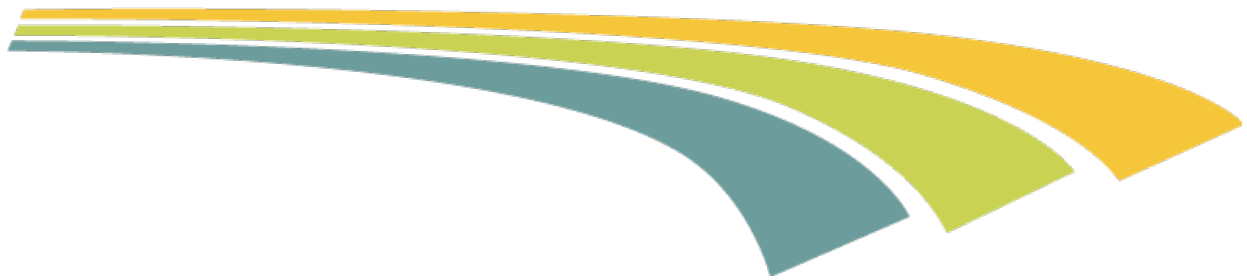


# **NASDA**



## **Policy Materials**

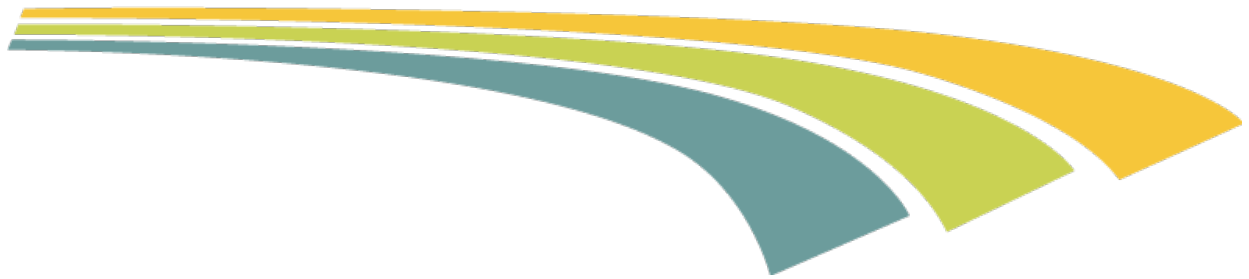
2024 NASDA Annual Meeting

*Please note printed policy books will NOT be available at this year's meeting. All documents are available on our app.*

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# **NASDA**



## **Committee Agendas**

2024 Annual Meeting

# Food Systems and Nutrition Committee

*Chair: Secretary Karen Ross, California*

*Vice-Chair: Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Connecticut*

*NASDA Staff Contact: Becky Garrison Warfel*

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 1:30 PM-3:00 PM ET | 2024 Annual Meeting | Room: Grand 3

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### Opening Remarks (1:30)

- Secretary Karen Ross, *California*
- Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, *Connecticut*
- Becky Garrison Warfel, *NASDA Policy Director*

### ANNI Policy Updates on GusNIP and Produce Prescription Programs (1:45)

- Mark Nicholson, *Federal Policy Lead, Alliance for National Nutrition Incentives (ANNI)*
- Questions & Discussion (2:00)

### Integrating Local & Regional Food Systems into Food is Medicine Healthcare Plans (2:05)

- Kendall Singleton, *VP of Partnerships & Compliance, NourishedRX*
- Questions & Discussion (2:20)

### Transforming School Meal Procurement: Overview of USFA and USDA Cooperative Agreement Progress (2:25)

- Dottie Arnold, *Urban School Food Alliance*
- Questions & Discussion (2:40)

### Food Safety/FSMA Cooperative Agreements Update from NASDA Foundation (2:45)

- Joe Reardon, *Senior Director Food Safety Programs, NASDA Foundation*
- Bob Ehart, *Senior Advisor – Policy & Science, NASDA Foundation*

### Adjourn (3:00)

# Natural Resources and Environment Committee

*Chair: Secretary Michael Scuse, Delaware*

*Vice-Chair: Secretary Jeff Witte, New Mexico*

*NASDA Contact: RJ Karney*

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 1:30-3:00 PM ET | 2024 NASDA Annual Meeting | Room: Grand 2

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### Opening Remarks (1:30)

- Secretary Michael Scuse, *Delaware*
- Secretary Jeff Witte, *New Mexico*

### Presentation: *Overturning Chevron and Its Impacts to Environmental Regulations* (1:35)

- Harrison Pittman, *Director, National Agricultural Law Center*
- Rusty Rumley, *Senior Staff Attorney, National Agricultural Law Center*
- Brigit Rollins, *Staff Attorney, National Agricultural Law Center*

### Discussion Wrap-Up (2:15)

### Presentation: *Carbon Markets and Producer Participation* (2:15)

- Indigo Ag

### Panel Wrap-Up (2:55)

### Adjourn (3:00)

# Rural Development and Financial Security Committee

*Chair: Commissioner Kent Leonhardt, West Virginia*

*Vice-Chair: Secretary Anson Tebbetts, Vermont*

*NASDA Contact: Becky Garrison Warfel*

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 3:30-5:00 PM ET | 2024 NASDA Annual Meeting | Room: Grand 2

