

OCTOBER 6, 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **CDFA Changes LBAM Quarantine Boundary**
- **The FDA Announces Public Meetings on New Rule to Advance Traceability of Foods**
- **Australia Extends Electronic Import Certificate Approval**
- **Taiwan Finalizes Draft Sanitation Standards for Microorganisms in Foods**
- **U.S. and Mexico Sign *Statement of Intent for a Collaborative Partnership on Food Safety***

A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

CDFA Changes LBAM Quarantine Boundary

- On October 1, the [California Department of Food and Agriculture](#) (CDFA) expanded the quarantine area for light brown apple month (LBAM).
- The Orange County Controlled Area Boundary is expanded in Orange County – Laguna Niguel, Grid [483](#), effective immediately.

The FDA Announces Public Meetings on New Rule to Advance Traceability of Foods

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [announced](#) it will host three virtual public meetings entitled, “Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain Foods; Proposed Rule.” The meetings will take place:
 - November 6, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET
 - November 18, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET
 - December 2, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. ET
- Each meeting will have the same agenda and is intended to inform and facilitate comments with stakeholders. Advance registration for each meeting closes on October 28, November 6, and November 18, respectively. Requests to make an oral presentation close October 9, October 16, and October 26, respectively. Early registration is recommended.
- The FDA’s [Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain Foods](#) (*BCI Monitor 9-22-20*) implements section 204 of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) to harmonize and standardize record-keeping for food traceability.
- Comments are due by January 21, 2021.

Australia Extends Electronic Import Certificate Approval

- Australia [extended](#) its temporary approval of electronic import certificates for fresh produce, plants, and plant-based commodities until June 30, 2021.
- The use of electronic import certificates was announced in April (*BCI Monitor 4-14-20*) and extended through October 1, 2020 in June (*BCI Monitor 7-7-20*).
- Australian inspection officers will access the documents through their Cargo Online Lodgement System (COLS) but may request additional verification via email or the online tool managed by the exporting National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO). To be eligible for this arrangement, the exporter must provide a point of contact or online tool to verify electronic certificates.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Taiwan Finalizes Draft Sanitation Standards for Microorganisms in Foods

- Taiwan [notified the WTO](#) it has adopted its [Draft Sanitation Standard for Microorganisms in Foods](#).
- The standard consists of limits for various microorganisms and their toxins or metabolites by food category.
- Fresh ready-to-eat fruits must test negative for *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and *Escherichia coli* 0157:H7⁸, and under 10 MPN/g from *Escherichia coli*.
- The Standard entered into force on October 6, 2020 and will be implemented on July 1, 2021.

The U.S. and Mexico Sign *Statement of Intent for a Collaborative Partnership on Food Safety*

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [announced](#) it signed the [FDA – Mexico, Statement of Intent for a Collaborative Partnership on Food Safety](#) with its two Mexican food regulation counterparts, the Federal Commission for the Protection from Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS) and the National Service of Agro-Alimentary Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA).
- The nonbinding agreement expands upon and replaces the 2014 Statement of Intent, also known as the [Produce Safety Partnership](#), by broadening the scope beyond fresh produce and minimally processed produce to all foods for human consumption.
- The partnership aims to bolster collaboration on food safety focus areas including prevention, outbreak response, regulatory laboratory collaboration, and outreach/training opportunities for industry.