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**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USTR Katherine Tai Speaks on U.S.-China Trade Strategy

- On Monday, U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Katherine Tai outlined the Biden Administration's approach for the U.S.-China bilateral trade relationship. The [text of the speech](#), a [fact sheet regarding the strategy](#), and a [video of the speech and following 40-minute question and answer session](#) are available online.
- Ambassador Tai stated that she will resume direct talks with China and will begin a "frank discussion" regarding the country's failure to meet the full terms of the Phase One trade agreement. She emphasized that the Biden administration will work to enforce the Phase One agreement and will not begin discussions of a second phase.

USDA Seeks Comments on Climate-Smart Agriculture

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has published a [Federal Register notice](#) requesting comments on a Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Program.
- USDA is considering various strategies and actions to promote climate-smart agricultural practices as part of a broader effort on climate change.
- Feedback from stakeholders is requested on opportunities and challenges related to sustainability and on the development of metrics to assess the impact of climate-smart practices.
- Comments are due by November 1, 2021.

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee Convened

- The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has [announced](#) that the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (FVIAC) will meet virtually on November 3 and 4 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Eastern Time (ET).
- Agenda topics may include consideration of recommendations pertaining to labor and production, food safety, climate and infrastructure, and conservation.
- Written comments are due by October 22 via [regulations.gov](#). Public oral comments will be heard on November 3. Organizations wishing to participate must pre-register for one speaking slot by October 22. Instructions for registering can be obtained by emailing SCPFVIAC@usda.gov.

USDA Updating Inspection Certificate and Audit Report Formats

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) recently [published a notice](#) regarding new formats for inspection certifications and audit reports.
- The change is occurring as AMS implements the [Specialty Crops Integrated Operating Network \(SCION\)](#), a new online platform designed to modernize inspection and certification procedures.
- AMS notes documents may be received in traditional or updated form as SCION progresses towards full implementation.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Oriental Fruit Fly Quarantine Zone Established in Santa Clara County

- On September 30, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) established an Oriental Fruit Fly quarantine zone in the San Jose area of Santa Clara County, effective immediately.
- On October 4, the Oriental Fruit Fly Quarantine Boundary for [Santa Clara County – San Jose Area](#) was expanded. More information is available on the [CDFA website](#).