

# NAICC NEWS SHORTS



A professional society representing the nation's crop production and research consultants

## LOOKING FORWARD

Matt Winslow, NAICC President

The 2021 season is winding down, and NAICC is already looking forward to 2022. The first and most exciting event is the 2022 NAICC Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO, January 24-28, in Orlando, FL. This will be our first in-person meeting since our 2020 meeting, and we are excited to get back together with our NAICC friends. It will be a great family reunion after missing a year.

Registration is now open at <https://naicc.org/2022-annual-meeting/> and we invite all to attend. You can also reserve your exhibit booth using the link above. NAICC has three educational tracks serving our crop consultant, contract researchers and QA professionals. Each is filled with topics on current trends, regulations, and new technologies. One of the highlights of the meeting is our Emerging & Evolving Technology Session. Our industry partners, and individual members may showcase new crop protection products under development, new uses of current chemistries, as well as new equipment and software.

The 2022 consultant sessions will include topics such as carbon markets, labor issues, the future of crop consulting, electronic technologies, and data management. Consultants and Researchers will meet together for the Emerging and Evolving Technology Session on Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup> and the popular roundtable discussion will be held on Friday.

Researchers will explore topics such as the use of drone technology in field research, research on hemp, staff development, and a roundtable discussion will center around "Past, Present and Future of Contract Research." Researchers and QA's will have a joint session on Friday that will include SOPs, ethics, and IT security regarding topics like ransomware, phishing emails, and file sharing.

E-data and computer software validation will kick off the QA session, followed by Living SOPs, and Virtual Inspections 2.0, and Herding Cats: SOP Management for the Small CRO. The popular Game Show and roundtable will finish out the Friday schedule.

We invite all our ag partners to join us in sunny Florida in January 2022.

## HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

By Rick Kesler, Governmental Affairs Liaison

## **EPA Issues Final Rule to Revoke Chlorpyrifos Tolerances**

On August 18, 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it will stop the use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos on all food crops. EPA is taking these steps in light of a court opinion concerning chlorpyrifos uses and compliance with the applicable regulatory standards. EPA is doing so by revoking all food tolerances for chlorpyrifos. This final rule is effective October 29, 2021. The tolerances for all commodities expire on February 28, 2022.

One concerning point of this action is that by EPA's own admission, although all chlorpyrifos food tolerances would be revoked, there would still be a number of food uses that continue to meet all safety standards even after applying EPA's most stringent regulatory criteria. Nevertheless, EPA's action would revoke tolerances for all food uses even where, in certain crop production areas, use could still be allowed, including alfalfa, apples, asparagus, cherries, citrus, cotton, peaches, soybeans, strawberries, sugar beets, and wheat.

The most concerning aspect of the chlorpyrifos cancellation is that EPA followed the decision of one court verdict instead of its own science-based evaluations of the compound. This could set a dangerous precedent making future registrations tentative until a court has ruled on them.

It appears that chlorpyrifos can be sold and applied and the resulting crop sold as long as there were tolerances in place at the time of the sale/use. Unfortunately, most of the ag applications would take place after the expected tolerance revocations of February 28th. Also, EPA will review non-crop uses after they are finished with the food uses.

## **Neonicotinoid Biological Evaluations**

The current registration review of clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam includes going through the Endangered Species Act's (ESA) Biological Evaluations (BEs). These reviews are done by the federal EPA and the Fish and Wildlife Service to determine whether a product may affect one or more individuals of an endangered species or their designated critical habitat.

EPA has published the Draft Biological Evaluations and each BE can be found here:

[Biological-Evaluation-Clothianidin](#)

[Biological-Evaluation-Imidacloprid](#)

[Biological-Evaluation-Thiamethoxam](#)

## **Rod Snyder named EPA Ag Advisor**

The Environmental Protection Agency has named Rod Snyder its new Agriculture Advisor. Snyder comes to the agency after serving as president of Field to Market. He will lead outreach and "engagement efforts" with the ag community and EPA. It is also reported that he will work to advance the Biden-Harris environmental agenda for farmers and rural

communities. Here is a link to an announcement on Snyder's appointment:

<https://brownfieldagnews.com/news/snyder-named-epa-agriculture-advisor/>

### **Bumble Bees**

Federal Fish and Wildlife published a 90-day finding on Bumblebees and is going to do a status review whether or not they should be on the threatened or endangered species list. A petition filed with the agency says that the pollinator's population has dropped by nearly 90% over the past 20 years and is no longer seen in eight states.

The agency will assess the status of the American bumblebee over the next year and is asking for any data that might be out there. The petition was filed, in part, by the Center for Biological Diversity. The petition says habitat loss, pesticides, disease, climate change and competition from non-native honeybees are the reason for their decline.

### **ESA Biological Evaluations**

Crop Life America took a positive step and co-hosted a workshop on Biological Evaluations with the Defenders of Wildlife. The workshop included key stakeholders from ag and NGO's. They were looking for areas that both sides can agree on and what success would look like. I'm not sure that a lot of common ground was found, but it was productive enough that they hope to follow it up with something similar where agencies could be involved.

### **Pesticide Registration Improvement Act**

The next PRIA isn't due until 2023 but work still continues under the current PRIA. A PRIA funding increase has recently passed out of the House into the Senate. The key issue driving this is that EPA continues to miss deadlines in the registration process.

