

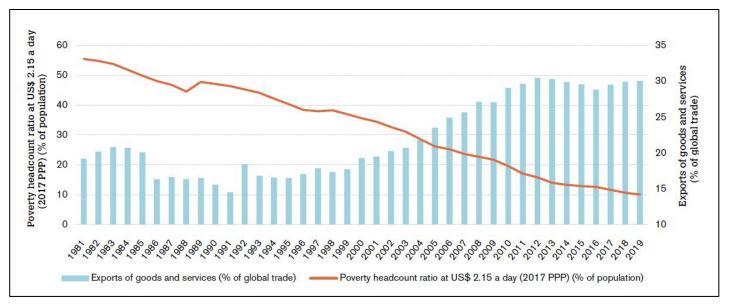
# Outreach

**September 27, 2023** 

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

# NAEGA Graphic of the Week Global Export Growth vs Decline of Extreme Poverty – 1981-2020

The WTO notes that since 2020, there has been an increase in global extreme poverty, correlating with COVID-19, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and an increase in trade-restrictive measures. An important reminder of the need to "work together to make trade work".



Source - WTO World Trade Report, 2023

# This OUTREACH includes:

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# Member Notices & Opportunities

# NAEGA-NGFA Pacific Northwest Regional Industry Workshop – October 12, 2023

<u>Registration is now open</u> for the NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) in-person and virtual Pacific Northwest Regional Industry Workshop at the <u>Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, Oregon</u> on Thursday, October 12, 2023. The current agenda can be found here. We expect presentation from the U.S. Coast Guard, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Federal Grain Inspection Service, Washington State Department of Agriculture and Degesch America.

Thank you to United Grain Corporation for their sponsorship of this event.

Additional Sponsorship opportunities are still available. If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact Patrick at phayden@naega.org for details.

We look forward to seeing many of you in Portland in October!

# IGTC Global Food Security and Grains Conference & General Assembly Cairo, Egypt - November 15-16, 2023

You and your colleagues are welcome to join us at the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) Global Food Security and Grains Conference & General Assembly, taking place on November 15-16 at the Dusit Hotel in Cairo, Egypt.

The agenda for Cairo includes a reception on the evening on November 15, followed by a day of discussion with industry representatives, thought leaders and official decision makers on North

Africa and the Middle East's role in the provision of global food security and support for UN Sustainable Development, as well as themes relating to the IGTC's mission and objectives including innovation and trade facilitation. Following the Conference, IGTC will hold its 2023 General Assembly.

The per-person registration fee is US\$300. For more information this event and how to register, contact the IGTC Secretariat <u>secretariat@igtcglobal.org</u>.

# Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange

In November the NAEGA Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange (PBIE) will transition from the existing NAEGA-only platform to a subscription service on the <u>S&P Global "Connect" platform</u>. The existing PBIE will no longer be available. NAEGA Members who are not subscribers to S&P Connect will have 4 months of free access to the service and platform for up to 5 users. Members who are current subscribers with S&P will also be provided 4 months of free access to the service consistent with the terms of their existing licensing agreement with S&P.

The NAEGA Production Technology Committee, which lead development of the PBIE at the request of membership, will continue to provide feedback to S&P Global on the service, including nomenclature and presentation of the data.

Staff is working with S&P Global on implementation and will be reaching out to members with more details of the transition and how to access the new platform as that information becomes available. Please let us know if you have any questions.

#### Recent Actions

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

The NAEGA Board of Directors met on Thursday, September 21 in Arlington, VA and via MS Teams. The Board approved proposed revisions to the NAEGA 2 Free on Board Contract and Addendum 1, provided guidance to staff on a number of issues, including the Plant Biotechnology Information Exchange

The Board also heard reports from NAEGA Committee leadership and Staff. Draft meeting minutes will be posted to the NAEGA Member's Only website.

#### **Comments to EPA on Fumigant Registration**

NAEGA joined the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) in <u>submitting comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</u> regarding registration of aluminum phosphide, magnesium phosphide, and phosphine.

The comments expressed support for the continued registration requirements for each product, noting the importance of integrated pest-management tools to safe operations and protecting the safety, quality and wholesomeness of U.S. grains, oilseeds and grain-based products. The comments request that EPA not add paperwork requirements and operational practices requiring new equipment without considering the potential cost to industry.

#### **NAEGA No 2 FOB Contract Revision**

The Board of Directors approved <u>proposed revisions to the NAEGA Free on Board Model Contract No. 2 and Addendum 1 to the Model Contract</u> as recommended by the Contracts Committee, as well as a timeline for the revised Contract and Addendum 1 to be published and effective on April 15, 2023. <u>Details on the revisions are available here.</u>

The Contracts Committee will develop and deploy educational tools and guidance, which is expected to include video, reference materials and in-person and virtual training ahead of the effective date.

