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Issue 2011.1

March 10, 2011

## 2011 Annual Meeting: May 1-4, Las Vegas

Registration is now open for the AAGIWA 2011 Annual Meeting at Bally's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. Room blocks have been held at both Bally's (\$89/night) and Paris Hotel and Casino (\$109/night). Make your reservations soon as we only have a set amount of rooms held at those rates!



### 2011 Guest Speakers:

Scott Anderson  
*Kansas Farmers Service Association*

Jim Smolik  
*Canadian Grain Commission*

Warren Duffy  
*Archer Daniels Midland*

The meeting will also feature presentations from key FGIS personnel on current industry issues. Stay tuned to the AAGIWA website for updates on the meeting program.

To register today, [CLICK HERE](#).

## FGIS People On The Move

FGIS has announced the selection and transfer of several persons to key positions.

**Randy Deike**, the former Washington State Department of Agriculture Grain Inspection Program Manager and longtime AAGIWA Member, was selected as the **Portland Field Office Manager**. Randy reported to the Portland office on February 14 and worked with current manager Ed Durgin, until Ed's retirement at the end of February. Randy's career in grain inspection began in 1976 when he worked with FGIS in the Portland Field Office; he later worked in FGIS offices in Galveston, Texas and Seattle, Washington. In 1980, he accepted a position with the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) - Grain Inspection Program, most recently serving as WSDA's Grain Inspection Program Manager. Congratulations to a valued AAGIWA Member and friend.

**Sandra Metheny** was selected as the **Stuttgart Field Office Manager**. Sandra has been the Acting Field Office Manager since August 2010. Sandra started her Federal career with GIPSA in 1989 as an agricultural commodity grader in the Stuttgart Field Office. She also served as the collateral duty equipment specialist, training officer, and

Click [here](#) to view a printable version of the March 2011 *Chaff*.



## Calling all Future Board Members

The nominating committee, David Ayers, Tom Dahl, and Tom Meyer, have begun work on the 2011 Board of Directors nominations. Those Board Members with terms expiring include:

Larry Kitchen  
President  
Missouri Dept. of Agriculture

Mark Fulmer  
Vice President  
Lincoln Inspection Service

David Reeder  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Fremont Grain Inspection Dept.

David Ayers  
Champaign-Danville Grain  
Inspection Departments

Gregory Hoelck  
Hastings Grain Inspection

If you are interested in serving on the AAGIWA Board of Directors or have a nomination of a fellow member, please contact us at: [abigail.hiles@aagiwa.org](mailto:abigail.hiles@aagiwa.org)

## 2011 Annual Dues Reminder

commodity coordinator until 1997. From 1997 - 2010 Sandra served as the scale specialist/industrial specialist for the Stuttgart Field Office.

**Ed Stallman** has been selected for the **Grand Forks Field Office Manager** position. Ed received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy from North Dakota State University in 1982. Ed started his career in 1976 as a technician for North Dakota Protein Lab in Fargo, ND, then worked as a grain inspector from 1978 - 1989 for the North Dakota Grain Inspection Service. Ed joined FGIS as the Grand Forks Field Office's Quality Assurance Specialist in 1989 and was promoted to the Assistant Field Office Manager position in 2008. He has been the Acting Field Office Manager since May of 2010.

**Ron Metz**, Cedar Rapids Field Office Manager has been assigned as the **Acting Assistant Director for Field Operations and Support Staff** (FOSS). Ron will handle questions regarding inspection and weighing for all the agencies assigned to FOSS in addition to the Cedar Rapids territory. Questions concerning FGIS online applications can be directed to the appropriate FGIS online specialist.

**Pat McCluskey** was selected for the **Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch Chief**. Pat joined the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration in October 2001 as an Agricultural Marketing Specialist in the newly formed Market Analysis and Standards Branch. Pat holds Bachelors of Science and Masters of Science degrees in Grain Science from Kansas State University.

**Karen Guagliardo** will transfer from Compliance Division to Field Management Division on March 13, 2011. Karen will serve as the **Assistant Director for Field Management Division** and will be responsible for a variety of assignments including the oversight and delivery of FGIS online programs.

**Dave Funk** has been named **Acting Director** of the **Technical Services Division** after the retirement of Don Kendall. GIPSA is seeking applicants for the Director position. The announcement can be found [HERE](#).

The **Compliance Division** has designated **Mark Wooden** as the primary contact for requesting fee schedule changes. Mark replaces Bob Crook who retired as the fee schedule contact. Agencies' wishing to change their fee schedules contact Mark at 816-823-2734, [mark.j.wooden@usda.gov](mailto:mark.j.wooden@usda.gov)

## FGIS Directives and Notices

[FGIS Directive 9290.18](#), Exception Programs, dated December 2, 2010. This directive provides a detailed explanation of the Exception Programs, and was developed with AAGIWA input.

[FGIS Program Notice 11-03](#), Near Infrared Transmittance (NIRT) Soybean Protein and Oil Calibrations, dated December 9, 2010. The notice provides the procedures for implementation of Artificial Neural Network soybean protein and oil calibrations for official testing.