### **Waters of the U.S.**

EPA is backing away from the WOTUS reforms that were put into place under the Trump administration and is backing up to the 2008 guidelines. Circuit courts in New Mexico and Arizona both threw out the 2020 WOTUS regulations. The EPA concurred that the court orders applied nationwide, making this an easy out for the agency. It is another example of allowing legislation through the court system.

## **ANNUAL MEETING SURVEY RESULTS**

Based on the feedback from the recent annual meeting survey, there are mixed emotions on whether or not to attend the meeting in Orlando. We are continuing to plan an in-person meeting at this time, and hope you will join us. We are taking precautions to keep our attendees safe. **NOTE:** The majority of research sponsors and management companies have registered for the meeting!

## 2022 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

First Lady Amanda Winslow has chosen [A Gift for Teaching](#) (AGFT) as this year's Community Service Project. AGFT is Central Florida's primary provider of free school supplies to teachers for students in Orange and Osceola counties and envisions a future where every student has the tools and experiences to succeed. Since 1998, AGFT has distributed more than \$140 million worth of essential supplies.



Attendees are encouraged to bring school supplies to Orlando and drop them off at the NAICC registration desk. **They currently are in critical need of the items listed below, however, they will accept all school supplies or gift cards.**

## TOP 6 ESSENTIALS



#2  
PENCILS



MARKERS  
8- OR 10-  
COUNT



LOOSE LEAF  
PAPER



DRY ERASE  
MARKERS



NOTEBOOKS  
(COMPOSITION  
OR SPIRAL)



CRAYONS  
24-COUNT

During the Spouse/Guest Coffee on Thursday morning, January 27 from 8:15 am-9:15 am, attendees will sort and package the items donated and write notes of encouragement to the teachers. AGFT has offered to give anyone a tour of their facilities on Friday afternoon when we plan to deliver all the items collected. Contact [AllisonJones@naicc.org](mailto:AllisonJones@naicc.org) if you are interested in attending the tour on Friday.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please visit [www.agiftforteaching.org/donate](http://www.agiftforteaching.org/donate) and type in "NAICC" in the "In honor of" line.

## NAICC ANNUAL MEETING AND AG PRO EXPO

January 24 - 28, 2022

Rosen Centre Hotel • Orlando, FL

**REGISTER TODAY – For the 2022 NAICC IN-PERSON Meeting**

We look forward to welcoming you to the [2022 NAICC Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO!](#) The in-person meeting plans are moving full steam ahead. At this time, it is an in-person meeting only. Please join us January 24-28, 2022, at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

[\\*\\*\\* Click here to register online \\*\\*\\*](#)

### **HOTEL INFORMATION**

NAICC Hotel Reservation Link: [NAICC at The Rosen Centre® Hotel](#)

Reservation Line: 800-204-7234

The cutoff date for the NAICC discounted rate is December 24, 2021. Use the link above to receive the discounted convention rate or mention “National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants” (not just NAICC) when calling for reservations.

The Rosen Centre® Hotel  
9840 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32819

NAICC Rate: \$184

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### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Attendee [health and safety](#) is of utmost importance to NAICC. We want your experience in Orlando to be fun, educational, and SAFE. While we are implementing safety features to our meeting, we are relying on each individual to do your part in protecting yourself and your colleagues. Here are our plans to date:

**Masks:** Encouraged but not requiring masks. Masks will be available throughout the meeting.

**Social Distancing:** Each person will have an opportunity to identify to other attendees whether or not they are open to High-Fives and Hugs (green identifier) or are social distancing and just want to talk (red identifier).

We will work with the hotel to have chairs and tables spaced to accommodate social distancing.

**Cleaning and Sanitizing:** Mr. Rosen not only owns seven hotels in the Orlando area, but he also provides a medical facility to his employees, making him very up to speed about the importance and technology necessary to sanitize public areas. He takes sanitizing and cleanliness very seriously. Sanitation stations will be throughout the meeting area. Please see the Rosen’s [Total Commitment](#) statement. Landis International is sponsoring pocket sized hand sanitizers for all attendees. XTi-360 is a new exhibitor and will be sharing their

nano-technology that kills germs including COVID-19 by spraying our NAICC swag and providing with complimentary masks.

**Florida COVID Rates:** As of this printing, the COVID-19 rates in Florida have declined to approximately 3% positivity, with an average of 74% vaccinated residents in the four counties representing Orlando.

## PASSING OF LOARN BUCL

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of long-time NAICC friend Loarn Bucl. Loarn was a dedicated supporter of NAICC and a friend to all. As a past Board member and the current FEAE Treasurer, he championed NAICC for over 33 years. He attended the majority if not all of the Annual Meetings and also served on many committees. He will be greatly missed. [Click here](#) to view Loarn's obituary.



## FEAE

Only a few days left to submit your application for a FEAE Undergraduate or Graduate scholarship. Deadline is December 1.

[APPLY HERE](#)



## FEAE

### New in the Amazon app

Your app purchases can generate donations for us, at no extra cost to you!

amazon smile



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app on your phone, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "**Foundation For Environmental Agriculture Education**" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "**Foundation For Environmental Agriculture Education**" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



### Buy and Sell Equipment on the NAICC Website

Have something to sell? Looking for a specific piece of equipment? Check out the [NAICC Member Marketplace](#). Log in to [Members Only](#) portal on the NAICC website and scroll down to the NAICC Member Marketplace. Choose **Items for Sale** or **Items Wanted**. It is just that easy.

## NAICC

**Your professional society representing the nation's crop production,  
research consultants and quality assurance professionals.**

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