

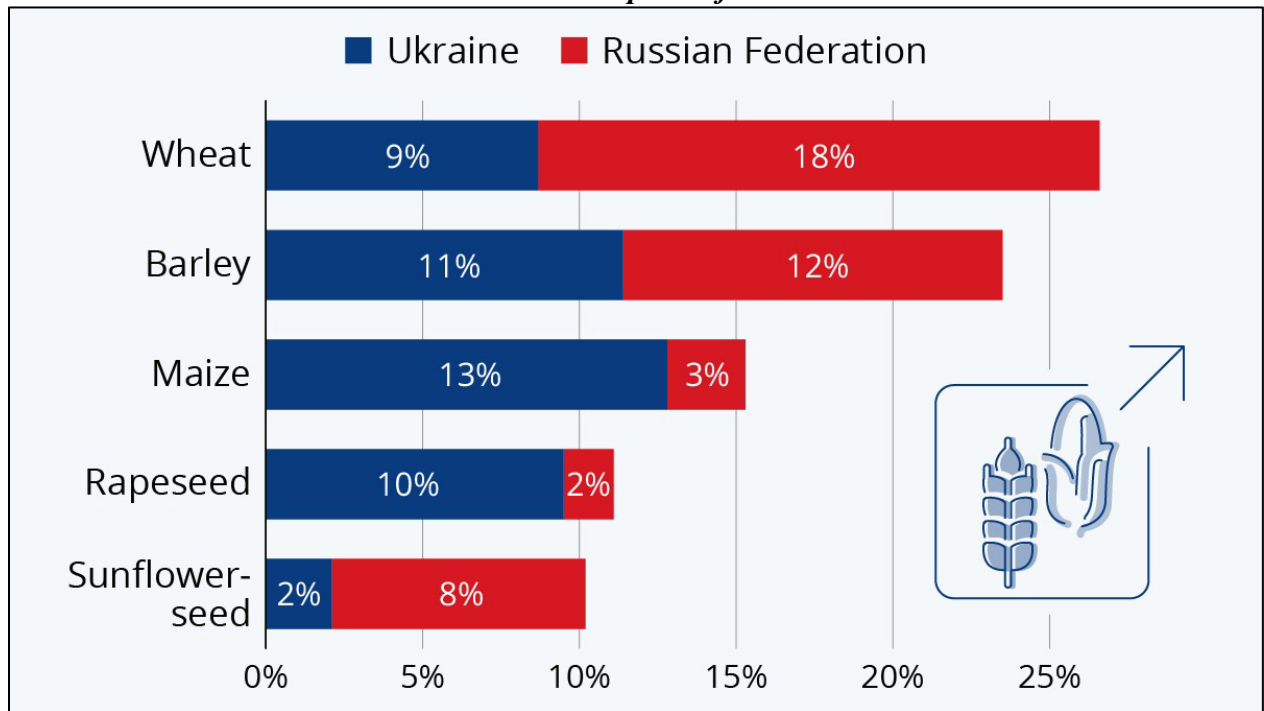


Outreach April 27, 2022

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Media of the Week

Ukraine & Russian Share in Global Exports of Grains & Oilseeds – 2016-2020



Source: U.N Food & Agriculture Organization/Statista

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Member Notices & Opportunities:

Compliance Considerations for Russia Sanctions

Governments around the globe continue to issue economic sanctions against Russia, its central bank and financial sector, as well as numerous individuals close to and including Russian President Vladimir Putin in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Exporters from all origins must contend with increased compliance obligations that may affect commercial operations. Members are reminded that violations of sanctions can occur in various places in an export contract from the direct counterparty to indirect counterparties, vessels, vessel owners/charterers and financial institutions.

