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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **APHIS Seeks Stakeholder Comments on IPPC Consultations**
- **China Publishes Amendment to Cold Chain COVID-19 Protocols**
- **FAS Publishes Market Analysis of Chinese Cherry Market**
- **Canada Gazettes Amendments Related to Food Product Innovation**
- **UK's Prenotification System for Imports Will Switch to New IT System**
- **UK Publishes Food Standards Review**
- **Update on Australia's State-Level Plastic Bans**
- **New Zealand Opens Consultation on Imported Food Notices**

**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

## SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**APHIS Seeks Stakeholder Comments on IPPC Consultations**

- On July 7, the U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Program [announced](#) it is seeking U.S. stakeholder feedback on numerous draft standards and other documents for comment published by the [International Plant Protection Convention \(IPPC\) Consultation](#).
- Documents under consultation include numerous draft standards, draft specifications, Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Recommendations, and diagnostic protocols.
- Specific comment content and formatting requests are included in the ["How to Submit Comments" section](#). Comments are due by August 15, 2022 to the PPQ's IPPC Technical Director at [Marina.A.Zlotina@usda.gov](mailto:Marina.A.Zlotina@usda.gov).

**China Publishes Amendment to Cold Chain COVID-19 Protocols**

- On July 8, the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) issued [Announcement No. 58 of 2022, Further Optimizing and Improving the Epidemic Prevention and Control Measures of Imported Cold Chain Food Ports](#). The new announcement repeals and replaces GACC [Announcement No. 103 of 2020](#).
- Based on machine translation, the new announcement removes specific timelines for suspension for products that test positive for COVID-19; stating instead that foods testing-positive for COVID-19 shall be handled according to relevant provisions of the guidelines issued by the Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council.
- Additionally, it requires that, depending on testing-results, GACC evaluates the prevention measures of the exporting country to confirm whether the safety management system and safety status of the exporting country comply with China's import requirements. For overseas food manufacturers with issues, GACC can require rectification within a time limit, suspension of imports, and possible revocation of registration in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.
- The announcement does not cite specifically which laws and regulations it is referring to. However, in January 2022, China's Ministry of Health published the second edition of [Annex 1](#) and [Annex 2](#) (both in Chinese) of the *Technical Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus in Cold Chain Food Production and Operation* (BCI Monitor 2-8-22). The USDA subsequently provided an [unofficial translation](#) (BCI Monitor 3-1-22).

**FAS Publishes Market Analysis of Chinese Cherry Market**

- The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) recently published its [Stone Fruit Annual Report](#) for China.

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### FAS Publishes Market Analysis of Chinese Cherry Market (Continued)

- FAS forecasts that Chinese cherry production will increase 8% in MY 2022/23 (April-March), reaching 650,000 Metric Tons (MT), despite adverse weather conditions in China's largest cherry-producing province. Cherries are reportedly the most profitable fruit in China, and production is expanding through green houses and planted acres in western China.
- Imports are forecasted to decline 6% to 300,00 MT due to a variety of challenges including shipping costs, increased inspection, a disinfection process, COVID-testing, retaliatory tariffs on U.S. cherries, and attempts by Chile to diversify its export markets. Of trading partners with market access, the U.S. has the highest tariff rate of at least 25% if the additional Section 301 tariff is exempted upon arrival. Chile, Australia, and New Zealand each export cherries duty-free, while other trading partners without Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) face a most favored nation rate of 10%.

### GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

#### Canada Gazettes Amendments Related to Food Product Innovation

- On July 6, Canada gazetted two amendments to regulatory frameworks governing food.
  - [Regulations Amending the Safe Food for Canadian Regulations: SOR/2022-144](#)
  - [Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations: SOR/2022-143](#)
- Both sets of amendments are related to efforts by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to modernize Canada's food labeling system under the [food product innovation](#) plan.
- The regulatory changes have also been [notified to the WTO](#). The WTO notification explicitly states that the regulatory changes will not require any changes to food labels, affect the level of inspection, what is inspected or how food labels are inspected.
- The amendments make changes including the repeal of some standard container sizes; incorporation by reference of remaining standard container sizes; incorporation by reference of class names; updated definition of test market food; and harmonization and streamlining of food commodity-specific labeling requirements.

#### UK's Prenotification System for Imports Will Switch to New IT System

- The United Kingdom's Procedure for Electronic Application for Certificates from the Horticultural Marketing Inspectorate (PEACH) [will change to a new IT system in 2023](#), with reminders to register for the new system to be sent out closer to the change.
- PEACH is relevant for pre-notifications of imports covered by plant health regulations to England and Wales for non-EU importers.

#### UK Publishes Food Standards Review

- The United Kingdom's Food Standards Agency (FSA) published the report [Our Food 2021: An annual review of food standards across the UK](#).
- Chapter 4 on food labeling provides a summary of labeling requirements and changes due to leaving the European Union (EU):
  - Existing EU food labeling laws have now been converted into British laws ([retained version of FIC Regulation 11/69/2011](#) as supplemented by regulation of competent authorities in England, Scotland, and Wales).
  - From October 1, 2022, those businesses not established in Great Britain must either use importers or set up legal entities in Great Britain.
  - The new [UK Nutrition and Health Claims Committee](#) (UKNHCC) is now responsible for assessing and authorizing nutrition and health claims.

### Update on Australia's State-Level Plastic Bans

- On March 1, 2022, [South Australia](#)'s ban on expanded polystyrene food and beverage containers, including clamshells and oxo-degradable plastics, entered into force.
- On July 1, 2022, the [Australian Capital Territory](#) (ACT) banned oxo-degradable plastics.
- [Western Australia](#) will ban, in a phase 2 starting January 1, 2023:
  - plastic barrier and produce bags
  - oxo-degradable plastics
  - polystyrene packaging
- [Victoria](#) will ban expanded polystyrene food and drink service containers, including clam shells, starting February 1, 2023.

### New Zealand Opens Consultation on Imported Food Notices

- New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries [invites comments](#) on two draft notices relating to importing food. A [discussion paper](#) provides background information.
- Draft [Food Notice: Requirements for Registered Importers and Imported Food for Sale](#) adds requirements regarding safety and suitability of food for import, and clarifies which evidence must be brought by importers to receive clearance for High Regulatory and Increased Regulatory foods.
- Draft [Food Notice: Laboratories Approved for Testing Imported Food](#) lists all laboratories approved for testing imported food as set out in current *Food Notice: Importing Food*.
- Feedback can be submitted via email using this [submission template](#) to [import.systems@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:import.systems@mpi.govt.nz) by 5pm on 23 August 2022.