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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **USDA Publishes Stone Fruit Annual Report for Taiwan**
- **APHIS Publishes Dates for Upcoming Plant Bilateral Meetings**
- **Canada Opens Consultation on Guidance for New Greenwashing Provisions**
- **EU Notifies Updated Plant Pest Control Regulation**
- **USTR Opens Consultation on China's Compliance with WTO Commitments**

SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USDA Publishes Stone Fruit Annual Report for Taiwan

- On August 1, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) published its [stone fruit annual report for Taiwan](#).
- Taiwan's supply of cherries is reliant on imports due to an unfavorable climate for domestic production.
- FAS predicts that Taiwan's cherry imports in marketing year (MY, April - March) 2024/25 will decrease by 3.8% to 11,800 MT from MY 2023/24's 12,268 MT due to increased border inspections which began in MY 2023/24 following pesticide residue violations. Additionally, Taiwan sources most of its cherries from Chile and from Washington State, the latter of which saw lower production in the most recent season due to hot weather. The strong U.S. dollar and increased shipping and retail prices for U.S. cherries have increased prices by 15-20%, however consumers are less sensitive to increased prices for cherries due to less diversity of fruit available during the winter.
- U.S. cherries continue to be the primary source of cherries for Taiwan due to direct flights and shorter transport time when compared to Chile. While Turkey gained market access for fresh cherries in 2021, there have not yet been any exports.

APHIS Publishes Dates for Upcoming Plant Bilateral Meetings

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) updated information on its Plant Health Technical Bilateral Meetings [webpage](#), including the following:
- The date for the U.S. – Vietnam Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been scheduled for August 26, 2024: (in-person, Washington, D.C.). Contact Lisa Kohl for details, lisa.m.kohl@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – Thailand Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been scheduled for August 27 to 28, 2024: (in-person, Washington, D.C.). Contact Sajedul Islam for details, sajedul.islam@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – China Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for September 2 to 6, 2024: (virtual or in-person, Guangzhou, China). Contact Matt Messenger for details, matthew.t.messenger@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – EU Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been scheduled for October 2-3, 2024: (virtual). Contact Prakash Hebbar for details, prakash.hebbar@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – Mexico Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 22, 2024: (in-person at NAPPO, Tucson, AZ). Contact Amanda Elkhateeb for details, amanda.m.elkhateeb@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – Canada Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 24, 2024: (in-person at NAPPO, Tucson, AZ). Contact Fan Wang-Cahill for details, fan.wang-cahill@usda.gov.
- The date for the U.S. – South Korea Plant Health Bilateral Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for the week of November 4, 2024: (in-person, Korea). Contact Lisa Kohl for details, lisa.m.kohl@usda.gov.

**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Canada Opens Consultation on Guidance for New Greenwashing Provisions

- On July 22, Competition Bureau Canada [announced](#) a [public consultation](#) to inform development of industry enforcement guidance on the [new greenwashing provisions](#) under the *Competition Act* published on June 20, 2024.
- The new provisions are aimed to tackle the marketing and advertising of unsubstantiated environmental claims, including claims on product labels. The new provisions:
 - Require that claims about the environmental benefits of a product be supported by adequate and proper testing (74.01 1); (b.1).
 - Require that claims about the environmental benefits of a business or business activity be based on adequate and proper substantiation in accordance with an internationally recognized methodology (74.01 1); (b.2).
- Feedback consultation questions can be found on the public consultation page linked above.
- Comments are due by September 27, 2024, and can be emailed to greenwashingconsultationecoblanchiment@cb-bc.gc.ca.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) recently published a [GAIN Report](#) summarizing the new provisions and consultation.

EU Notifies Updated Plant Pest Control Regulation

- On July 29, the European Union (EU) [notified](#) the WTO regarding the adoption of [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2024/2004](#) of 23 July, 2024, which amends [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2072](#) on pest lists and the control of plant products in the EU.
- Of interest to CCB, the amendments do not include any changes to requirements for sweet cherries (*Prunus avium*).
- The amended regulation enters into force on August 15, 2024, apart from certain points which will be implemented in 2025 as specified in Article 2 of *Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2004*.

USTR Opens Consultation on China's Compliance with WTO Commitments

- On August 5, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) published a ["Request for Comments and Notice of Public Hearing Concerning China's Compliance With WTO Commitments"](#).
- Ahead of its annual report to Congress, the USTR is gathering feedback from industry on the commitments made in connection with its accession to the WTO, including, but not limited to, commitments in the following areas:
 - Trading Rights
 - Import Regulation (tariffs, quotas, import license, etc.)
 - Export Regulation
 - Internal policies affecting trade
 - Intellectual property rights
 - Services
 - Rule of law issues
 - Other WTO commitments
- Comments are due by September 10, 2024, and can be submitted via [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), using Docket Number USTR-2024-0012. Additionally, there will be a public hearing on the topic on September 24, 2024. Details are available in the official notice.
- Further information is available from the Deputy Director for China Affairs, Alex Martin, at Thomas.A.Martin@ustr.eop.gov.