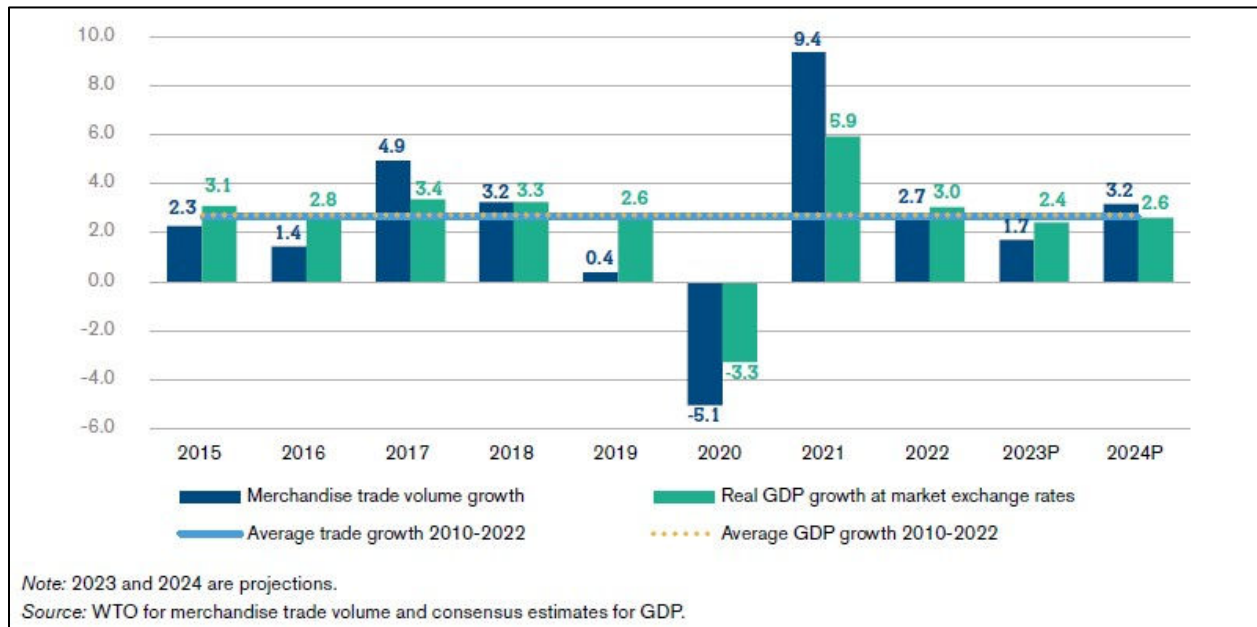




## Outreach May 3, 2023

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

### *NAEGA Graphic of the Week* Global Trade and GDP Growth – 2015-2024 (estimate)



Source – [WTO](#)

### *This OUTREACH includes:*

#### *Member Notices & Opportunities*

- Featured Opportunity–APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – June 14-17, 2023
- USDA/FAS ESRMS 2.1 User Acceptance Testing – Ends May 31, 2023
- IGTC Africa Grains Weeks – May 6-17, 2023
- GrainCom 23 – May 15-17, 2023
- NAEGA-NGFA New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop – June 8, 2023
- IGTC London Grains Week – June 12-13, 2023
- Geneva Dialogues – June 19-20, 2023

***Our Trade and Global Food Security Library now has a Mobile App!***

***Current and Ongoing Actions***

- United Kingdom SPS Measures
- Vietnam Quarantine Pests

***Recent Actions***

- Treated Seed Prevention
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- Global Trade Growth Slowing
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- Geneva Update

***Information Services***

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- U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Website

***Member Notices & Opportunities***

**Featured Opportunity – APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – June 14-16, 2023**

The 28<sup>th</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum will take place from June 14-16, 2023 at the [Hotel Secrets The Vine in Cancun, Mexico](#). This year's forum takes place alongside the Forum for the Analysis of the Feed Industry organized by the National Commission of Compound Feed Manufacturers and Animal Nutrition (CONAFAB).

