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A REPORT FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHERRY BOARD

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Turkish Cherries Gain Taiwan Market Access

- Taiwan has [notified the WTO](#) of an approved import protocol for cherries from Turkey, allowing Turkish cherries to enter the market for the first time.
- Turkey is the world's largest cherry producer, and the second-largest exporter of cherries, after the U.S.
- Taiwan imported approximately \$90 million in fresh sweet cherries in 2018. The U.S. was Taiwan's primary cherry supplier, and accounted for almost all summer imports.
- The Turkish season runs May-September, overlapping with the California cherry season.

EFSA Alerts Members to Pest Detection in California

- On September 13, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) released the latest edition of its [newsletter](#). It noted that *Bactrocera zonata* (peach fruit fly) had been detected in Contra Costa County, California.
- Peach fruit fly is a pest of concern for the EU due to potential damage to fruit, and *Prunus* plants are named as a potential host. However, [CDFA](#) does not list specifically sweet cherries as a peach fruit fly host.
- The EFSA newsletter notes that CDFA is conducting eradication measures to contain the peach fruit fly population.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Congressional Report on China Confirms Tariff Delay

- A [Congressional Research Service report](#) on China's retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural products, released on September 24, summarizes tariff actions to date.
- The report confirms that the U.S. will delay the planned five-point increase in tariffs on Chinese goods from October 1 to October 15. This delay was originally proposed by President Trump on Twitter, but was not immediately confirmed by the administration.
- The delay ensures that the next round of tariff increases does not precede the next round of U.S.-China negotiations, which are scheduled to begin in early October in Washington, D.C.
- The report forecasts U.S. agricultural exports to China at \$7.3 billion in 2019, down from \$16 billion in 2018, due to China's extensive retaliatory tariffs. Meanwhile, China's total imports of agricultural products have increased.
- While China has decreased its purchases of U.S. agricultural goods, it has increased purchases from Brazil, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Thailand, and Indonesia.

South Korea Amends Controlled Pest List

- The Korean Ministry of Agriculture has [notified the WTO](#) that it has added 11 controlled pests to its quarantine pest list: four fungi, one virus, four weeds, and two species of insect.
- None of the pests is known to be a pest of interest to the CCB, but some have a presence in California.
- Comments are due to wtoagri@korea.kr by November 17.

West Coast Ports Report Decline in Shipments to China

- The six largest Western ports (Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Portland, Seattle, and Tacoma) have [published a letter](#) to President Trump expressing concern about the negative impact of Chinese tariffs on U.S. exports.
- The letter reports that exports to China through California ports declined by 30% in 2018.
- Shipments of wheat, grain, and soybeans from these ports to China have almost completely stopped, while exports of most other agricultural products have been significantly reduced. U.S. cherries were more affected than many commodities, with shipments of cherries through Pacific Northwest ports declining by 55%.
- The letter highlights the danger of Chinese importers switching to competing suppliers, which could be difficult to reverse.