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Specific Issues of Interest to the CCB:**Information on Tariff Changes for Chilean Cherries under CPTPP**

- The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) enters into force for Chile on February 21, 2023 (*BCI Monitor 1-3-23*).
- Chile already exports sweet cherries (HS 0809.29) duty-free to most countries in the CPTPP under other trade agreements or Most Favored Nation (MFN) rates.
- The only market that will see a change for Chilean cherry tariffs is Vietnam, which will fully eliminate its 5% tariff on Chilean cherries upon entry into force for Chile. Vietnam applies a 10% MFN tariff on sweet cherries from the U.S.
- Of countries with active applications to join the CPTPP, only Taiwan currently has a tariff on Chilean cherries at 7.5%. Countries with active applications to join CPTPP include China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

General Issues of Interest to the CCB:**EU Proposes to Restrict or Ban PFAS**

- On February 7, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) [published a proposal](#) under the EU REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals) Regulation to restrict or ban the manufacture, use, or marketing of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on their own or as components of mixtures or articles for most uses, including in food packaging and food contact materials.
- The proposal covers roughly 10,000 different PFAS and applies to any substance that contains at least one fully fluorinated methyl (CF₃-) or methylene (-CF₂-) carbon atom without any H/Cl/Br/I attached to it, including fluoropolymers. It includes PFAS use in paper or plastics, including as a processing aid in plastics, and use in packaging or material otherwise contacting food.
- The proposal was prepared by five EU countries (Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden) and submitted to ECHA on January 13.
- The ECHA's scientific committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) will verify that the proposal meets the legal requirements of REACH and will subsequently open a 6-month public consultation on March 22. After the consultation, both RAC and SEAC will form opinions based on information from the proposal and consultation comments. Once the opinions are adopted, they will be sent to the European Commission (EC) for discussion and vote. If passed, the regulation would enter into force sometime in 2027.
- The ECHA is planning to hold an online information session on April 5 to explain the restriction process and help those interested in the consultation.

**A REPORT FOR
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CHERRY BOARD**

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