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**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

## SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**Spain Publishes Draft Royal Decree on Packaging and Packaging Waste, Banning Plastic Produce Packaging**

- On September 28, Spain’s Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (MITCO) [announced](#) it has [published for public comment](#) a [Draft Royal Decree on Packaging and Packaging Waste](#) (documents in Spanish).
- The expansive royal decree includes five sections: prevention and reuse; design and recycling objectives; expanded liability of the producer; deposit, refund, and return systems; and transparency.
- Importantly for CCB, Article 7 would ban the use of plastic packaging for fruits and vegetables sold in quantities smaller than 1.5 kg in Spanish retail business starting in 2023. Produce at risk of spoilage when sold in bulk, as to be determined by the Spanish Agency for Food Safety and Nutrition, will also be exempted. In stores with a sales area greater than 300 square meters, the retailer will be required to display information on the ecological repercussions of the packaging and instructions for its reuse, recycling, or further management.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (RAP) will be expanded to commercial and industrial packaging. For packaging intended for use or consumption by individuals (“domestic packaging”), producers are responsible for financing the waste management of their packaging.
- The draft decree also transposes the last of the pending directives of the European Circular Economy Package of 2018, [Directive \(EU\) 2018/852](#) and [Directive \(EU\) 2019/904](#), commonly referred to as the Single-Use Plastic Directive.
- Comments on the draft decree are due by October 28, 2021 to [bzn-sug\\_residuos@miteco.es](mailto:bzn-sug_residuos@miteco.es) using the provided [comment form](#) (Word document).

**Details Released on Coalition to Promote Sustainable Productivity Growth in Agriculture**

- USDA has [published](#) further details on the Coalition of Action for Sustainable Productivity Growth for Food Security and Resource Conservation ([SPG Coalition](#)), in addition to other USDA efforts to build a more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food system.
- The SPG Coalition was introduced by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack earlier this month at the [G20 agriculture ministers meeting](#) (*BCI Monitor 9-21-21*).
- The coalition will be open to countries, farmer and producer groups, agricultural businesses, NGOs, civil society groups, and other entities involved with advancing sustainable productivity growth.

*Details Released on Coalition to Promote Sustainable Productivity Growth in Agriculture (continued)*

- Coalition members commit to advancing sustainable productivity growth through a holistic approach balancing impacts and tradeoffs among multiple objectives, including food security, nutrition, food affordability, farmer and worker incomes, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and resource conservation.
- Also included in the document is an annotated bibliography on sustainable productivity growth/intensification and the environment.

### **Taiwan Applies for CPTPP Membership**

- On September 23 Taiwan's Ministry of Economy [announced](#) the country has formally applied to join the agreement, one week after China formally applied to join. The United Kingdom has begun its accession negotiations. Several other countries including Thailand, the Philippines, South Korea, and Indonesia have expressed interest in joining.
- Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam have now ratified. Brunei, Chile, and Malaysia are signatories to the trade deal, but have not yet ratified it.
- According to the CPTPP accession protocol, members must determine "within a reasonable period of time" whether to begin an applicant's accession process.

## **GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:**

### **Australia to Simplify Biosecurity Import Conditions System**

- Australia's Department of Agriculture, Water, and the Environment recently published a notice advising [industry](#) that it is updating the structure of its Biosecurity Import Conditions System (BICON) for various commodities.
- The update is intended to simplify and clarify import conditions and will not result in any changes to requirements or outcomes.

### **CDFA Changes LBAM Quarantine Boundary**

- On September 24, the [California Department of Agriculture](#) (CDFA) expanded the quarantine area for the light brown apple moth (LBAM).
- The San Luis Obispo County Regulated Area Boundary is expanded in the San Luis Obispo County – Nipomo, [Grids 381 and 382](#), effective immediately.

### **France Publishes Draft Decree Promoting "Reused Packaging"**

- France recently [published](#) a [draft decree](#) for [consultation](#) on the goals for adoption of reused packaging as set in Articles 9 and 67 of [LOI n° 2020-105 of February 10, 2020 on the fight against waste and the circular economy](#) (all documents in French).
- "Reused packaging" is packaging that is used at least a second time for the same use for which it was designed, with its reuse organized by or on behalf of the producer. The packaging may be refilled at the point of sale as part of a bulk purchase or, where relevant, recharged at home.
- The decree sets targets for the minimum proportion of reused packaging to be put on the market annually, with a goal of 1.5 percent in 2022, five percent in 2023, and reaching 10 percent in 2027.
- The decree will enter into force on January 1, 2022. Comments are due by October 19, 2021 via the [comment portal](#).