



National Grain and Feed Association

MEMBER BENEFITS



Active Members (Brokers/Brokerage Firms)

Brokers/Brokerage Firms are any individual or firm that provides hedging services to grain buyers and sellers through the use of futures markets and cash brokers. Brokers/Brokerage firms are active members and have full voting rights at meetings of the association.



Rail Arbitration/Mediation

A historic agreement between the NGFA and railroads, completed in August 1998, provides NGFA-member firms the opportunity to submit certain classes of rail disputes to binding NGFA Arbitration. Certain other disputes with rail carriers may be mediated. For the first time, rail shippers/receivers have access to a practical, inexpensive and timely dispute-resolution process. Only NGFA members are assured access to NGFA rail arbitration/mediation.



Contract Arbitration

The NGFA Arbitration System provides a quick, inexpensive alternative to resolving trade disputes in court. While court cases can take years to resolve and potentially can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, NGFA arbitration cases generally are decided more expeditiously by expert arbitrators for a small fee. Arbitration is compulsory between NGFA Active members if requested by one party; non-members may access the arbitration system only if the other party is an NGFA member and agrees to arbitrate. All arbitration decisions are published and distributed to the NGFA membership. Arbitration increasingly is used to resolve contractual disagreements with farmers.



Trade Rules

When companies join the NGFA, they agree to abide by the NGFA's Trade Rules. That means that NGFA members automatically know the rules under which a transaction occurs, reducing the potential for disputes. Non-member companies may reference the NGFA Trade Rules in their contracts, but in the event of a trade dispute, may not have access to the industry experts who administer the NGFA Arbitration System to interpret those Trade Rules.

NGFA Information Services

The NGFA is your one-stop shop for information critical to the grain, feed and processing industry. The NGFA's web site (www.ngfa.org) is the industry's most comprehensive. And the NGFA Newsletter, published every two weeks, is the best agribusiness newsletter. There is no better way to keep up with fast-breaking legislative, regulatory and industry matters than to join the NGFA.

Publications and Videos

The NGFA provides a broad range of high-quality publications and videos to educate and inform. These materials are available to NGFA members at discounted prices. Recent examples include the NGFA's annual update of its Trade Rules, annual updates of NGFA Arbitration Decisions, the NGFA Feed Quality Assurance Program notebook, information on bioterrorism-prevention and facility security, and a wide array of safety training materials.

Professional Development

Each year, the NGFA conducts meaningful educational meetings that provide executives, managers, and employees with professional development opportunities. In addition to the NGFA annual convention in March and the NGFA Country Elevator Conference in December, other meetings include; the Annual Feed and Pet Food Conference; Transportation Summits; Feed Quality Assurance Workshops; Safety, Health & Environmental Compliance Seminars; and Trade Rules Seminars.

Your Washington Office

A seasoned and knowledgeable staff of professionals in the NGFA's Washington office is available to answer your questions on legislative, regulatory or other government matters. The staff also provides top-notch, professional representation on Capitol Hill and in executive agencies like EPA, OSHA, USDA, CFTC, FDA and others.

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ngfa.org





NGFA Active Members (Brokers/Brokerage Firms) APPLICATION

Return to: National Grain and Feed Association, 1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 260, Arlington, VA 22202, FAX to (202) 289-5388 or email tkemp@ngfa.org.

Questions? Call the NGFA at (202) 289-0873.

Please Type or Print:

Company Name _____

Street Address _____

E-Mail Address _____

Phone Number _____

Web Site _____

If accepted, I agree to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Arbitration Rules (when applicable), Rail Arbitration Rules (when applicable), Trade Rules (when applicable) and Code of Ethics of the National Grain and Feed Association.

Principal Contact Signature _____

Print Contact Name and Title (above) _____ Date _____

Sponsor [Current NGFA member. If you do not have a sponsor, call Todd Kemp at the NGFA at (202) 289-0873.]

Principal Business: Please indicate your principal types of business (e.g. country elevator, terminal elevator, feed mill, processor, etc.).

Total Annual Investment: \$ _____ (see investment schedule below)

Payment enclosed. Please bill me.

Your application will be submitted to the NGFA Board of Directors for approval following receipt of your annual dues investment. Generally, Board approval occurs within 30-45 days of receipt.

Investment Schedule

Cash Brokers

Includes cash grain and feed brokers and manufacturers' representatives.

Gross Receipts (\$ 000s)	Annual Investment
Up to \$150	\$600
<input type="checkbox"/> \$151 - \$300	\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$301 - \$500	\$1,500
<input type="checkbox"/> \$501 - \$1,000	\$2,400
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 and more	\$3,800

Tax-deductible Contribution Under U.S. Law to National Grain and Feed Foundation (optional) \$ _____

Total Investment: \$ _____

Commodity Futures Brokers

This schedule is to be used by floor brokers and brokerage firms. For brokerage firms, select the line that corresponds to your firm's annual business volume.

Brokerage Firms (based upon commissions)	Annual Investment
Up to \$500,000	\$750
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 - \$1,000,000	\$1,500
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 - \$1,500,000	\$1,600
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,500,001 - \$2,000,000	\$2,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000,001 and more	\$2,600

Floor brokers \$600

Tax-deductible Contribution Under U.S. Law to National Grain and Feed Foundation (optional) \$ _____

Total Investment: \$ _____