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## SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**Chilean Cherry Committee Reports on End of 2023-24 Export Season**

- The Association of Fruit Exporters of Chile recently [reported](#) (in Spanish) on the results of the 2023-24 cherry export season.
- Overall shipments were very similar to the previous season, reaching approximately 414,000 tons. Shipments to China (including Hong Kong) grew by 3.3% versus last year, totaling 377,000 tons. Shipments to China have grown by nearly 30% on average for the past seven years. After China, the top markets for Chile were the U.S. with 13,977 tons (down 14% to East Coast and down 52% to West Coast) and Latin America with 7,296 tons (down 20%).
- The top cherry varieties shipped were Lapins (43% of total volume), Santina (21%), Regine (19%), Sweet Heart and Bing (4% each).

**China Publishes Adhesives for Food Contact Material Standard**

- On March 12, 2024, China's National Health Commission (NHC) and State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) jointly [published](#) (in Chinese) several new national food safety standards.
- Of interest to the CCB, the list includes *GB 4806.15-2024 National Food Safety Standard Adhesives for Food Contact Materials and Products*.
- The above standard texts can be viewed and downloaded on the [national food safety standard data platform](#). However, this page may not be accessible from outside China.

## GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**USDA FAS Publishes Translation of Revised Chinese Food Labeling Standard**

- On March 14, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) published a [GAIN Report](#) providing an unofficial English translation of China's draft revision to its *National Food Safety Standard of General Principles for the Labeling of Prepackaged Foods*, which was notified to the WTO in February (*BCI Monitors 2-13-24, 2-20-24*). The revised draft includes the following revisions:
  - Revision to Article 4.7.1, removing the final sentence on marking the production date and shelf life on the outermost packaging of the sales units when the sales unit has multiple layers of packaging.
  - In Article 4.7.1.2, the section on labeling and shelf-life date indications for foods produced by subpackaging was removed.
  - The final paragraph of A.2 in Appendix A on the requirements for minimum character height of the date and ratio of height to width was removed.

**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

### **Brazil Publishes 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of Food Contact Materials Q&A Document**

- On February 29, Brazil's National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) published the [6<sup>th</sup> edition](#) (in Portuguese) of the questions and answers document on food contact materials.
- Updates include changes made since the last revision, as well as new answers on questions such as chemical recycling of plastic, biodegradable and compostable packaging, wood and fabrics for food contact, and references for updating positive lists.

### **Singapore Notifies Consolidation of Food Standards, Novel and GM Food Draft Provision**

- On March 15, Singapore [notified the WTO](#) of its ongoing efforts to consolidate its disparate food-related legislation into a single Food Safety and Security Bill (FSSB). As Singapore develops the FSSB, it will release draft provisions of the bill for consultation. Included in its notification to the WTO is the [first of these consultations](#) on [draft provisions for novel and genetically modified \(GM\) foods](#).
- The notified draft provision defines novel and GM foods and outlines the pre-market approval process for these defined foods, which must be completed prior to their sale in Singapore.
- The FSSB's proposed date of adoption is in the fourth quarter of 2024. BCI will report on new draft provision consultations as they open.
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at [us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov](mailto:us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). The WTO comment deadline is May 14, 2024.