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### Opening Remarks (3:30)

- Commissioner Kent Leonhardt, *West Virginia*
- Secretary Anson Tebbetts, *Vermont*

### Addressing Farm Stress (3:35)

- Natalie Roy, MPH, *CEO, AgriSafe*

### Impact of Land Access Policy Initiatives on Landowners and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (4:00)

- Cris Coffin, *National Agricultural Land Network Director and Senior Policy Advisor, American Farmland Trust*
- Marie O'Neill, *Research Associate, Indiana University, Ostrom Workshop, Food and Agrarian Systems Program*
- Julia Valliant, *Research Scientist, Indiana University, Ostrom Workshop, Food and Agrarian Systems Program*

### 2024 Crop Rescue Update (4:45)

- Mike Meyer, *Head of Farmer Advocacy, The Farmlink Project*

### Member Dialogue (4:50)

- Open Discussion

### Adjourn (5:00)

# Marketing and International Trade Committee

*Chair: Commissioner Richard Ball, New York*

*Vice-Chair: Secretary Mike Beam, Kansas*

*NASDA Contact: RJ Karney*

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 3:30 – 5:00 PM ET | 2024 NASDA Annual Meeting | Grand 3

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### Opening Remarks (3:30)

- Commissioner Richard Ball, *New York*
- Secretary Mike Beam, *Kansas*

### North American Agricultural Marketing Officials (3:35)

- Dillon Davidson, *President, NAAMO*
- “Marketing Excellence Award” Presentation

### Discussion with UK Chief Veterinary Officer (3:40)

- Dr. Christine Middlemiss, *Chief Veterinary Officer, United Kingdom*

### EU Trade Policy: Pesticide MRLs (4:15)

- Sabina Neumann, *Senior Trade Advisor, USDA-FAS, Plant Division*

### Member Dialogue (4:50)

### Adjourn (5:00)

# Animal Agriculture Committee

*Chair: Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, Tennessee*

*Vice-Chair: Secretary Mike Naig, Iowa*

*NASDA Contact: RJ Karney*

## Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 | 9:00-10:30 AM ET | 2024 NASDA Annual Meeting | Room: Grand 3

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### Opening Remarks (9:00)

- Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, *Tennessee*
- Secretary Mike Naig, *Iowa*

### Discussion: HPAI and the Role of States in Response (9:10)

- Dr. Beth Thompson, *President, National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials*

### Discussion Wrap-Up (9:40)

### Panel: HPAI and Its Impacts on the “Secure” Plans - What’s Next? (9:45)

- Dr. Danelle Bickett-Weddle, *Veterinary and Public Health Consultant - Owner, Preventalytics* (3 minute overview of Secure Milk Supply)
- Dr. Jim Roth (3-minute overview of Secure Pork Supply)
- Dr. Carol Cardona (3-minute overview of Secure Poultry Supply)

### Panel Wrap-Up (10:25)

### Adjourn (10:30)



# Plant Agriculture and Pesticide Regulation Committee

*Chair: Director Chris Chinn, Missouri*

*Vice-Chair: Director Chanel Tewalt, Idaho*

*NASDA Contact: RJ Karney*

## Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 | 9:00-10:30 AM ET | 2024 NASDA Annual Meeting | Room: Grand 2

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### Opening Remarks (9:00)

- Director Chris Chinn, *Missouri*
- Director Chanel Tewalt, *Idaho*

### Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) Update (9:05)

- Steven Dwinell, *Director, Public Health & Agricultural Resource Management Division, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets*

### The Fertilizer Institute – Fertilizer Reporting System Overview (9:20)

- Veronica Nigh, *Senior Economist, The Fertilizer Institute*

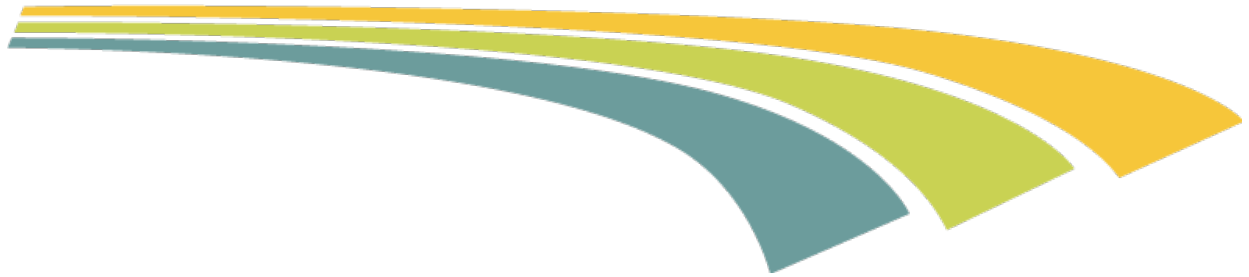
### Regulatory Landscape Surrounding Hemp and Hemp-Derived Products (9:30)

