

India Tariffs Meeting in DC

Jacob Arnold

WPGA Board Member/Grower

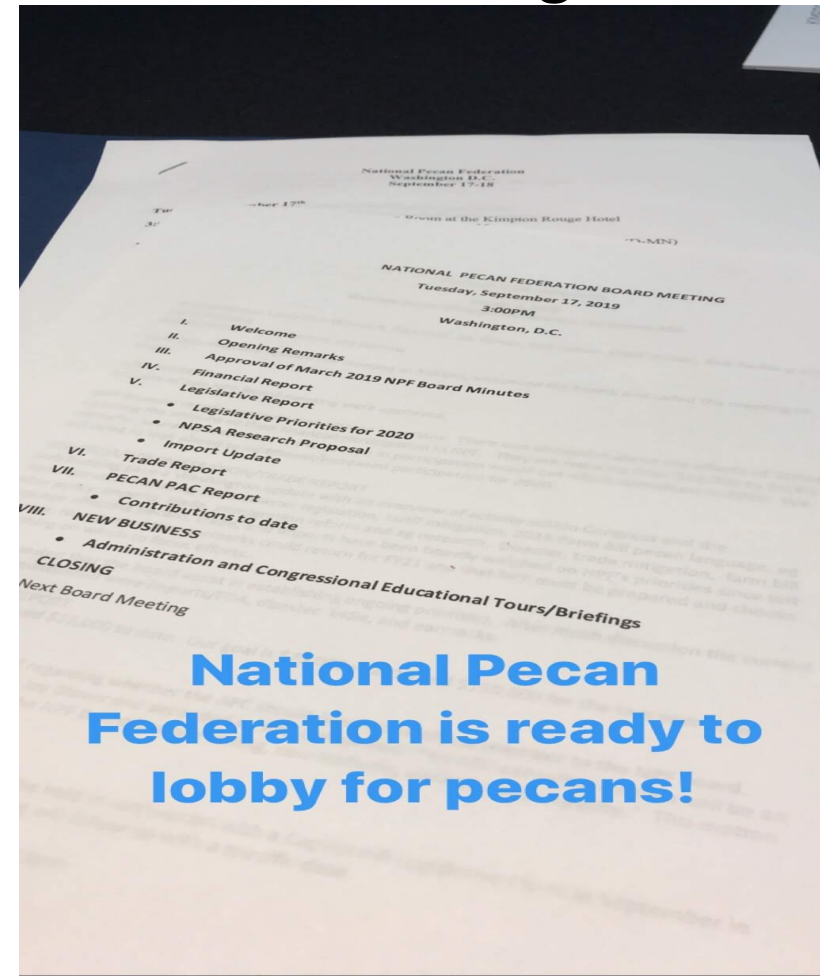
Las Cruces, NM

Washington, D.C. Fly-IN



Tuesday, September 17, 2019

- 3:00PM- Arrival/ National Pecan Federation Board Meeting
 - Attendees
 - Miley Adams-GPGA
 - Jake Arnold-WPGA/ NMPGA
 - Shannon Ivey-WPGA/TPGA
 - Blair Krebs-TPGA
 - Jon Krueger-NPSA
 - Brycen Salopek-WPGA/NMPGA
 - Jacie Salopek-WPGA/NMPGA
 - Chad Selman-OPGA
 - Larry Don Womack-TPGA



National Pecan Federation Meeting

- Legislative Report
 - Legislative Priorities for 2020
 - Import regulation
 - Research & Promotion
 - Import Update
- Trade Report
- Pecan Pac Report
 - Need for more contributions-75/year and 150/cycle
 - No minimum and \$5,000/year maximum

National Pecan Federation Meeting

- Administration and Congressional Educational Tours/Briefings
 - National Pecan Federation is the organization representing the pecan industry in Washington, D.C.. Member associations include the GPGA, TPGA, WPGA, NPSA, OPGA, and the SPGA.
 - Industry Update- Pecans are grown in 15 states and have a significant impact on these rural economies. The recent tariffs imposed by China on U.S. pecan imports, tree loss and 2018 production loss due to hurricane Michael, and imports from Mexico have taken a toll on the U.S. Pecan Industry. Expanding pecan export opportunities is one of the industries top priorities during this recovery.