The U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) issued a fact sheet entitled "Preserving Agricultural Trade, Access to Communication, and Other Support to Those Impacted by Russia's War Against Ukraine". OFAC states that U.S. sanctions issued in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine "do not stand in the way of, agricultural and medical exports, nongovernmental organization (NGO) activities, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) relief, the free flow of information, humanitarian assistance, and other support to people impacted by Russia's war". The document, [found here](#), offers guidance to the Trade on navigating OFAC sanctions and General Licenses.

NAEGA will continue to monitor government actions related to sanctions, most notably those of the United States and Canada as they may have more direct implications on exports from North America. Additional U.S. sanctions information from the OFAC can be [found through this link](#). Canadian sanction information [can be found here](#).

APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – May 19-21, 2022

NAEGA member personnel are invited to join NAEGA President Gary C. Martin at the 27th APPAMEX -NAEGA Forum, taking place from May 19-21, 2022 at the [Marriot Puerto Vallarta Resort & Spa in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico](#). This will be the first APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum since

May of 2019 and an opportunity for in-person connections with North American government and private sector colleagues.

The Forum will feature presentations and updates on international grain and oilseeds markets and discussion on the future of North American agricultural trade, including Mexico's approach to biotechnology, the e-Phyto solution and the impact of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement, among others. The current agenda [can be found here](#).

Gary also hopes to arrange for discussions with key Mexican officials and other decision leaders to address improving the predictability of trade and investment in Mexico.

Registration cost for NAEGA members is US\$395. Details on how to register and information on reserving a room at the Marriot Puerto Vallarta Resort & Spa [are available here](#). If you have a Questions related to registration and booking a room, please contact Susan Colorado of APPAMEX at susan.colorado@appamex.com.mx.

We welcome you to reach out to Gary or Patrick with any other questions.

NAEGA-NGFA New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop – May 25, 2022

NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) invite you to attend a in-person and virtual New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 8am-3:30pm Central time at the [Doubletree New Orleans Airport Hotel in Kenner, Louisiana](#). Our preliminary agenda features presentations from, and discussions with, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Army Corp of Engineers, the U.S Food & Drug Administration, USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service and USDA's Federal Grain Inspection Service. [You can register to attend this free event here](#).

If you cannot attend in person, the workshop can be attended virtually. Please indicate if you will attend in person or virtually when you register. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served for in person attendees.

A limited number of discounted rooms with a rate of \$199/night are available at the Doubletree Hotel. Please contact Patrick Hayden at phayden@naega.org for further information and the discount code for the hotel.

IGTC e-Documentation Survey

NAEGA members are invited to participate in an International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) survey on electronic trade documentation in import and export transactions for grains, oilseeds, pulses and other agri-bulks. IGTC is conducting the survey to gain a global and industry perspective on the use of e-Documentation. Responses will be held confidential by the IGTC Secretariat and only summary information will be reported. The survey can be found [through this link](#). Questions can be directed to the IGTC Secretariat at secretariat@igtglobal.org.

U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Website

The modernized U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Resources website can be found at <https://uscanadagrainsite.org/>. This website, initially launched in 2012 during the implementation

of Canada's Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act, is updated and modernized to reflect the impact of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, as well as other developments, on the cross-border grain trade between the U.S and Canada. The site contains question and answer modules for [American](#) and [Canadian](#) grain producers, as well as the [commercial grain trade](#), and will be updated regularly. Users are encouraged to review the modules and submit additional questions, which may be included in future updates.

Trade and Global Food Security Library

NAEGA's has renamed the U.N. Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) Library the Trade and Global Food Security Library to reflect a new focus on assembling resources related to other international processes of impact to international agriculture trade and investment. The UNFSS resources remain, and a collection entitled "Food security: Facts, opportunities and challenges" has been added.

The Library is constantly being updated with reports on initiatives related to food systems, trade and global food security as well as outcomes from the UNFSS. Recent entries include several new documents and resources related to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, including a paper from Chatham House entitled "The Ukraine war and threats to food and energy security"

NAEGA members can access the Library [through this link](#) or through [the Trade and Global Food Security](#) 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.

Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange

The [NAEGA Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange \(PBIE\)](#) continues to be improved and updated. Your feedback is welcome! 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 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. To gain access NAEGA Member representatives send the names and email addresses of designated company users to Patrick at phayden@naega.org. Each designated person is provided unique login information and instructions on use of the platform. Please let us know if you have any questions!

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.

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!

Recent Actions:

Comments to USTR on Indo-Pacific Economic Framework

NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) submitted comments to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to inform development of a “Fair and Resilient Trade Pillar” of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). The comments support an IPEF that builds on the global rules-based trading system to promote sound and sustainable practice and note that IPEF should include a level playing field regarding tariffs, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures, and technical barriers to trade. The comments also note that the IPEF should promote food systems that emphasize food security, ensure countries provide for science and evidence-based regulation, operate transparent, predictable, and functioning import controls, remove unwarranted restrictions, and deploy programs to facilitate trade and investment in food and agriculture. The comments as submitted [can be found here](#).

Consultation with USDA/FAS China

NAEGA staff met virtually with USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA/FAS) personnel posted to Beijing to discuss China’s approach to gene editing and other biotechnology, Decrees 248/249 & 177, and the potential impact of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on China’s approach to trade. NAEGA staff demonstrated the U.N. Food Systems Summit Library and Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange. We plan additional consultation with FAS across the world. NAEGA members are encouraged to advise us as soon as possible with concerns related to countries or regions so we may seek advice from FAS personnel in country.

GSM-102 Program Funding

In response to requests from industry, [including a letter from NAEGA](#), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced increased availability of credit guarantees for sales of U.S. agricultural commodities under the Commodity Credit Corporation’s (CCC) Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) for fiscal year 2022. Banks in the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) Region can now finance transactions for the Middle East, North Africa, Turkey, Caucasus, Central Asia (MENATCCA) Region. For FY 2022 several countries were reclassified into new regions under the program and certain financial institutions residing in countries formerly part of the MENATCCA region and financing trade flows there were only eligible for allocations to the SSA region. This action allows those banks to again finance trade to the MENATCCA Region. A list of SSA banks [can be found here](#).

Current & Ongoing Actions

USDA/APHIS Changes to Phytosanitary Certificates

Late in 2021, 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 PCs. Some wet signature PCs, 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.

News:

NAPPO Letter of Understanding on USMCA

The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) issued a Letter of Understanding describing ways in which NAPPO can contribute to meeting the harmonization of plant health objectives of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and its SPS Chapter. NAPPO pledged to assist the parties with obtaining scientific and technical evidence and advice to minimize duplication of effort and assist in dispute resolution when appropriate. The letter as signed [can be found here](#).

U.S. Coast Guard Cybersecurity Update

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy published [Marine Safety Information Bulletin \(MSIB\) 02-22 “Cybersecurity Awareness and Action”](#). The USCG considers this to be a period of heightened risk for cyberattacks, and the MSIB notes that “stakeholders should closely monitor their computer systems, telecommunications systems, and networks for suspicious activity and breaches of security and, when in doubt, report to the National Response Center (NRC)”. The “Shields Up” website at <https://www.cisa.gov/shields-up>, provides information and recommendations on protection against cyber-attacks.

Calendar & Member Notices:

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

2022

May

3-4 – Private NAEGA Contracts & Best Practices Seminar

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

25 – NAEGA/NGFA-Regional Industry Workshop – Kenner, LA/Virtual

June

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

July

13-14 - U.S. Agricultural Export Development FAS Attaché Seminar – McLean, VA

TBD – NAEGA/NGFA Regional Industry Workshop – Great Lakes Region/Virtual

September

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

21-23 – Inaugural International Plant Health Conference – London, UK

October

TBD – NAEGA/NGFA Regional Industry Workshop – Vancouver, WA/Virtual

November

TBD – IGTC General Assembly

17-18 – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council Annual Workshop – Baltimore, MD

December

TBD – COP 16 – CBD – Turkey

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