- Gillian Schauer, PhD, MPH, *Executive Director, Cannabis Regulators Association*
- Norman Birenbaum, *Senior Public Health Advisor, FDA*

### Member Open Dialogue (10:20)

### Adjourn (10:30)

# **NASDA**



## **Emerging Policy Issue**

2024 Annual Meeting

# National Association of State Departments of Agriculture



## Subject of Emerging Issue:

Regulation of Pet Food

## Submitted by:

Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, Tennessee, Chair, Animal Agriculture Policy Committee

Secretary Mike Naig, Iowa, Vice Chair, Animal Agriculture Policy Committee

## Corresponding Policy Section & Statement:

4.3 Roles and Responsibilities: Federal Preemption

## Text of Emerging Issue:

### Amending Section 4.3 Roles & Responsibilities: Federal Preemption:

Federal preemption of state food **and companion animal pet food and specialty pet food** regulation under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act should not be allowed. States should retain the right to regulate the food supply in a manner at least equal to or greater than federal standards and have the authority to regulate food products and food handling establishments not regulated by the federal government. The effect of federal preemption is to take away states' authority to impose requirements to ensure the safety of the food, drug, and cosmetic supply. States would not be able to impose stricter food safety standards than the federal government.

### New Policy Section Subheading: Section 4.3: State Pet Food Programs

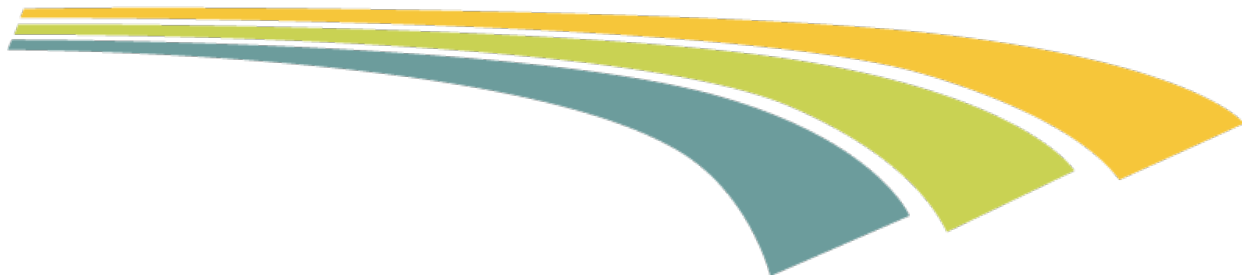
- NASDA supports FDA codifying pet food labeling as a Federal Rule and/or law that allows for a national rule on pet food and specialty pet food labeling.
- NASDA encourages the FDA to work with AAFCO, states, and industries to align the FDA rules with the Pet Food Labeling Modernization recently approved by AAFCO.

# National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

- NASDA supports the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), holding primary authority and responsibility for science-based approval of pet food and specialty pet food labels.
  - NASDA supports the authority of states to adopt federal pet food labeling rules and regulations.
  - NASDA supports the authority of state departments of agriculture and state feed programs to follow up on consumer complaints, inspect, test, sample, and verify the ingredients and contents of pet food and specialty pet food compared to the nutrition label of such products.
  - NASDA supports the authority and ability of state departments of agriculture and state feed programs to consult with FDA-CVM on resolving technical issues.
- NASDA supports the authority of state feed programs to require licensing, registration, and/or tonnage fees for pet food and specialty pet food products.
- NASDA supports appropriate funding to FDA-CVM for the implementation of new authority over pet food and specialty pet food labels.

**Adopted:** 3/12/2024

# **NASDA**



## **Affiliate Reports**

2024 Annual Meeting



# Apiary Inspectors of America

Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) is a 501(c)(3) made up of apiary regulatory officials from states, territories, and provinces in the United States and Canada.

We provide support to beekeepers, regulatory officials, and industry leaders in the form of regulatory guidance, education, collaboration and information with the goal of facilitating honey bee management focused on health, pollinator protection, honey production, and pollination.

Our mission is to promote better beekeeping conditions in North America through the mitigation of honey bee pests and disease, active communication and cooperation with apiary inspection officials and other stakeholders of the apiculture industry, and the presentation of new information and ideas regarding honey bee health and pollinator protection.

## **In 2024 AIA:**

- Held our annual meeting in conjunction with the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) and American Bee Research Conference (ABRC) in New Orleans, LA. This included a field trip to the USDA honey bee research lab in Baton Rouge.
- Formally approved our by-laws and established a Board of Directors in accordance with our new 501(c)(3) non-profit status.
- Continued to hold bi-monthly virtual meetings to keep our members informed and up to date of the latest challenges, policy changes, research and technology from government and industry leaders.
- Partnered with Auburn University to secure funding from Project *Apis m.* and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture for a *Tropilaelaps* Biology and Management Workshop for inspectors at Chiang Mai University in Thailand and a follow-up train-the trainer domestic workshop that will take place in the fall at Auburn University with additional funding from the USDA and Alabama Department of Agriculture.
- Partnered with Auburn University to continue the existence and promotion of the online “*US Beekeeping survey: Colony loss and management*” after the demise of the Bee Informed Partnership (BIP). This survey serves as a crucial resource that drives significant funding and research in our industry.
- Facilitated workshops, held panel discussions, and presented at regional and state honey beekeeper meetings, as well as regional Plant Board meetings.