National Pecan Federation Meeting

- India

- One of the most dynamic markets and fastest growing economies in the world.
- U.S. Pecans are subject to a 36% import duty.
- Other Tree Nuts are subject to a 10% import duty.
- High import duty has resulted in few pecan imports into India.
- Lower import duty would increase pecan imports into India and increase import duties received.
- Request- India's tariff on U.S. Pecan imports does not protect a domestic pecan industry in India and does not raise revenue. India should lower their tariff on U.S. Pecan imports.

National Pecan Federation Meeting

- India cont.
 - Generalized System of Preferences Program(GSP)- Aimed at promoting economic growth in developing countries and allows designated countries to export some 2,000 industrial and textile products to the US duty free.
 - India has received the greatest benefits from the GSP.
 - India was kicked out of GSP in early 2019 for blocking access for U.S. dairy products and imposing price controls on medical devices.
 - India has the highest average applied tariff rate of 13.8%, highest of any major world economy.
 - U.S. Pecan industry sees an opportunity to become part of the tariff negotiation process that has been taking place and will continue to develop.

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- Dinner at the Monocle with U.S. Congressman Collin Peterson (D-MN), Chairman, U.S. House Agriculture Committee



Wednesday, September 18, 2019

- Talking Points

- Reducing India Tariff
- China Tariff
- Tariff Relief funds
- Disaster Relief funds



- 8:00AM-Breakfast Trade Update Ben Ayers with U.S. Senator David Perdue (R-GA). All Attend
- 9:00AM-U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA)- U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness. All Attend.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

- 9:30AM- U.S. Senator John Boozman (R-AR), U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Committee on Appropriations
Attendees: Adams, Krueger, Womack, B. Salopek, Selman
- 9:30AM- U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), Chairman of the India Caucus, Chairman U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Chairman of Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness. Attendees: Krebs, Arnold, Ivey, J. Salopek
- 11:00AM- United States Department of Agriculture Trade Meeting
Peter Bachmann, Office of the Secretary; Jason Hafemeister, Office of the Secretary, Trade Counsel; Sharon Sydow, Senior Economist. All Attend

Wednesday, September 18, 2019



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- 12:15PM- Lunch with Congressman Frank Lucas (R-OK), Former Chairman of House Agriculture Committee. All Attend.
- 1:30PM- Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Sharon Bommer, Assistant USTR for Agricultural Affairs; Brenden Lynch Deputy Assistant USTR for South Central Asia; Sam Scales, Deputy Assistant USTR for Public Affairs; Molley Foley, Director for Public Affairs. All Attend.
- 2:30PM- U.S. Congressman Austin Scott (R-GA), House Agriculture Committee, Ranking Member on Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Attendees- Adams, Krueger, Womack, Selman.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019



Finishing a working lunch with Congressman Lucas from OK.



Keep an eye out for the November issue of Pecan South for all the details of the National Pecan Federation walk of the Hill.

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- 2:30PM- U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM), U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Attendees- Krebs, Arnold, Ivey, B. Salopek, J. Salopek.
- 3:00PM- U.S. Sanford Bishop (D-GA), House Appropriations Committee, Chairman of Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies. Attendees- Adams, Krueger, Womack, Selman.
- 4:00PM- Roundtable Reception with U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. All Attend.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019



New Mexico pecan representatives meeting with Senator Heinrich's staff.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

- 5:00PM- Meeting with Congressman Filemon Vela (D-TX), U.S. House Agriculture Committee, Chairman of the General Farm Commodities and Risk Management Subcommittee. All Attend.



Results

- Our efforts made several publications.
 - Pecan South
 - Georgia Pecan
 - The New India Express
 - Several Legislative Press Releases
- Signed Letters sent to United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.
 - United States Senate- 12 Senators signed
 - Congress of the United States- 35 members of Congress signed

Pictures



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