

OCTOBER 31, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **UK Notifies Change to Pest Measures**
- **EU Notifies WTO on New Genomic Techniques Regulation**
- **China Notifies Draft Food Contact Material Standard**
- **China Publishes Draft Basic Food Information Standard**
- **South Korea Notifies Draft Regulation to Unify Multiple Existing Import Declaration and Inspection Regulations**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

UK Notifies Change to Pest Measures

- On October 25, the United Kingdom (UK) [notified the WTO](#) regarding a change to its updated pest measures for England, Scotland, and Wales. The updates to retained EU legislation ([Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2072](#)) were notified in July 2023 (*BCI Monitor 8-1-23*).
- Of potential interest to the CCB, *Pseudomonas syringae pv. Persicae* will not be deregulated.
- Additionally, the adoption and publication date of the amended regulation was changed from November 2, 2023, to October 26, 2023. No change was made to the original entry into force date of November 24, 2023.

EU Notifies WTO on New Genomic Techniques Regulation

- On October 31, the European Union (EU) [notified](#) the WTO on its [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed](#), which amends [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#) (*BCI Monitors 7-5-23, 7-25-23*).
- This proposal, first adopted July 5th, creates a legal framework for plants produced by new genomic techniques (NGT), namely mutagenesis and cisgenesis, by establishing two pathways for NGT plants to be placed on the market: 1) a verification procedure for NGT plants that could also occur naturally or by conventional breeding (category 1 NGT plants); and 2) application of current GMO legislation for all other NGT plants (category 2 NGT plants).
- The proposed date of adoption is July 5, 2024. Entry into force is expected 20 days after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. The regulation will be enforced two years after entry into force.
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov. The WTO comment deadline is December 30.

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

China Notifies Draft Food Contact Material Standard

- On October 25, China's National Health Commission (NHC) notified the WTO of several draft food contact material standards (*BCI Monitor 10-24-23*).
- Draft standards of potential interest to the CCB include general safety requirements for food contact materials and products ([WTO Notification](#), [Standard in Chinese](#)).
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov. The WTO comment deadline is December 24, 2023.

**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

China Publishes Draft Basic Food Information Standard

- On October 30, China's National Standardization Administration [published](#) a draft [Specification for the Description of Basic Food Information](#) (both in Chinese).
- The draft standard covers the classification and content of basic food information *for the purposes of data collection and management*. Basic food information includes food products; food producers, operators, and origins; and food inspection and test results.
- BCI cannot determine whether exporters to China would have data collection requirements to which this standard applies.
- Comments are due by November 30, 2023, and can be emailed to spxfpbzc@samr.gov.cn.

South Korea Notifies Draft Regulation to Unify Multiple Existing Import Declaration and Inspection Regulations

- On October 25, South Korea's Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) [notified the WTO](#) of its draft [MFDS Notice 502-2023 Enactment of the Regulation on the Declaration and Inspection of Imported Foods, etc.](#)
- The draft notice integrates product-specific enacted regulations into one regulation, including: *Regulation on the Inspection of Imported Foods, etc.*
- BCI has confirmed with USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) in-country representatives that there are no substantive changes to import requirements.
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov. The WTO comment deadline is December 24, 2023.
- The notice is expected to be adopted in December 2023.