## **Our collaborations**

Our members participated in national-level group projects and collaborations like Honey Bee Veterinary Consortium (HBVC), American Honey Producers Association (AHPA), Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists (CAPA), American Association of Professional Apiculturists (AAPA), North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC), Pollinator Partnership, National Honey Bee Survey, US Beekeeping survey: Colony loss and management, and numerous podcasts, workshops, and conference engagements.



# Apiary Inspectors of America

## Emerging threats

Our major focus has always been the health of the honey bee population through the lens of pest and disease management. 2024 was no exception, considering the first detection of the non-native Yellow-Legged Hornet (*Vespa velutina*) and the emerging threat of *Tropilaelaps* mite. To address these two emerging pest issues we held an informative meeting conducted by Apiary Inspectors from Georgia and South Carolina, along with researchers specializing in Vespidae biology, that shared with other apiary inspectors their trapping techniques, challenges, and plans to eradicate this introduced species. We also secured funding to send a team of eight apiary inspectors from the US and Canada to attend a week-long workshop at Chiang Mai University to better understand how to identify an emerging threat, the honey bee mite *Tropilaelaps*. The immersive experience with hands-on components led by Thai beekeepers, regulators, and researchers expanded the understanding of the biology and ways to mitigate and manage *Tropilaelaps* in honey bee colonies.

## Importance of AIA in agriculture

While each state, territory, or province may have their own unique regulatory obligation, authority and industry, we believe our greatest strength comes from our collaborative efforts and support in our unique regulatory roles. Our group is a small yet mighty collection of passionate hard working team players. Our diversity combined with the varied responsibilities we serve in our roles and the regions we serve make an Apiary Inspector a dynamic bridge building essential component in North America's agriculture. Ranging from Alberta, Canada and North Dakota's commercial honey production to Maine's, New York and California's Almond pollination, to Guam and New Brunswick's small scale beekeeping, each of our member representatives brings a wealth of knowledge and boots on the ground approach to ensuring the health of the honey bee industry is robust and secure.

## Looking ahead

In addition to our usual plethora of collaborations, trainings, workshops, and meetings, we plan to continue to sound the alarm relating to the threats of *Tropilaelaps* and Yellow legged hornets by holding regional workshops focused on sharing with other inspectors, extension agents and industry leaders the best resources relating to these and other honey bee threats.

## How NASDA can help

The role of apiary inspectors in North America continues to be important, especially in a time of continued globalization and as the introduction of new pests and diseases rapidly evolves. Safeguarding the health of honey bees and the integrity of honey continues to be the primary duty of apiary inspectors and NASDA's commitment to support the agricultural industry through policy, partnerships and public engagement help support this role. As such, we encourage NASDA members to evaluate their departments to ensure apiary inspector positions and programs are fully funded in each state.



# ASSOCIATION of AMERICAN PLANT FOOD CONTROL OFFICIALS, INC.

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## Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO)

### 2024-2025 Board of Directors

President	Falina Hutchinson, Montana
President-Elect	Jonathan Krei, North Dakota
Immediate-Past President	Mark LeBlanc, Indiana
Secretary	Stephen McMurry, Kentucky
Treasurer	Matt Pearson, Indiana
Director 2022	Ametra Berry, Georgia
Director 2023	Joshua Maples, Oklahoma
Director 2024	Gregory Olson, Louisiana

On behalf of our current Board of Directors and our members, we wish to express our appreciation to all the Chairpersons, Chiefs, Commissioners, Directors, and Secretaries of Agriculture that allowed their staff to participate in AAPFCO meetings and training opportunities for the benefit of AAPFCO and your staff members.

AAPFCO recently completed a successful 2024 Summer Annual Meeting. 177 people participated in the meeting and were pleased that 32 states were represented by 60 Control Officials.

### AAPFCO Highlights from the past year:

- AAPFCO Membership voted to official the Uniform Beneficial Substances Bill, a model bill which will create uniform labeling requirements, definitions, and testing methods for Biostimulants.
- Our Uniform Bills Committee began work to incorporate the Uniform Soil Amendment Bill into the Uniform Beneficial Substances Bill.
- Our Long Range Planning Committee drafted a Strategic Plan to carry AAPFCO forward into the future.
- The following terms or definitions were moved to official or tentative status:
  - Ammonium Citrate, Potassium Propionate, Malic Acid, Carbonaceous Marine Shale
- The following definitions were recognized as biostimulants:
  - Humic Acids, Hydrophobic Fulvic Acid, Fulvic Fraction, Seaweed Extract, Kelp Extract



As you can see from the maps below, the following states were represented at our last 2 meetings:



All our committees are staffed by state fertilizer control officials that volunteer their time to help AAPFCO remain relevant in a fast-changing world. We really appreciate the gift of their time as we work to accomplish our mission: "...to establish, uniform standards that promote consumer protection, environmental stewardship, and provide a forum to achieve regulatory consensus."

