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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- UK FTA Negotiations
- United Kingdom Delays Publication Date for Imported Plant Product Notification Requirements
- EU Updates Quarantine and Non-Quarantine Pest Lists
- USDA Publishes English Translation of Japanese Additive-Free Labeling Proposal
- Brazil Opens Public Consultation on Revised Import Licensing Process

## GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

## UK FTA Negotiations

- On January 13, the UK and India [announced](#) the start of negotiations for a free trade agreement. The UK additionally published a policy paper detailing its [strategic approach](#) to the agreement.
- In a related [press release](#), the UK Department for International Trade also announced plans to launch free trade negotiations with Canada, Mexico, and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and secure accession to the CPTPP in 2022.

## United Kingdom Delays Publication Date for Imported Plant Product Notification Requirements

- The United Kingdom (UK) [notified](#) the World Trade Organization regarding a delay in the publication date of forthcoming import requirements for plant products entering England, Scotland, and Wales (Great Britain). The publication date has been amended from February 8, 2022 to May 31, 2022
- As part of the UK's retained [Plant Health Regulation \(Regulation \(EU\) 2016/2031\)](#), pre-notification of certain plant products will be required from July 2022. The requirement will apply to 1 percent of overall imports of the goods selected for phytosanitary inspection from all countries, as outlined in [Article 73](#) of the regulation.

## EU Updates Quarantine and Non-Quarantine Pest Lists

- The European Union (EU) published [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2021/2285](#) amending [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2072](#) regarding EU quarantine pests.
- The amendment revises the list of Union quarantine pests (Annex II); revises the list of regulated non-quarantine pests (RNQPs) (Annex IV); revises the prohibited commodities (Annex VI); adds and revises current import requirements (Annexes V, VII, VII, and X); adds or revises CN codes (Annexes VI, VII, X and XI); and revises regulated commodities (Annexes XI and XII).
- Of relevance to the California Cherry Board, special requirements in Annex VII to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 have been amended based on the reassessment of the group of *Tephritidae*. Specific species and genera of *Tephritidae* have been identified that are not present or have limited presence in the Union territory and should be listed as Union quarantine pests. Several genera are present and should be listed as Union quarantine pests in order to allow protective measures against them, pending the availability of methods to identify them at species level, notably at larval stages.

A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD

### USDA Publishes English Translation of Japanese Additive-Free Labeling Proposal

- Earlier this month, Japan's Consumer Affairs Agency (CFA) launched a [public consultation](#) on [draft Guidelines for Labeling Of Non-Use of Food Additives](#) (in Japanese) under the *Food Labeling Standard (2015 Cabinet Office Ordinance No. 10)* (*BCI Monitor 1-11-22*). The proposal sets guidelines for appropriate use of "additive-free" on food labels.
- The USDA has now published a [GAIN Report](#) providing background on the proposal and an unofficial English translation.
- The comment period closes on January 21 (Japanese Standard time) and comments must be submitted in Japanese. Detailed instruction is included in the GAIN report.

### Brazil Opens Public Consultation on Revised Import Licensing Process

- Brazil [invites](#) comments on a [draft Ordinance](#) (both links in Portuguese) revising the import licensing process under its Single Foreign Trade Portal (Siscomex). Brazil also published a [background document](#) (in Portuguese).
- The revisions will implement trade facilitation measures described in *Law No. 14.195 of August 26, 2021* and align the system with requirements set by the WTO.
- Comments can be submitted via email to [sufac.cgfc@economia.gov.br](mailto:sufac.cgfc@economia.gov.br) until March 14, 2022, using the format described in [Circular Secex No. 01, of January 12, 2022](#) (in Portuguese).