

NAEGA OUTREACH

Week ending: June 23, 2006

Attached please find an updated NAEGA member volunteer contact directory. Please advise us of any changes.

IGC Conference - NAEGA Chairman Bill Hale represented NAEGA and spoke at the International Grains Council (IGC) Annual Conference in London, England. Joining Bill to speak on “*Responding to Industry Change*” at the June 13 conference were: **Etsuo Kitahara** Executive Director, International Grains Council, **H.E. Rachid Mohamed Rachid** Minister of Trade and Industry, Egypt, **Xubo Yu**, Vice-President, COFCO (China National Cereals, Oils & Foodstuffs Corporation), China, **Ivano Vacondio**, - Chairman, ITALMOPA (Italian Milling Association), Italy, **Folaranmi Odunayo**, - Managing Director, Honeywell Flour Mills Limited, Nigeria, **Samuel Hosken**, President, ABITRIGO (Brazilian Milling Association), Brazil, **Khalil Khadim**, - - Director-General, Iraq Grain Board, Iraq **Vince Peterson**, US Wheat Associates, **Tatsuji Koizumi**, - Economist, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Japan and **Ravali Mohan**, Executive Director, Jayakrishna Flour Mills (P) Ltd, India.

Much of the conference focused on the implications of industrial (energy and fuel) uses for grain and oilseeds. Bill, in addition to examining international market implications of new and expanded energy production from crops, discussed the impact of hedge funds on futures markets and management of SPS risks and concerns. Please contact us if you would like copy of any of the presentations.

These photos of the meeting were provided by IGC:



India Wheat Tender – NAEGA continues to support efforts to improve market access for wheat to India. This week we worked with APHIS on two specific items:

1. We understand that India is willing to accept inspections based upon a subsample of the total sample being drawn at a 1 kg per 20 metric ton rate. This is an important clarification and provides a potential way to meet India's sampling specification without overburdening the inspection system.
2. A draft letter to the government of India regarding its phytosanitary standard for ergot on imported wheat. The draft points out, India appears to be inappropriately discriminating between domestic and imported wheat ergot requirements.

Brazil Wheat Buyer Team – NAEGA enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the US Wheat hosted meeting with Brazilian Trade Team this week. The team (**Mr. Irineu Pedrollo**, Supply Director, Dona Benta Alimentos, **Mr. Edson Csipai**, Manager Wheat Origination, Bunge Alimentos, **Mr. Sergio Chesini**, Supply Director, Predileto Alimentos, **Mr. Antonio Bolzani**, Supply Manager, M. Dias Branco, **Mr. Adriano Campos**, Strategic Planning Director, La Fonte Participacoes S.A and **Mr. Miguel Galdos Tanguis**, USW Assistant Regional Director, Santiago Office) will attend the USW Latin America Buyers Conference after traveling around the US and visiting with many NAEGA members. Several of the team members indicated a strong interest in US wheat supplies.

Update on NAPPO biotech effort – The NAEGA biotech committee has for several years been encouraging work at the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) on what is known as Module 4 of the transgenic plant standard (RSPM-14). Module 4 deals with importation of transgenic plants into NAPPO member countries for non-propagative use only. Since none of the NAPPO countries currently have rules in place to explicitly address this issue, the work has been tedious. A new draft that would take into account familiarity with the crop and trait, the ability of the imported product to propagate and risk mitigation as factors in decision making is just about ready and should be reviewed by the NAPPO Biotech panel at a meeting in July.

NAPPO Insect Treatment Standard - There is one draft NAPPO standard available for country consultation at this time. It is RSPM No.26, "Guidelines for Certification of Commercial Arthropod Biological Control Agents moving between NAPPO Member Countries". It can be accessed at the following site:
<http://www.nappo.org/Standards/stdsConsult-Bil-06.htm>

IGTC expands membership - International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) approved the application for membership from the China Chamber of Commerce of Import/Export of Foodstuffs, Native Produce & Animal By-Products (CFNA).

