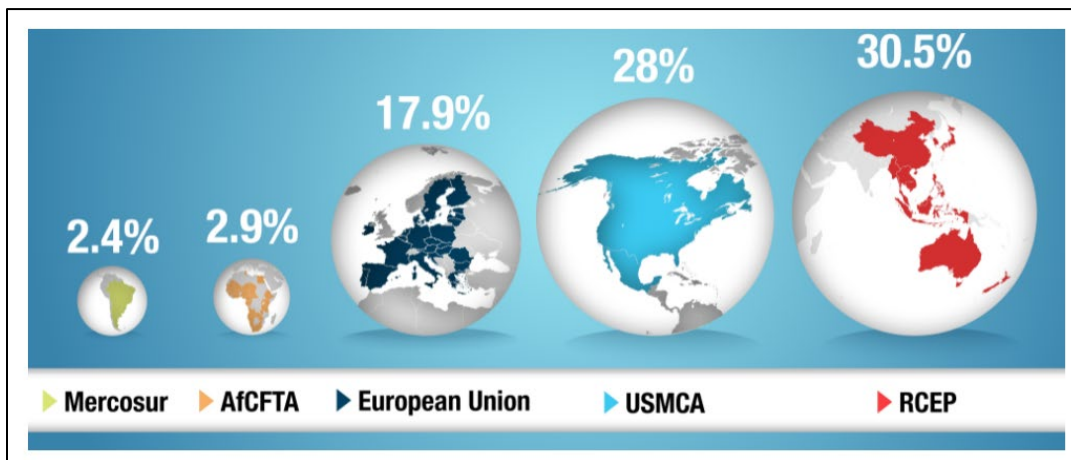
### *Welcome to New NAEGA Member Benson Hill*

*Benson Hill is an agricultural technology company engaged in developing GE and non-GMO soybeans and is engaged in the commercial processing and trading of non-GMO soybeans. They plan to begin exporting their own soybeans, as well as GMO soybeans and soybean meal, in the near future. Benson Hill was founded in 2012 and is headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri.*

*We are looking forward to working with Benson Hill and its contributions to NAEGA.*

### *Media of the Week*

*Economic Size of Regional Trade Agreements by Share of Global GDP  
As of January 1, 2022*



Source: [U.N Conference on Trade & Development](#)

### *This OUTREACH includes:*

#### *Member Notices & Opportunities*

- NAEGA Annual Meetings – March 13-14, 2022 – Charleston, SC and Virtual
- Welcome Senior Advisor Lorraine Idt

- Contracts and Best Practices Seminars
- China Decrees 248, 249 & 177
- USDA/FGIS Export Facility Registration
- U.N. Food Systems Summit Library

***Current & Ongoing Actions:***

- Egypt Pesticide Regulations
- USDA/APHIS Changes to Phytosanitary Certificates
- Mexico Carta Porte

***Recent Actions***

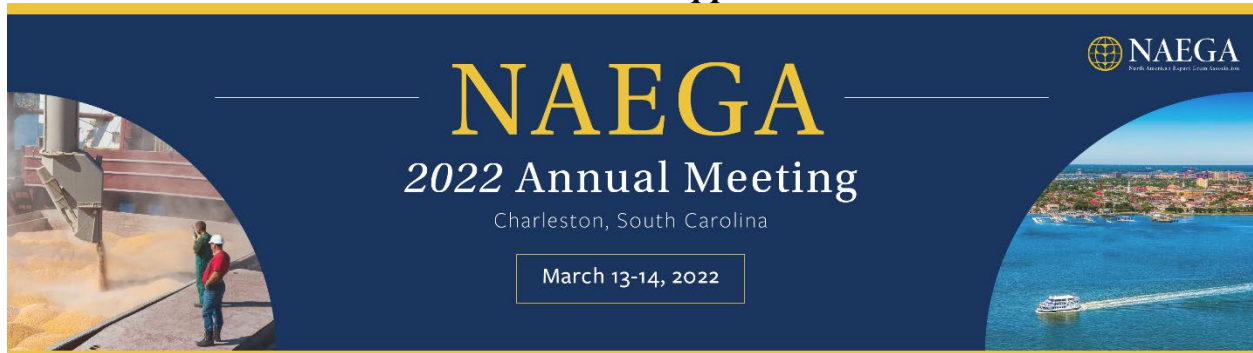
- Consultation with USDA/FAS Mexico City
- IGC Survey on Contingency Plans

***News***

- U.S. DHS Cyber Safety Review Board

***Event Calendar and Notices***

***Member Notices & Opportunities:***



NAEGA events are being planned for the 13th and 14<sup>th</sup> of March at the [Charleston Place Hotel](#) in Charleston, South Carolina and virtually via MS Teams. NAEGA member personnel and their guests are welcome to join the NAEGA meetings without charge, and all NAEGA meetings will be available virtually for those unable to attend in person. ***[Please register yourself and your guests here for the NAEGA meetings and indicate if attendance will be in person or virtual.](#)***

The current schedule of events is below. Times are Eastern:

**Sunday, March 13**

12:30pm: Joint NAEGA Grades & Inspections/NGFA Grain Grades and Weights Committee

3:15pm: Joint NAEGA Production Technology/NGFA Crop Technology Committee

**Monday, March 14**

7:00am: Contracts Committee – Breakfast Provided.

