

**Topics for Discussion**  
**TCGA Safety Committee**  
**2024 Summer Meeting**

**7. H-2A Issues:**

- More gins using H-2A. We have been helping informally – looking at ways to develop program.
- Rulemaking - H2A wage rate calculations effective March 2023.
  - Adverse Effects Wage Rate (AEWR) - 6 codes from Farm Labor Survey
    - Currently \$15.55/hr
  - DOL proposing to include Occupational Employment Wage Survey
    - Anticipated \$17-\$26/hr
  - If work falls into combination of FLS and OEWS, must pay higher wage
  - Job descriptions very important. Multiple contracts.
  - National Council of Ag Employers suit failed to stop this.
- Rulemaking – Improved Protections for Workers in Temporary Ag Jobs
  - Employer accountable for violations from H2A agent
  - Access by labor organizations to employee housing
  - Enforcement of seat belt rules in vehicles
  - 5 day Abandonment definition
  - Immediate implementation of updated AEWR
  - Reduced due process for employers

**8. Safety Material:**

- We are continually reviewing the safety program and updating components
- Online store now available for safety materials
- OSHA and Safety Resources page on website in Member's Only section

**9. Regional Meetings:**

- TCGA is once again coordinating a full slate of safety seminars in 2024. Ten seminars will be offered this year. We have added an additional Lubbock seminar this year (three seminars held in Lubbock). TCGT also conducts manager sessions following each TCGA district meeting. Safety seminars have already been held in Weslaco, Corpus Christi and El Campo.
- James Shepard, Luis Garcia, Wally Davis, David Ubina and Aaron Nelsen conducted the South Texas meetings. Juan Serrato, Hector Cruz and Jesus Cruz helped with Spanish sessions. Luis helps with the Spanish sessions as well as does David Urbina who contracts with TCGT. Wally Davis, Jerry Multer and Luis Garcia will be conducting the meetings in West Texas. Next seminar will be in Waco on July 23.

**10. TCGA Internships**

- TCGA staff continues to advertise our internship with Texas A&M University (TAMU) and Texas Tech University (TTU). We had several qualified applicants from TAMU and from TTU this year.
- Wesley Neuendorff (TAMU) – AGSM student interning at Johnson Gin in Silverton and United Ag Coop in El Campo. Wesley is from Brenham, Texas.
- Nathan Haden (TTU) – ME student interning at WesTex Coop in Slaton and United Ag Coop in El Campo. Nathan is from Barry, Texas.