If your staff is not currently active with AAPFCO, we would invite them to get involved and give your state a voice in our consensus building process.

Upcoming 2024-2025 AAPFCO meetings:

- Administrators Seminar (October 2024) in New York City, NY
- Winter Annual Meeting and Methods Forum (February 2025) in New Orleans, LA
- Summer Annual Meeting (August 2025) in Omaha, NE

Respectfully yours,

Stephen McMurry,  
AAPFCO Secretary



# ASSOCIATION OF GRAIN REGULATORY OFFICIALS

(Founded 1939)

The Association of Grain Regulatory Officials (AGRO) is an organization of people dedicated to serving state, federal, and provincial governments, warehousemen, and producers alike in the advancement of good relations. Giant strides forward have been made by this organization since its inception in 1939.

The 2023 Annual AGRO Conference was held in Lexington, Kentucky on September 25<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. There were forty-eight regular members, six affiliate members, and fourteen additional guests in attendance. These numbers were representative of twenty states, one Canadian Grain Commission, and five grain industry companies.

Officer and Board Member elections were held during the business meeting. The elected slate of Officers was as follows: President-Mitchell Bauer (MN), Vice President-Cody Chambliss (SD), Treasurer-Terri Fritz (NE), and Secretary-Carrie Pendleton (KY). Three voting members at large were also elected to the board: Mark Gallegos (CO), Dominic Perrone (MI), and James Kennedy (IA). Our Immediate Past President is Richard West (KY). We implemented an additional Board Position with the Canadian Grain Commission, and the vacancy was filled by Corey Birch. AGRO's two Affiliate Board Members are Matt Hellwig (CoBank) and Greg Miller (Exam Hand). During our 2022 Annual Meeting, we added additional positions to the Board for junior AGRO members to gain knowledge and experience within the organization. The Advisory Board Committee consists of Christing Mader (MN), Chad Drew (GA), Denise Studders (MI), and Eric Berwanger (MO).

During our conference, each member representative gave an update on crop conditions, grain warehouse/dealer failures, and any additional happenings in their regulation territory. AGRO had a wide range of speakers on the agenda for 2023.

- Jess McCluer with National Grain & Feed Association gave an annual update on their association, along with safety issues and OSHA regulatory changes.
- Carie Cameron with USDA had been working with Joe Small (IL) in organizing a grain training "boot camp" for their employees. They would like to implement something similar for AGRO members.
- Matt Hellwig with CoBank gave us an overview of the Farm Credit System. He discussed the fifty-eight associates that are currently in the United States. On the economic side of things, there was approximately \$141 billion in total loan values at the present time. There's been major consolidation in the past twenty-five years and that trend is expected to continue.
- Ronan Cummins with Ag One spoke about agronomy, trade issues the United States is facing, and spoke regarding the current situation in Ukraine.
- Dale Dobson and Dr. Cheryl Witt (KY) worked together to provide grain bin safety and QPR Suicide Prevention Training.

AGRO has a new website that went live in November of 2023. [www.agro-online.org](http://www.agro-online.org) We worked alongside Jason Ferguson, Conspicuous Digital to design a more user-friendly interface. Now members can participate and communicate with ease using the discussion forum. All forms are now available in an electronic version which has saved our Board and members an enormous amount of time.

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**AGRO WEBSITE:** [www.agro-online.org](http://www.agro-online.org)



# ASSOCIATION OF GRAIN REGULATORY OFFICIALS

(Founded 1939)

During our Annual Business Meeting, we received updates from our Committee Chairs. These committees consist of Federal/State Relations, Industry Issues & Development; Computer Technology and Uniformity/Auditors & Examiners; AGRO Marketing; Conference Host & Planning; AGRO Audit; AGRO Resolutions.

AGRO is actively in the process of updating our By-Laws. During the 2023 Annual Meeting, we implemented a Code of Conduct for all members. We have also included a discounted rate for members if they pay for their annual membership and conference registration at the same time. All membership payments are due January 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

AGRO offers an annual scholarship to regular members whose state/territory may be facing financial hardship. The scholarship can be used to cover conference registration, travel, lodging, and meal expenses. The application deadline is dependent upon specific dates and locations of each conference.

The 2024 AGRO Conference is being held in Oklahoma City, October 7-10<sup>th</sup>. It is being hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture. The location is the Bricktown Hilton Garden Inn. We have a wide range of presentations lined up for our members on the agenda, along with roundtable discussion time allotted this year. As grain regulatory officials, we have an excellent network of individuals working together to improve the grain industry in North America.

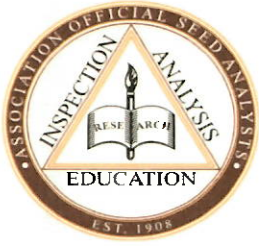
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**AGRO WEBSITE:** [www.agro-online.org](http://www.agro-online.org)



# Association of Official Seed Analysts

## **Affiliate Report**

Association of Official Seed Analysts

### **National Association of State Departments of Agriculture**

The Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) is an organization of member laboratories dedicated to education and research including state, federal, and university laboratories from the United States and Canada. The AOSA influences and assists in the support and regulation of seed trade at the state, federal, and international levels.