12:00pm: [Annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon and Membership Meeting](#), followed by meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors.

All NAEGA events are being planned to place alongside the [2022 NGFA Convention](#) on March 13-15, also at the Charleston Place Hotel. Thank you to NGFA for making meeting space available to us at the hotel.

If you'd like to attend the NGFA Convention and reserve a room via NGFA registration, please go to <https://imis.ngfa.org/convention>.

### **Welcome to Senior Advisor Lorraine Idt**

We are pleased to welcome Lorraine Idt of Ag-Vic Consulting Incorporated as she begins a new role as NAEGA Senior Advisor for Contracts and Commercial Practice. A NAEGA arbitrator and former member of the Contracts Committee, Lorraine has over 40 years of experience in grain contracts. We are happy that she has chosen to continue to work with NAEGA in this new capacity.

### **2022 Member Packet**

2022 brings new opportunities and continued NAEGA service and support for our Members. Each member representative received an email with the Annual Member Meeting notice and membership invoice. If your company has not received the email please contact NAEGA staff as soon as possible. All dues and export volume fees are due by February 15, 2021.

### **Contracts and Best Practices Seminars**

You can now view all or individual segments of the recently curated video from the seminar held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021. The recording of the session has been edited into two two-hour videos which have been posted to the NAEGA Member's Only website. Your comments about the utility of the digital content on the Website as well as advice and questions about the NAEGA 2 Contract are welcome – please use this new email address for comments and questions: [MemberQuestions@naega.org](mailto:MemberQuestions@naega.org).

NAEGA seminars can be conducted in-person and / or virtually. A private virtual laytime calculation seminar was held recently and both in-person **private** (staff from only one company) and **public** (staff from two or more companies) are being scheduled in 2022. Given the strong attendance and interest from Members, we expect to hold another public virtual seminar in 2022.

The seminars are much valued NAEGA member service. The intensive and informative reviews of commercial and official practices include interaction with all participants.

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!

### **China Decrees 248, 249 & 177**

NAEGA members are encouraged to provide us with information on registration requirements for export to China.

The General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) enacted Decrees 248 & 249 on January 1, 2022. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) has circulated a list that of Harmonized System (HS) codes that GACC has published to its Single Window website that reportedly represent the scope of commodities covered by Decree 248. The list of HS codes and data cells has been updated by GACC several times and other changes are anticipated as GACC makes "system improvements" to the Single Window website. FAS has [made the list available here](#).

USDA FAS also reports that China has launched a [“Decree 248 Single Window Searchable Database and January 1 Shipment Information”](#). The report contains details on a searchable website GACC has created for users to check their registration status.

Grain and oilseed exporters registered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), or those that are on the exempt from registration list, do not need to register their facilities with GACC. These registrations are covered under China's Decree 177, which supersedes Decree 248. NAEGA members who have not yet registered or applied for a waiver with FGIS for calendar year 2022 can do so here or see the article below.

### **USDA/FGIS Export Facility Registration**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) [continues to accept registration](#) for the U.S. Grain Exporter Registration list and waiver requests for the 2022 calendar year. Exporters of grain from the U.S. who have yet registered with FGIS for 2022 are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The registration list as of February 11, 2022 [is posted here](#). The U.S. Grain Standards Act requires registration for anyone engaged in the business of buying grain for sale in foreign commerce. The Act waives official inspection and weighing for exporters who export less than 15,000 Metric Tons (MT) of grain, on an individual elevator basis during the preceding calendar year, and plan to export less than 15,000 MT of grain during the current calendar year. Such exporters and individual elevator operators must request and receive a waiver from FGIS.

Registration and waiver requests are required annually and FGIS publishes official lists of U.S. companies and organizations registered or operating under waiver or exemption to buy, handle, weigh, or transport grain for sale in foreign commerce.

Individuals who handle, weigh, or transport grain for sale in foreign commerce also must register. These lists are shared with foreign governments upon request to assist U.S. grain movement in various markets.

Instructions on how to register or renew a registration as a grain or oilseed exporter, or apply for a waiver, are [available through this link](#).

### **U.N. Food Systems Summit Library**

NAEGA's U.N. Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) Library is constantly being updated. Recent entries include several new documents and resources related to carbon pricing. French President Emmanuel Macron's Speech at the European Parliament on carbon neutrality is among the latest entries.

A comprehensive report on the development of the library and recommendations for future action have been posted on the [NAEGA Member's Only UNFSS](#) page along with background documentation on the project. NAEGA will continue to update the library and report on outcomes from the UNFSS and other initiatives related to food systems through the end of the year.