[FGIS Directive 9180.17](#), Inspection of Export Wheat Lots for Canada Thistle Seed, dated January 4, 2011. The directive was revised to provide procedures for performing this inspection on export containers.

[FGIS Program Notice 11-04](#), Wilsonart D456-60 "Café Crème" Laminate Work Surface, dated January 18, 2011. The notice provides a new inspection surface approved by FGIS for official laboratories.

## Load Order Guidance

Composite Loading/Average Quality Grades  
-Robert Lijewski, Director, Field Management Division

Notices have been sent out to all agencies regarding the renewal of AAGIWA's annual dues. To download the dues payment form, [click here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Abigail Hiles: [abigail.hiles@aagiwa.org](mailto:abigail.hiles@aagiwa.org) or call at (816) 569-4016

## Timeline for other Official Agencies to Report to Kansas City

FGIS continues to work on their reorganization and moving all Kansas City personnel to the renovated National Grain Center. The move is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2011. FGIS plans to begin discussion of moving additional Official Agencies to the Domestic Operations Field Office (formally, Field Office Support Staff) when all personnel moves are completed.

## AAGIWA Welcomes Member News

AAGIWA welcomes member information about new products, business changes, personnel changes and other items that may be of interest to AAGIWA members. Please let us know what is new in your business. Send your information to: [bob.petersen@aagiwa.org](mailto:bob.petersen@aagiwa.org).

## Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities?

AAGIWA is now booking sponsors for future issues of **Chaff**. **Chaff** can present your company with a unique opportunity to hit a very targeted audience of key executives in a venue that has strong readership in the agriculture industry. It is an excellent marketing opportunity - contact Bob Petersen for further information at [bob.petersen@aagiwa.org](mailto:bob.petersen@aagiwa.org).



Editor

Over the last two years, GIPSA has received numerous inquiries from Official Agencies requesting guidance and clarification interpreting load orders and applying instructions for various unit train loading scenarios. Questions include such areas as load order interpretation; when and how can maximum and minimum be applied; when is CuSum applied versus composite analysis; are certain factors exempt from CuSum rules; how to deal with an applicants' self-imposed factor limits?

In order to improve communications, GIPSA is reviewing current guidance, along with the CuSum Handbook and various directives for container and unit train inspection and certification. Upon completion of the review, GIPSA will publish a memo that will articulate the correct procedures and instructions for unit train loading, and will harmonize all land carrier loading and certification instructions.

## NGFA Urges OSHA not to Expand Fall-Protection Rules for Rail Rolling Stock

-Source: NGFA

The National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) on January 20, 2011, urged the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) not to expand its fall-protection rules for rail rolling stock, stating that such action would be "detrimental" to the industry. The NGFA made the statement during an OSHA stakeholder meeting on proposed revisions to the agency's walking-working surfaces and personal protective equipment (fall-protection systems) standard.

Testifying on behalf of the NGFA, Greg Rowe, Senior Director of Operations for Perdue Agribusiness, Salisbury, Md., focused on questions posed by OSHA in its proposal on whether regulations are needed to address falls from rolling stock and/or commercial motor vehicles. Rowe is a member of the NGFA's Safety, Health, and Environmental Quality Committee. On May 24, 2010, OSHA proposed major revisions to its walking-working surfaces and personal protective equipment (fall-protection systems) standard - also known as Subpart D. OSHA's existing regulations under Subpart D do not specifically address or exclude fall protection on rolling stock or motor vehicles from coverage. In 1996, the agency issued an internal memorandum - dubbed the 1996 "Miles memo" after its author - that directed OSHA inspectors not to cite rolling stock under Subpart D.

However, in its new proposal, the agency asserted that the Miles memo "...did not result in clear direction to the public or to OSHA's field staff." OSHA defines "rolling stock" as any locomotive, railcar or vehicle operated exclusively on a rail or rails, or a trolley bus operated by electric power supplied from an overhead wire. OSHA posed eight specific questions regarding rolling stock, including the number of employees that work on rolling stock; the type of fall-protection equipment used; and alternative means that can be used to protect employees in the absence of such fall-protection devices.

In testifying for the NGFA, Rowe disagreed with OSHA's view by stating that the Miles memo had, in fact, played a "constructive role" in promoting, where warranted, the installation of fall-protection systems by many in the grain industry. He referenced an NGFA industry survey that found nearly 40 percent of all facilities that load grain had installed overhead fall protection systems in railcar loading areas during the period 2007-09. More importantly, he told OSHA, there were no employee deaths reported by the NGFA survey respondents attributable to falls from or into railcars or motor vehicles. Rowe also testified that the NGFA survey found that if OSHA were to require installation of rail car fall protection systems at every grain, feed, and grain processing facility, the estimated cost would be \$500 million for just these segments of industry. As it had in a written statement submitted previously to the agency, the NGFA urged OSHA to strongly consider using the 1996 interpretation outlined in the Miles memo as the basis for any future rulemaking on fall protection from rail rolling stock and/or motor vehicles.

