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General Issues of Interest to the CCB:

Chilean Fruit Group Calls for Infrastructure Improvements to Remain Competitive

- The Federation of Fruit Producers of Chile (Fedefruta) recently voiced concerns that Chile risks losing its competitive edge in exports, particularly fruit, due to insufficient logistics infrastructure compared to Peru's newly inaugurated Chancay mega-port, according to [media reporting](#).
- The new Port of Chancay, built with a \$3.5 billion investment and 60% Chinese ownership, is set to reduce South America-to-Asia shipping times from 35-40 days to 23 days, becoming a key hub for regional trade with Asia.
- Fedefruta reportedly urged the Chilean government and private sector to fast-track port and infrastructure projects to stay competitive, with improved highways, railways, and port facilities playing a critical role. Chile's current infrastructure is labeled as sufficient but becoming inadequate within a decade without expedited improvements.
- Overall, the development is expected to enhance shipping activity across South America and facilitate direct connections with Asia to boost efficiency, strengthening trade between Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Colombia, and China.

Changes to Net Quantity Units of Measurement for Non-Retail Containers Enters into Force

- On November 13, Canada's changes to [Units of Measurement for the Net Quantity Declaration of Certain Foods](#) entered into force.
- Under the [previous version](#), most fresh fruits and vegetables in non-retail containers – including cherries – were required to declare net quantity by weight (*BCI Monitor 6-4-24*).
- In a WTO [notice](#), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) clarified that the changes were made to allow for the use of numerical count for the net quantity declaration on non-retail containers (such as crates, cases, master cartons, and shipping containers) of fresh fruits or vegetables.
- CFIA further stated that this change should not result in the need to make changes to food labels. In addition, this will not affect the level of inspection, what is inspected or how food labels are inspected.

Singapore Announces Future Consolidated Food Safety Bill

- On November 12, Singapore's Food Agency (SFA) [announced](#) its new [Food Safety and Security Bill](#) for its first reading in Parliament.
- Of potential interest to CCB, the draft Bill would harmonize existing food-related legislation into a single food safety and security bill for industry clarity and ease of use. It would also clarify the food-related regulations that may be made for health promotion purposes.
- Singapore's Parliament will debate the Bill at its second reading in January 2025.

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