The object of this Association is to improve seed testing in all its branches and to make it more useful to agriculture and society. AOSA accomplishes this by promoting uniform laboratory methods and practices through seed research; conducting referee tests among seed analysts of the Association for the purpose of developing uniform techniques; furthering the exchange of ideas among laboratories and among individual workers; and fostering effective workable seed control legislation and regulation.

AOSA currently has the following members: 41 Official Laboratories - State and Federal (USDA and Canada), 2 Allied Laboratories, and 7 Associate (individual memberships).

This year's annual meeting was our 113<sup>th</sup> gathering. A new AOSA board formed at the close of the meeting consisting of:

#### *Officers:*

James Smith (President), MS    Diandra Viner (Vice President), MN  
Lynn Robinson (Secretary-Treasurer), NE

#### *Board Members:*

Victor Vankus, USDA Forestry	Nishit Patel, PA
Jeanna Mueller, ND	Gordon Baldridge, AR
Leanna Leach, SC	Emily Lapinel, NY
Todd Erikson, USDA SRTD AMS	

AOSA updated the Cultivar Purity Handbook this year. We will also be releasing an updated TZ handbook in the next few months. These updates are done to help achieve uniformity in the testing world as well as keeping up with the latest innovations in testing. The Seedling Image Database will be available soon. The initial release will include approximately 500 photographs. These images are peer reviewed with the goal of increasing uniformity in how germination tests are evaluated. This project is a collaborative effort of AOSA-SCST and the USDA.

At the annual meeting AOSA-SCST presented total of 11 Rule Proposals for consideration in voting. All proposals passed. Six of the rules that passed did so with unanimous consent of both organizations. As we have done for several years, all Rule Proposals must contain a harmonization statement so members can see how the proposed rule aligns with other testing organizations. This effort to harmonize helps facilitate the international movement of seed.

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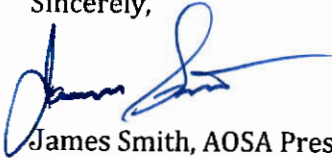
The merger of AOSA and SCST continues. The working group met fifteen times this past year and have made great strides toward the merger of the organizations. The name for the new organization will be AOSA-SCST. The new organization will have a regulatory committee which will serve as the point of Contact for regulatory agencies and USDA. The new organization will use the current voting procedures for making changes to the "AOSA Rules For Testing Seeds". We will also continue to advocate the use of the Rules in State seed laws as well as the acceptance of the Rules internationally.

AOSA would like to thank NASDA members for supporting their state seed labs. A strong seed regulatory program ensures the sale of high-quality seed. The key to the success of a regulatory program is a seed lab staffed with properly trained and credentialed personnel. The availability of high-quality correctly labeled seed is necessary for the United States' ability to feed and clothe the world. Correctly labeled seed helps reduce input costs as well as prevent harmful/invasive plants. State seed labs provide the necessary information to seed regulators to help make all this possible. Please continue to support and encourage states to send Seed Analysts/ Technologists to the AOSA-SCST annual meeting. It keeps analysts up to date on what is going on as well as provides the opportunity to network with other analysts. Their presence at this meeting also gives the state a voice in changes to the "AOSA Rules For Testing Seeds". We would like to thank NASDA for their past support and welcome your support in the future.

Please join us for the 2025 AOSA-SCST annual meeting scheduled for June 6th-12th in Missoula, Montana. We welcome your input and value your perspective of the seed industry in your states.

Visit our website at [analyzeseeds.com](http://analyzeseeds.com) for more information regarding AOSA-SCST.

Sincerely,



James Smith, AOSA President  
Seed Division Director  
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce  
Bureau of Plant Industry  
705 Stone Blvd  
Mississippi State, MS 39762



## **2024 Affiliate Report to National Association of State Departments of Agriculture**

Dear NASDA members,

The past year has demonstrated the value of Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA) to our members, the public, and the agriculture industry.

### **Coordinated Communication on HPAI in Dairy, PFAS**

A key aim of COSDA is connecting state and federal agriculture communicators to better serve agriculture and the public. As highly pathogenic avian influenza began spreading among dairy cattle earlier this year, there were many entities involved in the messaging and response—USDA, FDA, CDC, NASDA, NASAHO and others. COSDA carved out a supportive role, helping assure states' communicators had up-to-date, high-quality information and opportunities to ask questions. Members also shared messaging and outreach materials with each other and discussed what worked.

We also helped coordinate information about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS. At our 2023 Annual Meeting in Maine, COSDA members had the opportunity to learn from officials in a state that's been on the front lines of the agricultural PFAS response. We gained a solid foundation for understanding the science behind PFAS and its limits, as well as the different ways states are responding. COSDA has continued to focus on PFAS, such as when we participated in a May briefing from FDA on the results of PFAS testing in milk.