The proposed rule can be found [HERE](#).

Bob Petersen, AAGIWA

**Assistant Editors**  
Erica Venancio, AAGIWA  
Abigail Hiles, AAGIWA

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## AAGIWA to Participate in GEAPS Summit for International Center

AAGIWA Board Member **Tom Meyer** will participate in a Grain Elevator and Processing Society (GEAPS) summit to pursue an international center for grain industry professional development and continuing education. The summit will be held in Kansas City on March 30, 2011. The summit will cover three main areas: defining the need for an international center to provide professional development and continuing education, defining and refining the center concept, and defining next steps. Currently, sixteen different associations and universities interested in professional development are scheduled to attend.

## Quality Management Program Progressing Well

*-Thomas O'Connor, Director, Compliance Division*

Implementation of the new Quality Management Program is proceeding very well. All official agencies (OA) and field offices have written manuals and have either completed their initial 3-month audit or are conducting their first year audit as required by the new program. To date, the Review Branch has completed eleven QMP on-site agency audits so far and has scheduled fifteen for the remainder of the year. On-site audits are scheduled after the OA or Field Office has completed their one year internal audit and, in an OA's case, to coincide with renewal of their three year designation.

During audits, Review Branch personnel check to see if the agency or field office is following their written plan as well as the internal audits that had been performed to determine if and how the agency or field office addressed any problems that may have been detected. After the audit is completed, the audit team will brief local management on any findings, including details on the specific non-compliance items that may have been found with respect to different sections of the local QMP manual. In a change from past practices, OAs and field offices will have to provide written responses to all non-compliance items found within 30 days of receipt of the final report, as their will no longer be a distinction between minor or major non-compliance items. In their written response, we want to emphasize that local management should explain how the non-compliance finding was corrected and touch on actions being taken to prevent reoccurrence.

Finally, after evaluating the results of audits that have been conducted so far, we believe that most agencies and field offices are doing a good job in complying with their written QMP manuals. However, we are finding that problems seem to be more common than others, such as not following Handbook procedures or not entering all equipment into ECT or have the wrong calibrations in the GAC moisture meter or not reviewing the condition of local D/T samplers. These would be areas where an OA may want to place some emphasis when performing their internal audits.

Should any AAGIWA member have questions on the QMP, they should call Mr. Robert Krouse, Compliance Officer with GIPSA's Review Branch, at (816) 823-4645.

## GIPSA Continues Work on Sorghum Odor

*-Patrick McCluskey, Chief - Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch*

FGIS is continuing work with the sorghum industry to ensure that the official system properly recognizes and characterizes odors, understands the needs of end-users, understands the challenges for producers and handlers, and achieves a common understanding as to the acceptability of various odors and levels of intensity in grain sorghum.

The FGIS Grain Inspection Advisory Committee recommended that FGIS engage a sensory expert from Kansas State University (KSU) to develop reference materials that could be used by inspectors in the official system and by industry to assist in determining the

acceptability of grain sorghum odors. Other goals of this collaboration were to better define environmental requirements and testing procedures to enhance odor assessment consistency. In FY 2010, KSU successfully identified chemical compounds that can be used to "spike" clean stored sorghum to create "storage musty" reference samples. KSU conducted shelf-life tests to determine which of the chemical compounds would be suitable for use over extended periods. FGIS provided KSU with additional samples to represent "clean/okay" and "storage musty" sorghum and participated in an initial experiment to assess the adequacy of KSU's suggestions for "spiked" reference samples.

In FY 2011, FGIS continues to work with KSU and the official inspection system to build upon the knowledge acquired through this research project. Additional reference samples are being prepared and tested to determine the optimum combination and concentrations of compounds to represent the "storage musty" odor line for sorghum. FGIS has involved some Federal and Official Agency Quality Assurance Specialists in an assessment of the odors of samples at two "spike" levels that the Board of Appeals and Review deemed close to the appropriate line for "storage musty." Most of those surveyed concurred that the spiked samples correctly conveyed the "storage musty" odor quality, but further experiments will be required to define the concentrations of chemicals to represent the "storage musty" odor line.

## FGISonline Update

*-Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division*

The Inspection, Testing, and Weighing (ITW) application has been deployed to the FGIS export offices, and GIPSA has begun working with the Delegated States to install the distributed version of ITW at their locations. GIPSA plans to make ITW available to all Designated Official Agencies after its successful deployment to all export port locations.

GIPSA is also working on enhancements to the ITW, Certificates (CRT), and Inspection Data Warehouse (IDW) applications. One enhancement will improve the way FGISonline handles lots under the CuSum plan. This is a necessary step prior to developing additional reports from IDW and the Quality Assurance and Control (QAC) applications. Once complete, GIPSA will work on a reporting component for IDW and QAC, including reports that will eliminate the need for manually reporting Export Grain Information System and Grain Inspection and Weighing Information System data.

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