# Current and Ongoing Actions

# **USTR Requests Input on Foreign Trade Barriers**

NAEGA is considering comments to the U.S. Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) for the 2024 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers (NTE Report). USTR is inviting interested persons to submit written comments to assist in identifying significant barriers to U.S. exports of goods and services. Comments related to the following categories of foreign trade barriers are encouraged: agricultural commodities, U.S. intellectual property, U.S. foreign direct investment by U.S. persons, especially if such investment has implications for trade in goods or services, and U.S. electronic commerce. The NTE report is published annually and is used U.S. negotiations aimed at reducing or eliminating these barriers and is a valuable tool in enforcing U.S. trade laws and strengthening the rules-based trading system. The deadline to submit comments is October 23, 2023.

Your advice is welcome. USTR indicates it is most interested in practices that violate U.S. trade agreements, new or updated information on the barriers covered in the <u>2022 report</u>, or information on new barriers.

# Your Input Requested - Website Review and Enhancement

NAEGA staff are in the process of reviewing and enhancing both the Public and Member's Only section of the NAEGA website. As part of this effort, we are asking members to provide us with your advice and input on the content, resources, and design of <a href="www.naega.org">www.naega.org</a>. Members are also welcome to provide any graphics or video that NAEGA could use on the site. Visual content submitted by Members will be attributed to your company with our thanks. Interested Members are also invited to consider providing content for the "Member Spotlight" section, which is located on the front page of the website. Please reach out to Patrick at <a href="phayden@naega.org">phayden@naega.org</a> with your suggestions, questions, or content submissions.

## News:

# Special Bulletin – USDA ESRMS 2.1

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) announced that it will not implement and deploy its contract-based Export Sales Reporting and Maintenance System (ESRMS) 2.1 reporting platform. It will instead launch a new system that retains the current aggregated data entry reporting approach for export sales reporting. This decision was made in response to comments received through the <u>Federal Register Notice on Export Sales Reporting Information Collection</u>.

ESRMS 2.1 is still under development, with a goal of improved security and usability. FAS intends to have the new system "mimic" the legacy system as closely as possible in both data entry and end-user reports. The new interface is expected to be launched in 2024 and exporters will be notified of new user testing when the system is ready.

Effective Wednesday, September 27, 2023, the ESRMS 2.1 Test Site will be closed. Members are reminded that data entry should continue to be <u>submitted to the legacy ESRMS site</u>.

# **Geneva Report**

Geneva Envoy Mariya-Khrystyna Koziy reports from the World Trade Organization's (WTO) annual Public Forum, held September 12-15, 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. This event brought together a diverse array of stakeholders, including policymakers, industry leaders, academics, and civil society representatives, to foster open dialogue and promote multilateral cooperation. This year's forum, titled "It is Time for Action," featured 134 sessions organized by WTO member governments, businesses, non-governmental organizations, academia, and international organizations.

# **WTO World Trade Report 2023**

The World Trade Organization's <u>issued the 2023 World Trade Report</u>. The 2023 Report emphasizes the advantages of broader, more inclusive economic integration and stresses the importance of "re-globalization", defined as increased international cooperation and broader integration, in promoting security, inclusiveness, and environmental sustainability. The report also notes how that export restrictions on critical raw materials have increased more than five-fold in the last decade, due in part to increased geopolitical tensions, and emphasizes the need for more trade and more cooperation to effectively address global issues like food security.

# Information Services:

## **NAEGA Trade & Food Security Library**

Recently uploaded resources to our Trade & Global Food Security Library include a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on climate-smart agricultural practices and the UN Secretary-General's remarks on Food Systems Transformation, delivered at the recent "U.N. Food System Summit +2 Stocktaking" event in Rome.

The Library is available cost-free to NAEGA members and partners. Access via a web browser or an App for both Android and Apple mobile devices. <u>Instructions on installing the app and connecting to your account can be found here.</u>

If you need login credentials or are having any trouble using the app, please click here.

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

Your comments and advice are welcome in response to the U.S.-Canada Grain Trade Resources website: <a href="https://uscanadagraintrade.org/">https://uscanadagraintrade.org/</a>. 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 <a href="American">American</a> and <a href="Canadian">Canadian</a> grain producers, as well as the <a href="commercial grain trade">commercial grain trade</a>. 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

#### October

12- NAEGA-NGFA Regional Grain Industry Workshop – Portland, OR and Virtual

#### November

7-9 - Global Grain Geneva 2023 – Geneva, Switzerland

**8-10** – Dry Bulk Terminal Group Conference – Amsterdam, The Netherlands

13-15 – USAEDC Annual Workshop – Baltimore, MD

15-16 – IGTC General Assembly – Cairo, Egypt & Virtual

#### 2024

#### March

17-19 – NGFA Annual Convention – Orlando, Florida

**TBD** – NAEGA Annual Meeting

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