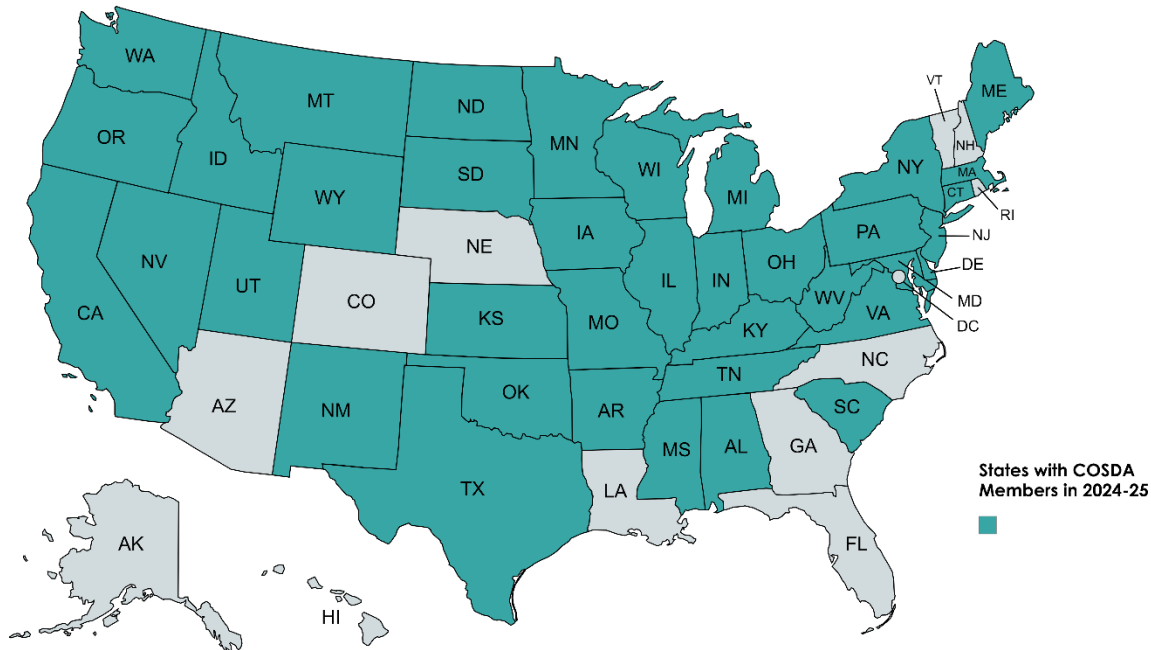
### **Enhanced Professional Development**

This year, the COSDA board set out to expand professional development for members. We created a new Programming committee headed by the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president that developed ideas, reached out to potential speakers, and coordinated presentations at our quarterly virtual meetings. At one meeting, we heard from a legal expert about how artificial intelligence is being used (and misused) in government communications; at another, we learned how to make stop-motion animation videos for social media using simple tools on our phones.

The Programming committee also serves as a way for members interested in board service to take on leadership roles, assuring a pipeline of future board members.

## Membership Growth

COSDA has 87 members in 2024-25 representing 38 states, up slightly from last year's 84 members.



We've made gains among Northeastern states in recent years. The Southeast and West lag slightly in membership, despite strong participation from members in those regions and various outreach efforts.

About half our members are full members, i.e., the designated communications official of a state's department of agriculture. The remaining members are other communications staff at state departments of agriculture, communicators at federal agencies, and supporting partners. Over the past few years, the board has worked to expand membership among agriculture-related agencies that are not necessarily the state's main department of agriculture – boards of animal health, for example.

In October, we will convene in Columbia, South Carolina, for three days of professional development, agribusiness tours, and networking. The support of NASDA's regional associations helps make our annual meetings possible. We thank SASDA, WASDA, MASDA and NEASDA for their renewed support.

On behalf of the COSDA board, I am grateful to the member states and staff of NASDA for helping sustain a professional organization that allows us do our jobs better each day.

Respectfully yours,

Eva Moore

President, COSDA

Communications Director, South Carolina Department of Agriculture



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MILK CONTROL AGENCIES**  
**IAMCA.Net**

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Since 1935, the International Association of Milk Control Agencies has worked toward improving the effectiveness and uniformity of regulation among the economic regulatory agencies and providing a forum for the exchange of information. During the last 85 years, the Association has served the dairy industry well in fulfilling its original mission.

The milk industry has never been more complicated, more volatile, or more important to the economic vitality of our economies. IAMCA provides a unique forum for understanding and reacting to this ever-changing industry.

Members of IAMCA enjoy the following benefits:

- Contacts with industry leaders and regulatory personnel from different U.S. States, Canadian Provinces, and Mexican Standards organizations.
- Updated database of retail milk prices in different areas.
- Participation in the organization's Quarterly newsletter, which discusses new developments and changes in the dairy industry in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.
- A forum for industry regulators to exchange new ideas and developments in the dairy industry.
- Access to U.S., Canadian, and Mexican scholars involved in advanced research and new developing trends in the dairy industry.
- Access to annual convention presentations, speeches, and information from companies involved in the dairy industry.

Annual in-person meetings resumed in 2022 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Last year's annual meeting was held in September in Freeport, Maine, and this year's will be held in September in Lake George, New York.

