

MARCH 8, 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **Looking at Potential Impacts of Russian Invasion of Ukraine on Cherry Industry**
- **UK Plastic Pact Adopts Additional Problem Plastics to Target for Elimination**
- **United Nations Sign Resolution to End Plastic Pollution**
- **India, UAE Sign Trade Agreement**
- **USTR Publishes 2022 Trade Agenda and 2021 Annual Report**

**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Looking at Potential Impacts of Russian Invasion of Ukraine on Cherry Industry

- Last week, the Southern Hemisphere Association of Fresh Fruit Exporters (SHAFFE) [published a statement](#) regarding potential effects on fresh fruit markets of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and subsequent sanctions imposed on Russia.
- BCI analysis shows that in 2021 Russia was the third largest importer of fresh sweet cherries, importing 96,128 Metric Tons (MT) of fresh sweet cherries. Russia has banned the imports of all U.S. fresh fruit, including cherries, since March 2014.
- SHAFFE notes that reduced Russian imports of due to economic instability could increase the supply of fresh fruit competing in other markets. However, for cherries, none of the top four suppliers – Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey – have implemented sanctions against Russia.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

UK Plastic Pact Adopts Additional Problem Plastics to Target for Elimination

- The Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) UK Plastics Pact, which counts numerous [food businesses as members](#).
- Importantly for the California Cherry Board, non-compostable fruit stickers will be targeted for elimination by the end of 2022 and, as a longer-term goal, the UK Plastic Pact is also targeting the elimination of plastic packaging for uncut fresh fruit & vegetables, unless it is demonstrated to reduce food waste.

United Nations Sign Resolution to End Plastic Pollution

- On March 2, representatives from 175 nations [signed](#) a resolution to end plastic pollution during the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, with the intent to establish a legally binding plastic pollution treaty by 2024. Only the [draft](#) is currently publicly available.
- The binding agreement is expected to contain binding obligations and voluntary commitments to address plastic pollution across the full product lifecycle, including product design and waste management through circular economy and resource efficiency approaches. Once adopted and ratified, the treaty will inform national environmental laws and policies governing the use, production, and recycling of plastic products, and awareness-raising and educational activities regarding plastic pollution.
- A report on progress towards the legally binding treaty is expected in February 2024.

India, UAE Sign Trade Agreement

- On February 19, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), as announced by the [Indian embassy in the UAE via twitter](#).
- According to media reports, the agreement is expected to enter into force at the beginning of May.

USTR Publishes 2022 Trade Agenda and 2021 Annual Report

- On March 1, 2022, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) [published](#) the [2022 Trade Policy Agenda and 2021 Annual Report](#) and an accompanying [fact sheet](#).
- One of the highlights of the fact sheet is continued support of U.S. agriculture, including creating new opportunities within existing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Trade and Investment Framework Agreements (TIFAs).