NAEGA members can access the Library [through this link](#) or through [the U.N. Food Systems Summit](#) page on the NAEGA website. If you have a NAEGA Member's Only website login, you should not have any issues accessing the site at its new address. If you need login credentials, or are having any trouble logging in, please let Patrick know.

## ***Current & Ongoing Actions***

### **Egypt Pesticide Regulations**

The deadline for comments has been extended for Egypt's Decree No. 6 "Concerning the Egyptian Technical Rules Binding the Maximum Limits Permitted for Residues of Pesticides In and On Food Products of Plant and Animal Origin". The Decree and Annexes set MRLs for pesticides and extraneous maximum residue limits (EMRL) in food products of plant or animal origin, and lay down basic requirements to evaluate the results of the pesticide residue analysis in and on food with a view to monitoring pesticide levels, as well as testing compliance with Codex MRLs". A translation of the decree and the accompanying 6 Annexes [can be found here](#).

Comments are due February 28, 2022, and the Production Technology Committee is considering a response. Your input or comments are welcome.

### **USDA/APHIS Changes to Phytosanitary Certificates**

Late in 2021, USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) began to make changes to its phytosanitary certificates (PCs) issuing practices consistent with the movement to a digital environment. On January 1, 2022 APHIS instituted a "plain paper" system. The Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking System (PCIT) instructs users to print one original PC and verified copies on plain white paper. Both the original and copies include a "shippers original" label. Prior to this change, users printing PCs from PCIT would use special security paper, which included color, seals and watermarks, among other methods to provide for version control for the printing of the original PC. APHIS explained this transition to plain paper [in this November, 2021 notification to the WTO](#).

As is often the case with transitions, especially with respect to digitization of documents, NAEGA members have experienced some lack of understanding by counterparts. We were notified of at a least one major bank and some foreign governments refusing to recognize plain paper PC's. Some wet signature PC's, signed in blue ink, have faced issues due to the lack of security paper.

We are working with APHIS and continue to support their initiative.

We are focusing on communication and mitigation. Please let us know if you have a concern or experiencing a disruption of trade. Detailed information, including the specifics of who and where the concern originated from, is appreciated.

### ***Recent Actions:***

#### **Consultation with FAS Mexico City**

NAEGA staff met virtually with USDA Foreign Agricultural Service personnel posted to Mexico City to discuss Mexico's Complemento Carta Porte, the government's phaseout of GM Corn, and phytosanitary issues impacting trade between the U.S. and Mexico. NAEGA staff demonstrated the U.N. Food Systems Summit Library and Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange and discussed potential travel to Mexico in 2022. We plan additional consultation with FAS across the world. NAEGA members are encouraged to advise us as soon as possible with concerns related to particular countries or regions so we may seek advice from FAS personnel in country.

#### **IGC Survey on Contingency Plans**

The International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) joined NAEGA in responding to the International Grains Council (IGC) on its survey entitled "Contingency plans in the grains sector". The IGTC submitted a response that consolidated input from several of its members. The survey, designed for IGC member nations, collected information on "measures taken in the post Covid-19 era which are designed to help a national authority to respond effectively to a significant future event or situation" as they relate to grains, oilseeds and other agri-bulks. IGTC's response took a wider view of the questions as well as accounting for the impact of official measures implemented at government level. The IGTC response as submitted to IGC [can be found here](#).

### ***News:***

#### **U.S. DHS Cyber Safety Review Board**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) established the first Cyber Safety Review Board (CSRB), a collaboration between multiple government agencies and the private sector. CSRB is tasked with reviewing and assessing major cybersecurity events in an effort to help the government, industry and security community better protect U.S. networks and infrastructure. The board will also "deliver strategic recommendations to the President and the Secretary of Homeland Security.". The CSRB's first review will focus on the vulnerabilities discovered in late 2021 in the widely used log4j software, which DHS says is continuing to be exploited by a growing set of threat actors, one of the most serious vulnerabilities discovered in recent years. Details on the CSRB [can be found here](#).

### ***Calendar & Member Notices:***

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

**2022**

**February**

**24-25** – 2022 USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum – Virtual

## **March**

**13-15** – NGFA Annual Convention – Charleston, SC

**13-14** – NAEGA Annual Meetings – planned for both virtual and in person in Charleston, SC

**23** – WTO Thematic Session on Trade Facilitative Approaches to MRLs

**TBD** – Private NAEGA Contracts & Best Practices Seminar

## **April**

**25** - May 8 – Meeting of the Convention on biological diversity (CBD) COP 15 and COP-MOP

**10** – Part 2 - Kunming, China

**TBD** – Private NAEGA Contracts & Best Practices Seminar

## **May**

**19-21** – 2022 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

## **June**

**6 - 9** - IGTC Meetings (Virtual and In-person) and IGC Annual Conference in London, UK

## **September**

**TBD** – NAEGA Board of Directors and Committee Meetings – Washington, DC/Arlington, VA Office

## **November**

**TBD** – IGTC General Assembly

## **December**

**TBD** – COP 16 – CBD – Turkey

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