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**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Confirmed

- On December 21, the Senate [confirmed](#) Alexis Taylor as the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs. Taylor was nominated in May, and the role had been unfilled since the start of the Biden Administration (*BCI Monitor* 5-17-22). U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack noted the confirmation [via Twitter](#).

U.S. Senate Confirms USTR Chief Agriculture Negotiator

- On December 22, the U.S. Senate [confirmed](#) Doug McKalip as the new Chief Agricultural Negotiator of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). [USTR Katherine Tai](#) and [several agricultural organizations](#) noted the confirmation.
- McKalip has served in the federal government for 29 years in agricultural policy and trade, including as the Senior Advisor to Sec. Tom Vilsack on all agricultural matters related to trade, national security, animal and plant health regulations; in a leadership capacity at the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Biotechnology Regulatory Services; Acting Chief of Staff of the USDA; and the Senior Advisor for Agriculture and Rural Affairs at the White House Domestic Policy Council.
- The Chief Agriculture Negotiator is responsible for leading international negotiations related to trade in agricultural products.

APHIS Replaces Common Names for Regulated *Lymantria* Moths

- On December 14, USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) [announced](#) it is changing the common name for the regulated pest *Lymantria* moths.
- It will change the common name for *Lymantria dispar* from "gypsy moth" to "spongy moth."
- APHIS will change the common name for several types of moths (*L. dispar asiatica*, *L. dispar japonica*, *L. albescens*, *L. postalba*, and *L. umbrosa*) from "Asian gypsy moth" to "flighted spongy moth complex."

APHIS to Publish Domestic Quarantine Regulations Online, Approves New Biological Control for Spotted Wing *Drosophila*

- On December 29, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) [announced](#) ([Federal Register Notice](#)) it is revising regulations on the domestic quarantine for plant pests. APHIS will now maintain lists of quarantine areas and regulated articles on webpages maintained by the Agency in order to streamline notifications (*BCI Monitor* 6-14-22). These lists will be removed from the regulation text, where they were previously provided.
- On January 3, APHIS [announced](#) ([Federal Register Notice](#)) the final environmental assessment (EA) on the release of *Ganaspis brasiliensis* as a biological control agent for Spotted-Wing *Drosophila* (*Drosophila suzukii*) and found it is not likely to harm the environment.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

China Ends COVID-19 Testing and Disinfection of Imported Food

- The General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) [announced](#) that all required COVID-19 testing and disinfection measures for imported foods is to be suspended as of January 8, 2023. An unofficial English translation and summary of the announcement is provided in a recent [USDA GAIN report](#). According to the USDA, local industry contacts believe the removal of requirements will result in cost reductions and improved clearance times.

Canada Updates Organic Labeling Guide

- On December 23, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) updated its Industry Labeling Tool regarding guidance on [“Organic claims on food labels”](#).
- The update pertains to the use of the term “organic” in brand names, acceptable methods of declaring the name of a certification body on a product label, and language requirements.

Canada Consults on Spotted Lanternfly Risk Management

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) [launched a public consultation](#) seeking comment on [RMD-22-03 Pest risk management document: risk management proposal for spotted lanternfly \(*Lycorma delicatula* \[White\]\)](#).
- Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is a quarantine pest for Canada and CFIA consider the risk of entry very high.
- It was first detected in the U.S. in 2014 in Pennsylvania and has since spread to 14 eastern states. It is not present on the West Coast.
- According to the risk management document (RMD), Spotted Lanternfly has a broad host range, including cherries, but the primary risk pathways are nursery stock and logs with bark.
- As part of the RMD, CFIA are consulting on risk management options for nursery stock and logs with bark in the event that the pest does become established in Canada.
- The RMD does not propose any new or amended risk management requirements for pathways and products other than nursery stock and logs with bark. There are no new or amendment requirements for imports of cherries.
- The RMD is subject to a public consultation through February 3, 2023. Comments can be emailed to CFIA-IAS_ACIA-EEE@inspection.gc.ca. Feedback will inform CFIA’s regulatory approach to managing the pest risk posed by SLF in Canada.

UK Publishes Online Tool Related to Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations

- On December 22, the United Kingdom (UK) published a [tool](#) helping businesses to understand if they need to report nation data under the [draft Packaging Waste \(Data Reporting\) \(England\) Regulations 2022](#).
- Clarifying guidance on the UK’s extended producer responsibility scheme is available on the webpage [“Packaging waste: prepare for extended producer responsibility”](#) (*BCI Monitor 10-25-22*).
- The regulations are proposed to enter into force on February 28, 2023 and apply to England only. Of note, the first reporting period may start from January 1, 2023, according to Part I of Schedule 1.

South Korea Notifies Draft Revisions to On-Site Inspections of Overseas Facilities

- On December 21, South Korea’s Ministry of Food and Drug Safety [notified the WTO of Ministry of Food and Drug Safety Announcement No. 2022-538](#) containing draft revisions to the [Methods and criteria for on-site inspection of overseas manufacturing establishments and overseas workplaces](#) (in Korean) (*BCI Monitor 12-6-22*).
- The revisions reflect the addition of “non-face-to-face” inspection options set forth in Article 9.2 of the [Special Act on Imported Food Safety Control](#) (in Korean).
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov. The WTO comment deadline is January 29, 2023.

Chile Ratifies the CPTPP

- Chile officially ratified the [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership \(CPTPP\)](#) and [notified](#) New Zealand, the CPTPP depository, on December 22. The CPTPP will enter into force for Chile on February 21, 2023.

(Continued on next page)

Chile Ratifies the CPTPP (continued)

- The CPTPP is currently in force in Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Brunei is a signatory to the trade deal but has not yet ratified it. The United Kingdom, China, Taiwan, Ecuador, Uruguay, and Costa Rica have all officially applied to join the CPTPP. In April 2022, South Korea signed a resolution to join CPTPP, but has yet to formally apply (*BCI Monitors 2-8-21, 6-8-21, 9-14-21, 9-21-21, 9-28-21, 4-19-22, 8-16-22, 10-11-22, 11-22-22*).
- According to the U.S. Department of Commerce's [Chile Country Commercial Guide](#), of current or potential CPTPP countries, Chile already has free trade agreements with Australia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Mexico, Malaysia, Uruguay, and Vietnam; Economic Association Agreement with Brunei, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, and the United Kingdom; and Economic Cooperation Agreements with Peru and Ecuador.
- A latest overview of main export markets for Chilean cherries can be found in [USDA FAS's Stone Fruit Annual for Chile](#).