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Specific Issues of Interest to the CCB:

EU, Thailand Relaunch Trade Negotiations

- The European Commission [announced](#) the relaunch of free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations with Thailand. Negotiations were originally launched in 2013, then put on hold the next year following the military takeover of the Thai government. The European Union (EU) has pursued a path of gradual re-engagement with Thailand as its democratization process develops.
- Trade agreement negotiations with Thailand represent part of the EU's larger trade agenda goal of increasing trade in the Indo-Pacific region and with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Among ASEAN members, the EU already has an FTA with Singapore (2019) and Vietnam (2020). Bilateral trade in goods between the EU and Thailand – ASEAN's second largest economy – reached nearly \$45 billion in 2022.
- Spanish and Thai authorities are currently negotiating conditions for the import of Spanish fruit including cherries.
- The U.S. does not have an FTA with Thailand and is subject to the most favored nation (MFN) tariffs on food products, including a 40 percent tariff on cherries.
- The EU will publish FTA text proposals following the first round of negotiations, which is expected in the coming months.

General Issues of Interest to the CCB:

USDA Provides English Translation of China's Food Contaminants Standard

- On June 30, China's *GB 2762-2022 National Food Safety Standard Limits of Contaminants in Food* will enter into force (*BCI Monitor* 8-9-22).
- On March 20, the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) published a [GAIN report](#) on the standard, including an unofficial translation. The report also highlights changes compared to the standard currently in force.
- The limit for lead in fresh fruit remains at 0.1 mg/kg.

**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

Bryant Christie Inc. – Seattle

1418 Third Avenue, Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: (206) 292-6340 Fax: (206) 292-6341

Bryant Christie Inc. – Sacramento

2005 "I" Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95811

Phone: (916) 492-7062 Fax: (916) 492-7061