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**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement Announced

- The United Kingdom and Australia have announced agreement on the broad outlines of a new free trade agreement (FTA).
- While the final agreement text is forthcoming, the respective announcements from the [UK](#) and [Australia](#) provide some details of the emerging deal
- The United States currently has an [FTA in force](#) with Australia but does not have an FTA with the United Kingdom.
- The two countries must now finalize the text and ratify the agreement before entry into force. This marks the first FTA that the UK has negotiated completely independently of the European Union since Brexit.

USDA Seeks Input on U.S. Food System Supply Chain

- Comments are due by June 21 to the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) regarding a USDA-wide effort to [improve and reimagine the U.S. food system supply chain](#).
- USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is interested in hearing from export-oriented organizations and learning how their work to promote U.S. agricultural exports can contribute to rural prosperity while addressing the issues targeted by this initiative.
- The USDA supply chain initiative will target the following issues and may include USDA funding:
 - *bolstering local and regional food systems*
 - *developing new market opportunities (including for value-added agriculture and products)*
 - *creating fairer and more competitive markets*
 - *meeting the needs of the agricultural workforce*
 - *supporting and promoting consumers' nutrition security, particularly for low-income populations*
 - *addressing the needs of socially disadvantaged and small to mid-sized producers*
 - *advancing efforts in other ways to transform the food system*
- Comments are submitted via the [online Federal Register notice](#).
- Any questions should be directed to the AMS point of contact: Dr. Melissa R. Bailey, Agricultural Marketing Service, at (202) 205-9356; or by email at Melissa.Bailey@usda.gov. As a courtesy, comments may be shared with FAS by email to Andrew.Stephens@usda.gov and Corey.Pickelsimer@usda.gov.

UK Notifies WTO of Import Inspection Plans

- The United Kingdom has notified the WTO of plans and an outline for [Great Britain's Risk Targeted Plant Health Import Inspections](#).

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UK Notifies WTO of Import Inspection Plans (continued)

- According to the notification, Great Britain Plant Health Services has developed their own risk targeted inspection system that will allow for lower levels of checks of regulated plant health goods as compared to the previous European Union system.
- The outline document sets out the method by which the level of inspection checks for a product, which will be further detailed in legislation that has not yet been released.
- The proposed date of publication and adoption of the final legislative framework is October 21, 2021 and the proposed date of entry into force is January 1, 2022.
- Comments are due by August 8, 2021 to UKSPS@defra.gov.uk.

EU Approves French Cherries for Protected Geographic Indication

- The Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) for “Cerise des coteaux du Ventoux” has been [entered into the Register of the European Union](#).
- The PGI, which translates to “Cherries from the hills of Ventoux”, is defined in its [application for registration](#) as a red cherry from the foothills of Mont Ventoux. It is the first PGI registered for French cherries.
- PGIs for cherries exist for other EU regions, including “Cereja do Fundão” and “Cereja da Cova da Beira” from Portugal, “Cerezas de la Montaña de Alicante” from Spain, and “Ciliegia di Marostica” and “Ciliegia di Vignola” from Italy. Over 1,700 PGIs currently exist in the EU.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

U.S. and EU Extend Retaliatory Tariffs Suspension to Five Years

- The United States and European Union have [announced](#) a cooperative framework to address the large civil aircraft disputes, including suspending all related retaliatory tariffs for five years.
- The tariffs had previously been suspended for four months starting on March 5, 2021 (*BCI Monitor 3-9-2021*).
- Fresh cherries [were not](#) subject to the [EU’s retaliatory tariffs](#).
- The U.S. initially [implemented tariffs on the EU](#) on October 18, 2019 (*BCI Monitors 10-8-19, 10-15-19*) and the EU initially implemented tariffs on November 10, 2020 (*BCI Monitors 10-13-20, 11-10-20*).

Biden, Johnson Discuss Trade Ties Between the U.S., UK

- In meetings on the margin of the G7 Summit, President Biden and United Kingdom Prime Minister Boris Johnson signed a [New Atlantic Charter](#) that mentions “open and fair trade” and [issued a joint statement](#) “commit[ting] to deepening and strengthening our vital economic and trading partnership.”
- No commitment was made to negotiate a free trade agreement, although the statement explicitly commits to resolving the trade dispute over aircraft, which has led to retaliatory tariffs between the UK, EU, and the U.S.

Link to EU Guide on Single-Use Plastics Regulation Scope.

- Last week, the BCI Monitor covered the European Commission publishing guidelines on single-use plastic products but did not include the link to the guide (*BCI Monitor 6-8-2021*).
- Linked here is the [notice containing Commission guidelines](#). The guidelines include detailed examples of products included and excluded from the scope of [Directive \(EU\) 2019/904](#).
- The directive on single-use plastics must be transposed into Member State’s national laws and applied by July 3, 2021.