The [Forum agenda features](#) presentations and updates on international grain and oilseeds markets and discussion on the future of North American agricultural trade, including a keynote address on the SPS Declaration from the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference, Mexico's approach to biotechnology, The U.S.-Mexico trade relations and the impact of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement, among others. [Registration](#) is now open and hotel booking information [can be found here](#).

**We are seeking member personnel with expertise on Mexico to attend the Forum and potentially present as part of NAEGA's delegation.** 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.

**USDA/FAS ESRMS 2.1 User Acceptance Testing - Ends May 31, 2023**

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 are 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. Testing is open through the end of May 2023.

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 ESRMS 2.1, please contact Amy Harding at [ESR@usda.gov](mailto:ESR@usda.gov).

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

There is still time to attend [Africa Grains Weeks Programs](#) from May 6-10 in Kenya (Nairobi) and May 11-17 in 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 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 and with promotional gifts, a video segment, PowerPoint 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.

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

NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) will hold an in-person and virtual New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop on Thursday, June 8, 2023, from 8:30am-3:30pm Central time at the [Hilton 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 8<sup>th</sup>!

### **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. To register for the event, please check the relevant box during the official IGC Grains Conference Registration,

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

### **Geneva Dialogues – June 19-20, 2023**

Save the dates of June 19-20 to join NAEGA staff and the International Grain Trade Coalition for trade dialogues in Geneva, Switzerland. IGTC is planning limited attendance in-person dialogues in Geneva to include:

- Discussions with WTO Secretariat including officials from WTO: Information and External Relations, Trade and Environment, Agricultural and Commodities, and Sanitary and Phytosanitary.
- A Global Food Security and Grain Trade Forum.
- Business and networking meetings.

Details and registration information will be available soon. If you have any questions, please contact the [IGTC Secretariat](#).

### **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 a report on a COCERAL webinar entitled “The Role of Grain Trade in Supporting Food Security” and a U.S. White House Fact Sheet on Biden Administration actions on climate change.

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

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

### **United Kingdom SPS Measures**

The United Kingdom has [notified the World Trade Organization \(WTO\)](#) that it plans to update and streamline border control measures and mechanisms. In addition to the U.K. Single Trade Window, [the proposed Border Target Operating Model](#) would implement new Sanitary and Phytosanitary controls at the UK's borders. If implemented the following changes would become effective from January 31, 2024:

- **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.
- **Digitized 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.

NAEGA is considering a response and your input and advice are welcome. Comments are due to the WTO on May 12, 2023.

### **Vietnam Canada Thistle**

The Government of Vietnam has notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of [a list of plants the Government plans to add to its regulated pest list](#), including designating Canada/Creeping Thistle (*C. arvensis*) seed as a quarantine pest. [A 2019 USDA review of Vietnam's pest risk analysis for Canada/Creeping Thistle](#) found that there is "no evidence that *C. arvensis* is a weed in tropical area and it does not have invasive potential in Viet Nam"

The Grades & Inspections Committee is considering a response and your input is welcome. Comments are due to the WTO on May 21, 2023.

### **Geneva Update**

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

- From April 25 to May 4 the WTO Director-General, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, is visiting Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Kenya to meet with leaders, policymakers, private sector, and civil society representatives to strengthen the WTO's support for Sub-Saharan Africa.
- On April 27, WTO's Deputy Director-General Angela Ellard [spoke](#) at an event organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the European Parliament in Brussels and encouraged parliamentarians from around the globe to deepen their support for the WTO.

- On May 2, H.E. Dr. Mokgweetsi E.K. Masisi, the President of Botswana, delivered the [WTO Presidential Lecture](#), discussing Africa's expectations from the multilateral trading system.
- At the WTO's Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures meeting, China challenged the US over WTO rules on CHIPS and Inflation Reduction Acts, claiming that the US is using climate concerns as a cover for protectionism.

