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**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Canada Opens Consultation on Labeling of Plastic Packaging

- On July 25, Canada [opened a consultation](#) seeking feedback on the development of labeling rules for recyclability as part of its commitment to prohibit the use of the chasing-arrows symbol on plastic products where less than 80% of Canada's recycling facilities accept and have reliable end-markets for the product.
- Adopted rules seek to improve plastic packaging design, improve public participation in recycling systems, reinforce public trust in recycling, and improve the performance of recycling systems. Additionally, the government proposes to introduce regulation of terms such as "compostable," "degradable" or "biodegradable" in labeling of plastic packaging and single-use items.
- Stakeholders, including brand owners and other producers, are encouraged to submit comment on any aspect of the [Consultation paper: Towards Canada-wide rules to strengthen recycling and composting of plastics through accurate labelling](#). Comments are due by October 7, 2022 and can be sent to plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca with "Comments on the labelling rules" in the subject line of the email.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Canadian Food Inspection Agency Updates Industry Labelling Tool

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) [announced](#) it has updated its [Industry Labelling Tool](#) to reflect recent amendments to the [Food and Drug Regulations](#) and the [Safe Food for Canadians Regulations](#) (SFCR) as part of [Food Product Innovation](#) (*BCI Monitor* 7-12-22).

Canada Opens Consultation on Creation of a Federal Plastics Registry

- On July 25, Canada [opened a consultation](#) seeking feedback on the development of a federal plastics registry in order to support provincial and territorial extended producer responsibility (EPR) efforts. The registry would seek to collect several data points, including plastics placed on market and plastic recycled.
- Stakeholders, including brand owners, may provide comments on any aspect of the [Consultation paper: A proposed federal plastics registry for producers of plastic products](#). Comments are due by October 7, 2022 and can be sent to plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca.

South Korea Opens Consultation on Amendments to the Standards and Specifications for Foods Act

- On July 18, Korea's Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) [published](#) draft [Ministry of Food and Drug Safety Notice No. 2022-322](#) (in Korean), amending Standards and Specifications for Foods.
- Of interest to CCB, the draft amendment proposes to
 - revise certain test methods, including types of pesticide test methods for agricultural products; and
 - clarify sampling collection and handling methods for collecting samples from ships.
- MFDS also [notified the WTO](#) of the draft amendment on July 21.
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov by September 19, 2022.

India Gazettes Amendments to 2016 Plastic Waste Management Rules

- On July 7, India's Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change gazetted the [Plastic Waste Management \(Second Amendment\) Rules, 2022](#) (in English starting on p. 8, *BCI Monitor 2-1-22*).
- The amendments include definitions of several terms used in the *Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016* (as amended in [2018](#), [2021](#), and [2022 \(Schedule II\)](#)). Of note is the new definition of biodegradable plastics: "meaning plastics, other than compostable plastics, which completely degrade by biological processes under ambient environmental (terrestrial or in water) conditions, without leaving any microplastics, or another residue, and which adhere to standards of the Bureau of Indian Standards and are certified by the Central Pollution Control Board." The addition of this definition triggers amendments to the:
 - [Single use plastics ban](#): According to amendment 3(ii), biodegradable plastic as defined in the amended rules is exempt from Rule 4, sub-rule 2, the ban on import, sale, use and manufacture of certain single-use plastics items.
 - [Schedule II of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016](#): Paragraph 3 on definitions is omitted according to amendment 14.
- According to amendment 3(i)(a), the Central Government will set minimum thickness of plastic wrapping if this plastic layer is not integral part of multi-layer packaging.
- Amendment 4(i) clarifies that Extended Producer Responsibilities are to be fulfilled according to rules set out in [Schedule II](#).
- Amendment 8(ii)(A) and (B) require importers of multi-layered plastic packaging to register with the competent authority using Form I and as per guidelines specified in [Schedule II](#). Forms are revised accordingly.
- Amendment 10 revises Schedule I of the *Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016*, updating the list of IS/ISO standards to reflect latest revisions.
- The rules entered into force immediately.

EAEU Announces Updated Quarantine Pest List

- On July 15, the Eurasian Economic Commission Council [announced](#) changes to the unified list of quarantine objects of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), adding 11 types of pests, including the western potato flea beetle, western cherry fly and others.
- The EAEU consists of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia.
- BCI will continue monitoring for a WTO notification or publication of the quarantine list on the EAEU's legal portal.

Brazil Notifies Updated List of Absent Quarantine Pests

- On July 20, Brazil [notified](#) the WTO of publication of [Ordinance SDA No. 617](#), updating the list of Absent Quarantine Pests (PQA).
- Regulation and WTO notification do not indicate which pests have been added or removed.