



## Outreach April 19, 2023

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

### ***NAEGA Graphic of the Week***

*NAEGA President & CEO Gary C. Martin and NGFA President Michael Seyfert shake hands following the signing of the NAEGA-NGFA Association Services Agreement – April 13, 2023*



*Photo Courtesy of NGFA*

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***Member Notices & Opportunities***

**Featured Event - NAEGA-NGFA New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop – June 8, 2023**

NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) invite you to attend an in-person and virtual New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop on Thursday, June 8, 2023, from 8:30am-3:30pm Central time at the [Doubletree New Orleans Airport Hotel in Kenner, Louisiana](#). There is no cost to attend this event.

You can attend the workshop either in person or virtually. Please indicate your preference during the registration. 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.

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.

Opportunities for sponsorship of the workshop are available. If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact Patrick at [phayden@naega.org](mailto:phayden@naega.org) for details.

[Please register here!](#) We look forward to seeing many of you on June 8th!

### **USDA/FAS ESRMS 2.1 User Acceptance Testing**

The USDA/FAS Export Sales Reporting and Maintenance System (ESRMS2.1) is open for User Acceptance Testing. FAS is requesting that all exporters enter the ESRMS 2.1 Test System to perform user acceptance testing to become familiar with the system and to test the bulk electronic upload process. USDA also requests feedback from all exporters to ensure the functionality and compatibility of the final system design. ESRMS 2.1 and the ESRMS 2.1 Query System are for testing only and is not to be used for any other purpose. All data entered in the test site will be removed before the launch of ESRMS 2.1.

The ESRMS 2.1 test site can be found at: <https://esrms.fas.usda.gov/>. Users can access the site with existing ESRMS eAuthentication credential. If you experience any problems logging into to ESRMS 2.1, please contact Amy Harding at [ESR@usda.gov](mailto:ESR@usda.gov).

### **Webinar – The Role of Grain Trade in Supporting Food Security – April 26, 2023**

COCERAL, the European association, representing the trade in cereals, rice, feedstuffs, oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply is hosting a webinar on the grain trade and food security on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 8:30am Eastern time.

The webinar will feature a panel discussion on how grain trade works and a presentation from Amer Badawi, Head of Charters & Operations for the UN World Food Program (WFP) followed by a roundtable on how grain trade supports food security.

[Members can register to attend this free event here.](#)

### **IGTC Africa Grains Weeks – May 6-17, 2023**

You are invited to take part in [Africa Grains Weeks Programs](#) from May 6-17 in Kenya (Nairobi) and South Africa (Pretoria, Johannesburg, and Bothaville), alongside NAEGA President Gary C. Maritn and Geneva Envoy Mariya-Khrystyna Koziy. The International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) is coordinating business events and educational tours in both countries, with assistance of the Eastern Africa Grains Council (EAGC) and the South Africa Cereals and Oilseeds Trade Association (SACOTA).

Complete information, including registration information, the itinerary of planned activities, and cost to attend, can be found [here](#).

### **GrainCom 23 Geneva – May 15-17, 2023**

Please join NAEGA Senior Advisor Tom Erickson, Geneva Envoy Mariya-Khrystyna Koziy and Editor-at-Large Patrick Erickson at [GrainCom23 on May 15-17 in Geneva, Switzerland](#). Tom will be a panelist during the conference, and the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) and the Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA) are jointly hosting an exhibition booth and networking opportunity. Members are welcome to participate in the exhibition space in-person and with promotional gifts, a video segment, power point slides, or documents to hand out. A discount on the conference registration fee is available through IGTC.

IGTC is offering sponsorship opportunities for GrainCom23. Please contact the IGTC Secretariat at [secretariat@igtglobal.org](mailto:secretariat@igtglobal.org) for more information.

### **London Grains Week – June 12-23, 2023**

You and your colleagues are welcome to join us in person or virtually for London Grains Weeks meetings with global government and grain trade leaders, held by the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) on June 12-13 on the margins of the [International Grains Council \(IGC\) 2023 Grains Conference](#), including:

- Strategy sessions scheduled to accommodate participation from around the world. The first session will be in the evening after the IGC conference on Monday, June 12, and the second in the morning on June 13.
- An IGTC and Bayer Crop Science luncheon that will include a discussion on next-generation technologies impacting the grain trade on June 13.

Complete information, including registration information and the current agenda [can be found here](#).

### **Save the Date - APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – June 14-17, 2023**

The 29<sup>th</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum will take place from June 14-17, 2023 at the [Hotel Secrets The Vine in Cancun, Mexico](#).

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 SPS Declaration from the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference and the impact of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement, among others. An agenda, registration cost and details on how to reserve a room at the Hotel Secrets The Vine will be available soon.

We are seeking member personnel with expertise on Mexico to attend and potentially present on behalf of NAEGA. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Patrick at [phayden@naega.org](mailto:phayden@naega.org).

Please reach out to Gary or Patrick with any other questions.

### **The NAEGA Trade & Food Security Library is Now Available to Download as an App!**

We invite you to access our online Trade & Global Food Security Library which tracks declarations, statements, videos, and other resources related to international agricultural trade, future of food, sustainability, agricultural production and secure food systems. The Library is a collaborative effort, available cost-free to NAEGA members and partners, via your web browser or an App for both Android and Apple mobile devices. [Instructions on installing the app and connecting to your account can be found here](#).

Recently uploaded resources include information from the Ukrainian Ministry of Infrastructure relating to the advancement of the grains sector in the country; and a statement from Grain Trade Australia (GTA) regarding agri-trade relations with China.

If you need login credentials or are having any trouble using the app, please click [here](#).

