



Volume 76, No. 16 | April 26, 2024

ngfa.org/newsletter | ngfa@ngfa.org | Editor: Sarah Gonzalez, NGFA

Inside This Issue

NEWS

- 1 A letter from the president and CEO: We need your input on NGFA communications
- 2 [USDA to require HPAI test for moving dairy across state lines](#)
- 3 [USDA accepting applications for Colombia trade mission](#)

EVENTS

- 3 [Meet with Mike, NGFA's president/CEO, on April 29](#)
- 3 [Trade Rules Seminar is May 8-9](#)
- 4 [CONVEY'24 registration is open](#)

SUPPLEMENTS

- 4 [Extra Supplements](#)



NEWS

A letter from the president and CEO: We need your input on NGFA communications

Dear NGFA member:

On April 29, you will receive a link to participate in the inaugural NGFA communications survey—a pivotal initiative following the establishment of communications as a foundational pillar of the Association in our 2022 Long Range Plan.

Your valuable insights shared through this survey will **directly influence how you receive information from the NGFA**. We've made significant investments in new tools designed to optimize the delivery and efficiency of our communication channels, and your input is crucial in ensuring their effective implementation.

As you are aware, NGFA operates as a grassroots organization, with industry volunteers driving the policies and priorities of the Association through our committee structure. This survey presents an opportunity for everyone within NGFA member companies to provide direct guidance on information delivery methods, topics of interest, and the most effective communication channels for you.

Crafted by your NGFA peers in collaboration with members of the Executive Committee, participants of the Committee Apprentice Program, and the newly established Communications, Membership, and Marketing Committee, this survey reflects a collective effort to meet the diverse needs of our membership base.

We are also offering **a chance to win by taking the survey!** By dedicating a few minutes to answer 18 questions regarding

your experience with NGFA communications, you stand a chance to win a complimentary registration to one of NGFA's flagship events – the 2024 CEC or the 2025 Annual Convention – accompanied by a complimentary upgrade to a hotel suite for your stay. Three winners will be randomly selected from among the survey participants.

Expect the survey link to arrive in your inbox from me on Monday, April 29, and please note that the survey will remain open until May 10.

We eagerly anticipate your valuable input, which will help us to develop a dynamic and adaptable communications delivery system that caters to the unique needs of every one of our members.

Thank you for your participation!

Warm regards,



202-289-0873
msefert@ngfa.org

USDA to require HPAI test for moving dairy across state lines

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) [announced additional actions](#) to further protect the U.S. livestock industry from the threat posed by highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza (HPAI).

As detailed in a [Federal Order](#), APHIS will require the following measures, effective Monday, April 29:

- **Mandatory Testing for Interstate Movement of Dairy Cattle:** Prior to interstate movement, dairy cattle are required to receive a negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory and adhere to conditions specified by APHIS in forthcoming guidance.
- **Mandatory Reporting:** Laboratories and state veterinarians must report positive Influenza A serology diagnostic results and nucleic acid detection diagnostic results (e.g. PCR or genetic sequencing) in livestock to USDA APHIS.

While taking additional actions, USDA's announcement also emphasized the agency has not found changes to the virus that would make it more transmissible to humans and between people. While cases among humans in direct contact with infected animals are possible, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) believes that the current risk to the public remains low.

Additionally, USDA continues to see affected cows recover after supported care with little to no associated mortality, and is working with other stakeholders to emphasize the [importance biosecurity plays](#) in limiting disease spread for all livestock and poultry.

Meanwhile, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released an [update](#) on the ongoing work to ensure continued effectiveness of the federal-state milk safety system. Based on current information and

research, FDA and USDA continue to believe that the commercial milk supply is safe because of both the pasteurization process and the required diversion or destruction of milk from sick cows.

USDA accepting applications for Colombia trade mission

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications from U.S. exporters for an agribusiness [trade mission](#) to Bogotá, Colombia on Aug. 13-15 with Undersecretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Alexis Taylor.

USDA requests online [applications to be completed here](#) by **May 3**.

“Colombia represents a top-tier food and agricultural export destination for American farmers, ranchers and processors,” said Taylor in the April 19 announcement. “As the second-most-populous country in South America, Colombia enjoys highly favorable demographics, coupled with 20 years of continuous economic growth, which saw a 36-percent increase in the median household income.”

Colombia is the largest South American market for U.S. agricultural products and the seventh-largest market for U.S. food and beverage exports globally, USDA noted. Since the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement was implemented in 2012, U.S. agricultural exports to Colombia have grown 237 percent, reaching a record \$3.7 billion in 2023.

While in Bogotá, U.S. agribusiness representatives will meet with potential importers from across Colombia and receive market briefings from USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and local/regional industry trade experts. The mission will also include engagements with USDA leadership, site visits in Bogotá and the surrounding area, and multiple networking opportunities.

EVENTS

Meet with Mike, NGFA’s president/CEO, on April 29

NGFA members are invited to a virtual meeting with NGFA President and CEO Mike Seyfert on Monday, April 29 at 1 p.m. ET.

If you wish to attend, RSVP to sgonzalez@ngfa.org to receive the Zoom meeting information. This is a casual meeting open to any topic for discussion.

Trade Rules Seminar is May 8-9

NGFA’s [2024 Trade Rules Seminar](#) is May 8-9 at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark in St. Louis, Mo. More than 200 attendees are registered to boost their merchandising and contracting expertise! Join them by [registering here](#).

This biennial seminar on trading, trade rules and arbitration provides attendees with a primer on contracting principles and trading practices to minimize costly trade disputes and contract non-performance. It is designed for those involved in trading operations or responsible for merchandising

grains, feed and feed ingredients, but everyone involved in contract execution should attend. WATCH: [What is the NGFA Trade Rules Seminar?](#)

CONVEY'24 registration is open

Registration is open for [CONVEY'24](#), an annual conference jointly hosted by NGFA, Grain Journal, and the Grain and Elevator Processing Society (GEAPS), on July 23-25 in Omaha, Neb.

Each year, NGFA, GEAPS and Grain Journal present this unique opportunity for grain handling employees and leaders to gain practical knowledge and training on real-world compliance issues, best practices and emerging industry trends. This year's focus will be on new technology and automation.



Early bird registration rate ends **May 31!** Register to attend or exhibit at conveyconference.com.

New this year: DEGESCH will host a pesticide state-certification workshop on the afternoon of July 23 (additional registration is required).

SUPPLEMENTS

Extra Supplements

NGFA in the news:

Farm Progress: [Policy quick hits: U.S to provide \\$1 billion in emergency food assistance](#)

Other news:

E&E News: [Airlines, farm groups urge crop-based aviation fuel in farm bill](#)

Fortune: [Cargill leans on regenerative agriculture and generative AI to feed the planet](#) *(log in)*

Agri-Pulse: [India trade trip sparks optimism for U.S. ag leaders](#) *(log in)*

Reuters: [H5N1: What to know about bird flu in dairy cows and risk to humans](#)

GovTech: [Are We Ready for a Cyber Attack on Food and Farming?](#)

NGFA | 1400 Crystal Drive | Suite 260 | Arlington | VA | 22202