## ***Recent Actions***

### **Treated Seed Prevention**

In support of an industry-wide effort to communicate the need to not allow treated seeds in the grain and oilseed commodity supply, NAEGA sent a letter to industry partners promoting communication with the public and constituent organizations throughout the year.

Resources on treated seed management include:

- The American Seed Trade Association and Crop-Life America's "Guide to Seed Treatment Stewardship", an industry-wide initiative to promote the safe handling and management of treated seed. The purpose of the Guide is to provide farmers and seed companies with critical information and up-to-date guidelines for managing treated seed effectively to further minimize the risk of exposure to non-target organisms. We encourage you to visit the [Guide website](#).
- The National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) has "Treated Seed Guidance" which outlines best practices for handling treated seeds and proper disposal of treated seeds. The best practices for preventing treated seeds from being mixed with grain are to handle treated seeds with separate and dedicated equipment. Disposal of treated seeds should be done in compliance with state and local regulations. Resources, guides, and contacts for waste disposal can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/land-waste-and-cleanup-topics>.
- The U.S. soybean family notes that "because U.S. farmer compliance is critical to avoid disruption of U.S. soybean exports to overseas markets, disposal recommendations were included in the 'Treated Seed Disposal' section of the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship website of the Center for Integrated Pest Management". It can be found at: <http://pesticidestewardship.org/disposal/Pages/treatedseeddisposal.aspx>.

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

NAEGA [joined a broad coalition of industry partners](#) in supporting a proposed rule from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) which [would change U.S. Standards for Soybeans](#) by removing soybeans of other color (SBOC) as a grade-determining factor but retain it in the standards as part of the definition of the class Yellow Soybeans. If approved, the new standard would take effect on September 1, 2023

## ***News:***

### **Global Trade Growth Slowing**

The World Trade Organization (WTO) released updated projections for global trade in 2023. The projections, set out in the [April 2023 "Global Trade Outlook and Statistics" report](#), estimate trade

volume to grow by just 1.7% in 2023, down from 2.7% growth in 2022. The report cites the war in Ukraine, high inflation, tighter monetary policy, and financial market uncertainty as key factors.

### **U.S.-Kenya Trade**

The United States and Kenya [concluded the second round of negotiations under the U.S.-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership \(STIP\)](#). Announced in July 2022 as an alternative to a bilateral trade agreement, STIP goals include increased investment; promotion of sustainable and inclusive economic growth; and supporting African regional economic integration, including agricultural trade. U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai expressed hope that the STIP “can serve as a model for trade policy engagement in Africa,” and Kenyan trade minister Moses Kuria praised the “tremendous advancements” made in the latest round of talks. Several dialogues between the two countries are planned for the rest of 2023.

### **U.S. OFAC Compliance**

The U.S. Treasury’s [Office of Foreign Asset Control \(OFAC\)](#) [issued the statutory maximum civil monetary penalty applicable](#) to a U.K.-based firm in a recent case where the company settled charges arising out of a scheme to do business in North Korea through a third-party company in Singapore. OFAC is using this case, where the penalty was over \$600 million, to stress the importance of full compliance with sanctions and that “creating the illusion of distance between a firm and apparently violative conduct does not shield that firm from liability.” OFAC recommends companies reevaluate their sanctions risk exposure as new sanctions are handed down. U.S. sanctions information from the OFAC can be [found through this link](#). Canadian sanction information [can be found here](#).

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

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

There are currently 2,7781 transgenic products from approximately 415 unique transgenic events and 503 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**

#### **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 Dialogue 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

#### **September**

**12-15** – WTO Public Forum: “[It is Time for Action](#)” – Geneva, Switzerland

#### **Fall**

**TBD** - NAEGA-NGFA Regional Grain Industry Workshop – Pacific Northwest

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