## ***Current and Ongoing Actions***

### **U.S. Soybean Standards**

United States Standards for Soybeans are under consideration. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) [Proposed Rule in the U.S. Federal Register](#) eliminates SBOC as a grading factor and retains SBOC as part of the Yellow soybeans class. AMS also proposes to revise the regulation related to "inspection of shiplot, unit train, and lash barge grain in single lots" by removing SBOC from the Grade Limits and Breakpoints for Soybeans table. If approved, the new standards would go into effect on September 1, 2023.

The Grades & Inspections committee is considering a response and your comments and input are welcome. The deadline for comments to USDA/AMS is May 1, 2023.

### ***Recent Actions***

#### **NAEGA and NGFA Association Services Agreement**

NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) renewed their association services agreement, effective June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026. Under the agreement, NGFA provides NAEGA with office space, human resources and payroll and benefit services, and office communications.

#### **USDA/APHIS Response to Industry**

Following a March 2023 consultation with NAEGA and other industry partners, USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued [a thank you letter](#) and list of [Commitments and Responses](#). APHIS pledged to work with industry as on issues related to Japan's upcoming implementation of Phytosanitary Certification for corn and other products; explore opportunities to engage with countries via the International Plant Protection Convention on international standards regarding the movement of grain, and engage with China on a number of industry concerns.

Additionally, APHIS reports that it is seeking a response from the Government of Pakistan to an APHIS request to reconsider a December 12, 2022 notice that all soybeans need be fumigated with methyl bromide prior to arrival in Pakistan. The notice specifies that the APHIS export phytosanitary certificate (PC) must list the temperatures, dosages, and durations, as well as the place of fumigation. APHIS has not implemented that requirement and will update when and if they receive a response.

### ***News:***

#### **FY 2023 Funds for Export Credit Guarantee Program**

[Additional FY 2023 funds for USDA's Export Credit Guarantee Program \(GSM-102\)](#) are available. The GSM-102 program provides credit guarantees to encourage sales of U.S. agricultural commodities to developing economies.

#### **Geneva Update**

World Trade Organization (WTO) events of interest are detailed in [this Geneva update](#) from our Geneva Envoy Mariya-Khrystyna Koziy:

- The U.S. presented a communication to the WTO on how the organization can contribute to global food security through trade and sustainable agricultural practices.
- The U.S. Trade Representative deposited the US's instrument of acceptance for the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, which was negotiated at the 12th Ministerial conference in June 2022.
- The WTO, FAO, and WBG released a report that analyzed global responses to food insecurity. The report identified key drivers of food crises including underinvestment in agrifood systems, conflict, extreme climate events, and economic downturns.

### **United Kingdom SPS Measures**

The United Kingdom is in the process of updating and streamlining its border control measures and mechanisms. [The proposed Border Target Operating Model](#) will implement new Sanitary and Phytosanitary controls at the UK's borders. Imports of plants and plant products, among others, will have the following three key elements:

- **A global risk-based approach:** live animals, germinal products, products of animal origin, animal by-products, plants and plant products will be categorized as high, medium or low risk, with controls appropriately weighted against the risks posed both by the commodity and the country of origin.
- **Digitised phytosanitary certificates:** PC's will be digitized in line with UK trade partners' readiness.
- **Use trust:** Authorized importers of plants, plant products, and some animal products may be eligible for streamlined controls if they provide enhanced assurances and evidence that they are meeting regulatory requirements.

### **U.S. FDA Notice on GMO Seeds Containing Genes of Known Allergens**

[The U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) is reaching out](#) to developers and manufacturers of new plant varieties who intend to transfer genes for proteins that are food allergens into new plant varieties used for food of the relevant legal requirements for these products.

FDA asks developers to consider the food safety risks posed by such allergens and recommend that developers take steps to manage those risks. FDA also notes that the introduction of unintended or unexpected allergens in food products could have other consequences for food producers, such as needing to recall the affected products.

FDA recommends that developers take part in the voluntary premarket consultation program for foods from new plant varieties, which has the goal of helping the food industry ensure that foods from their new plant varieties meet all relevant requirements under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act before marketing.

### ***Information Services:***

#### **Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange (PBIE)**

There are currently 2,778 transgenic products from approximately 415 unique transgenic events and 502 gene edited products in the [NAEGA 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. Currently, only NAEGA members have access to this unique tool. As part of membership, your company is allowed up to five 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](mailto:phayden@naega.org). Each designated person is provided unique login information and instructions on the use of the platform. Please let us know if you have any questions!

### **U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Website**

Your comments and advice are welcome in response to the U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Resources website: <https://uscanadagrainsite.org/>. The public website is intended to facilitate trade between Canada and the U.S. and inform future NAEGA actions. The site contains regularly updated question-and-answer modules for [American](#) and [Canadian](#) grain producers, as well as the [commercial grain trade](#). Users are encouraged to review the modules and submit additional questions, which may be included in future updates.

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

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

#### **2023**

#### **April**

**26** – COCERAL webinar - “The Role of Grain Trade in Supporting Food Security”

#### **May**

**6-17** – IGTC Africa Grains Weeks – Kenya and South Africa

**15-17** – GrainCom Geneva – Geneva, Switzerland

**15-17** – DBTG Operational & Technical Conference – Tampa, Florida

#### **June**

**1** - WTO Trade Dialogues on Food: “[The Black Sea Grain Initiative](#)” – Virtual

**8** – NAEGA-NGFA Regional Grain Industry Workshop – New Orleans, LA

**12-13** - IGC Grains Conference – London, United Kingdom

**14-16** – APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Cancun, Mexico

**19-20** – Global Food Security and Grain Trade Forum at the WTO– Geneva, Switzerland

**20-22** - Global Grain MENA – Cairo, Egypt

#### **July**

**12-13** - USAEDC Global Attache Seminar – McLean, VA

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