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A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USTR Invites Comments for 2021 National Trade Estimate report on Foreign Trade Barriers

- The USTR has opened comments for the [2021 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers \(NTE\)](#). The annual report details the most pressing barriers to U.S. exports, including agricultural exports, in markets across the world. The report serves as a useful reference for USTR engagement with overseas officials during trade talks.
- Each comment should include an estimate of the potential increase in U.S. exports that would result from removing any foreign trade barrier the comment identifies.
- Comments are due on October 29, 2020.

USDA Requests Comments for Agricultural Innovation Agenda

- The USDA is [requesting input](#) on the most innovative technologies, practices, and management tools that can be deployed through USDA programs to assist farmers in accessing and adopting new approaches.
- The agency's broader goal is to increase U.S. agricultural production by 40 percent by 2050, while cutting the environmental footprint of U.S. agriculture in half as part of the USDA's Agricultural Innovation Agenda (AIA).
- Comments are due on November 9, 2020.

Australia Targets Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

- Australia has recently released two industry notices concerning measures to target the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB), including [streamlined protocols](#) and [enhanced heat treatments](#).
- BCI has confirmed with USDA-APHIS that the new procedures do not apply to low-risk goods including fresh produce, such as cherries.
- Low-risk goods are only subject to the new requirements if they are part of a consignment with high-risk goods. High-risk goods primarily include metals and metal parts, electrical equipment, and other similar items.

UK-Japan to Sign Free Trade Agreement

- The UK-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement was [agreed](#) upon in principle on Friday, September 11, and is expected to be finalized in October.
- The agreement is the UK's first major trade deal since leaving the EU.
- This is seen by the UK government as an important step towards joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

China Releases Draft of New Standards for Nutrition Labels on Prepackaged Foods

- China [notified the WTO](#) of draft [General Rules for Nutrition Labeling of Prepackaged Foods](#) (in Chinese).
- The new standard replaces [GB 28050-2011](#), *Standard for Nutritional Labeling of Prepackaged Foods*.
- Products that remain exempt from mandatory nutritional labeling (Section 7) include fresh, prepackaged food derived from agricultural primary products. Any nutritional labeling that is voluntarily provided must comply with the regulation.
- Based on an informal translation, changes from the current standards include:
 - The nutritional label format has been modified
 - The allowable error range for Vitamins D and A is set at 80% of the declared value (versus the current range of 80% to 180%)
 - Optional marking of nutrition content (i.e., nutritional and functional claims) may be anywhere on the food label, but the font size must not be greater than the maximum size of the food name
 - Some modifications have been made to nutrient reference values (NRV)
 - A definition is added for “energy”, “nutrients”, “nutritional ingredients”, and “serving reference value”
- Comments are due by November 13, 2020. China has not published an implementation date.

China Releases New Draft Standard for Metal Food Contact Materials

- China [notified the WTO](#) of a draft standard for [Metal Materials and Articles for Food Contact](#) (in Chinese).
- The new standard replaces GB 4806.9-2016. Based on an informal translation, listed changes include:
 - Modification of terms and definitions, raw material requirements, migration test special requirements, chemical and chemical indicators, and label identification requirements
 - Addition of limit indicators for the migration of alloy elements
 - Removal of “special use requirements”
- Comments are due by November 13, 2020. China has not published an implementation date.

China Releases Draft for Comments of Revisions to the Food Safety Standard Management Measures

- The Chinese National Health Commission announced a [public consultation](#) on a draft revision of the [Food Safety Standard Management Measures](#) (in Chinese). According to an [introductory document](#) (in Chinese), revision of the current Management Measures of 2010 follows from the update of China’s Food Safety Law in 2015 and its Implementing Regulations in 2019.
- The introductory document provides a summary of the key revisions. Based on informal translation, Chapter 8 establishes protocols for imported food products that do not have a Chinese standard.
- Comments are due by October 15, 2020.

UK Releases Voluntary Calorie and Salt Reduction Guidelines

- The UK government has [released guidelines](#) for the food industry to voluntarily reduce [calories](#) and [salt by 2024](#).
- The guidelines set a calorie reduction goal (“calorie reduction ambition”) of 10% for most processed foods and 20% for most food service foods; and aim for a reduction of daily salt intake from the current average of 8.4 to 6 grams per day.
- The guidelines are part of a new [obesity strategy](#). Other actions under the obesity strategy include:
 - The recently announced public review and comment period for the front-of-pack nutritional labeling adopted on a voluntary basis in 2013 (*BCI Monitor 8-4-20*).

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UK Releases Voluntary Calorie and Salt Reduction Guidelines (continued)

- Planned legislation requiring restaurants, cafes, takeaways and other out-of-home food service businesses with more than 250 employees to provide calorie labels on the food they sell.
- Planned consultation on requiring calorie labeling of pre-packaged alcohol drinks and possible calorie labeling for alcohol drinks served out-of-home.
- Planned legislation banning promotion of high fat, salt, and sugar (HFSS) foods by volume discount (e.g., *buy one get one free*) or by prominent location (e.g., at tills or end of aisles) in stores or online shopping sites.
- Plans to restrict HFSS products from being shown on TV or online before 9 pm, to prevent advertising to children. HFSS advertising restrictions online may be subject to a complete ban. Implementation is sought by the end of 2022.