Sincerely,

Christin Gravelle  
Secretary / Treasurer





**2024-2025 Board Officers**

**President:** Dillon Davidson, Nevada

**First Vice President:** Rob Davenport, Virginia

**Second Vice President:** Caroline Hargraves, Utah

**Treasurer:** Joe Atchison, New Jersey

**Secretary:** Lindsay Baerwald, Texas

**Immediate Past President/ Member at Large:** Meriruth Sellers, Oklahoma

NASDA Members,

On behalf of the North American Agricultural Marketing Officials board and members, we thank all Chairpersons, Commissioners, Directors and Secretaries of agriculture that allowed their marketing staff to participate in the 2024 NAAMO conference in Asheville, NC this year. Our annual conference and meeting give the opportunity for states and provinces to come together for professional development, networking, sharing and opportunities.

This year, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services hosted the 2024 NAAMO Conference with an agenda full of programming to strengthen state and provincial agricultural marketing programs. Each year we open submissions for the NAAMO Marketing Excellence Award, which was created to recognize and award innovative and effective agricultural marketing projects. This year, there were 7 projects submitted from Massachusetts, Maryland, Montana, New York, Nevada, Tennessee and Wisconsin. We were able to hear from the three Marketing Excellence Finalist and their innovative marketing initiatives. Those finalists were:

- New York: 'Taste NY Turns 10'
- Maryland: 'Take a Bite of Maryland'
- Nevada: 'Nevada Craft Beverage Passport'

Each finalist presented to the NAAMO members and guests about their programs followed with a Q&A for each. The 2024 Marketing Excellence winner was Nevada.

Throughout the past year, NAAMO has worked to engage members through quarterly regional zoom seminars. The region chooses the topic and creates the programming for the session. We successfully hosted three educational seminars throughout the year. We are excited to continue these seminars and provide more resources and ideas to all states and provinces throughout the next year.

We hope that you encourage your staff to be active NAAMO members and join us for our 2025 Conference in New Jersey! If you or any of your staff have any questions about NAAMO, please reach out at any time.

Sincerely,

*Dillon J. Davidson*



## Affiliate Report to the National Association of State Directors of Agriculture

The National Conference on Weights and Measures sets the U.S. standards for weights and measures in commerce. Standards include those applying to all types of weighing and measuring devices, as well as model laws and regulations on packaging and labeling, method of sale of commodities, price verification, registered service agents, the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP), fuels and automotive lubricants, checking the net contents of packaged goods, and more.

**2024 Events:** NCWM held the 2024 Interim Meeting January 7-10 in New Orleans, Louisiana, where committees held open hearings to further develop proposals to amend the national standards as published in NIST Handbooks 44, 130, and 133. The 109<sup>th</sup> NCWM Annual Meeting was held in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 17-18, where committees again held open hearings followed by a voting session to adopt amendments to the standards. NASDA Associate Director of Public Policy Josie Montoney-Crawford attended and provided an excellent address to the NCWM general membership.

**Corporate Name Change:** NCWM membership voted at the July 2024 Annual Meeting to change the long-standing corporate name to "National Council on Weights and Measures." Over the past 15 years, NCWM has grown substantially in terms of programs and services. This growth continues as demonstrated in the remainder of this report. Changing "Conference" to "Council" more accurately reflects the organization as something more than an event, rather one that serves its members and stakeholders throughout the year. We are in the process of changing the corporation's name with the Secretary of State.

**National Testing for Registered Service Agents (RSAs):** New this year, NCWM has launched an online RSA testing program. Many states administer tests to scale and meter service technicians as a prerequisite to registering/licensing them to install and repair commercial devices to be placed in service before official inspection. It is common for RSAs to seek recognition in multiple states. As states begin to accept the new NCWM RSA tests, an RSA can test in one location without traveling to every state. The tests are proctored virtually or in person by a state-recognized proctor. It will provide efficiency and cost savings to the service industry while allowing each state to continue administering its RSA programs. Those states will also be relieved of maintaining and administering the tests.

**Field Training Manuals:** NCWM has created a collection of field training manuals for inspectors and RSAs alike. These manuals are freely available for download from the NCWM website, with plans to develop additional ones. The following training manuals are available, with more to come:

- Retail Motor Fuel Dispensers
- Vehicle-Tank Meters
- Retail Computing Scales
- Vehicle, Livestock and Railway Track Scales

**New NCWM Headquarters and NTEP Laboratory:** The new headquarters remains under construction, with plans to move in by the end of September. The new facility will include 2,000 sq. ft of office space and 4,000 sq. ft for a National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) laboratory. NTEP evaluates and certifies that weighing and measuring devices are manufactured to meet the U.S. standards adopted by NCWM, published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and referenced by the states. This new facility will primarily provide NTEP certification for weighing devices submitted by manufacturers worldwide. Forty-seven states require that devices be traceable to an NTEP Certificate of Conformance before being placed in commercial service. It is vital to the manufacturing industry that NCWM provide quality and efficient services to help them get new products to market. This lab will increase NCWM's ability to meet those needs. NCWM will hire two employees to staff it. One is already on staff and undergoing training.



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