OECD looks at Ag. subsidies - Government support to farmers in Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries totaled €225 billion in 2005, representing 29% of farm receipts, according to a new OECD report, *Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries - at a Glance*. The report adds that 59% of government

support last year was in the form of measures to boost the prices of farm products. These include import tariffs, export subsidies and domestic output subsidies that, according to the OECD, badly distort production, markets and trade. The report can be found on the web at: www.oecd.org.

US Agriculture Vulnerable - U.S. agriculture generates over \$1 trillion in annual economic activity, but a new GAO report says that concerns exist about the sector's vulnerability to a natural or deliberate introduction of foreign livestock, poultry, and crop pests and disease. Find the report at: www.gao.gov/new.items/d06644.pdf.

Welcome Susan !!!!

Please join us in welcoming Susan M. Niemann who has joined the NAEGA staff as Director of Operations. Susan brings a unique and very capable combination of enthusiasm, policy and administrative skills and considerable international experience to NAEGA. Susan, a native of northern Virginia, refined her Portuguese and Spanish skills during residency and travel in (Brazil and Mexico) Latin America.

NAEGA Directory – attached you will find an updated directory of NAEGA committees and lists

NAEGA Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 2006

26: APAC conference call with Under Secretary JB Penn and Ambassador Dick Crowder on Doha/WTO negotiations.

27: ABA / CAST Sixth International Biotechnology Roundtable – Paul Green, NAEGA Biotech Chair Attending and Presenting.

27-30: US Wheat Latin American Wheat Buyers' Conference 2006 at the Fiesta Americana Grand Hotel in Los Cabos, Baja California. All NAEGA members are welcome to attend. NAEGA plans to co-host an event at the conference. Gary Martin will present on Managing Technical & Health issues in trade - issues to be faced in the future. Registration is free with a hotel reservation. Please contact us to receive a registration form (that also serves to reserve hotel space), agenda and other related information. Please let us know if you or someone from your company plans to attend.

July 2006

6: Comments due on TSA May 22 the federal register proposed rules for:

1. Transportation Security Administration's Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)
2. Coast Guard's TWIC application in the maritime environment.
3. Coast Guards changes to merchant mariner document rules to reflect the new TWIC.

19: United States Ag Export Development Council (USAEDC) Attaché Seminar is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2006 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. This will be a "Full Global" with all overseas FAS officers returning for the conference. More information at: www.usaedc.org.

26: APHIS Rulemaking- Comments due to the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regarding a proposed rule that would revise and reorganize the regulations pertaining to the importation of fruits and vegetables. APHIS will also consider comments on the proposal at public hearings to be held in Seattle on May 23, Los Angeles on May 24, Miami on May 26, and Washington, DC, on June 20. You can find additional information on this important change at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2006/04/q56meet.shtml>

August 2006

1: Agriculture Advisory Committee of CFTC in Washington, DC.

September 2006

14: NAEGA Board Meeting scheduled for Chicago at **Hilton Garden Inn** – near Chicago O'Hare Airport. The hotel is at **2930 South River Road, Des Plaines, IL**. Ph. 847-636-5285, fax 847-296-8999. Please note this is not the Hilton at O'Hare. A courtesy shuttle to and from the airport will be provided. Meeting is scheduled for 10 AM to 3 pm. Agenda to follow.

October 2006

16-20: North American Plant Protection Organization Annual Meeting 2006 will be held at Fort McDowell, Arizona

November 2006

5-8: The Latin American Millers Association will be holding its ALIM conference in Pucon, Chile November 5-9, 2006. They are now translating their registration/hotel form into English and it is expected to be ready and on their website sometime next week. The web page is here: www.alim2006.cl. NAEGA MAP Funding Available.

15-16: The **FY2007 USAEDC Annual Workshop** will be held at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore on the Inner Harbor.

March 2007

18-20: NAEGA Annual Membership, Board and Committee meetings in conjunction with **NGFA Convention** at Westin St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, California