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**SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:**

**Thailand Updates on Pesticide Residue Monitoring for Imported Cherries**

- A recent U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) [GAIN report](#) highlighted ongoing implementation of Thailand's risk-based pesticide residue monitoring framework for imported produce, including fresh cherries.
- Under the program, shipments with pesticide residue violations may be subject to 100 percent inspection requirements until three consecutive compliant commercial shipments are achieved. Cherries remain classified by Thailand as a "High Risk" commodity for pesticide monitoring purposes. As of April 2026, multiple U.S. cherry exporters were listed under Thailand's "Very High Risk" category for residues associated with fenpropathrin and lambda-cyhalothrin.
- Thailand continues to implement a risk-based maximum residue limit (MRL) monitoring framework aligned with Codex and ASEAN standards for imported produce. Thailand also applies a default MRL of 0.01 ppm for commodity-pesticide combinations where no Thai, Codex, or ASEAN standard has been established.

**GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:**

**European Commission Publishes EU Deforestation Regulation Simplification Package**

- On May 4, the European Commission [published a report](#) on its simplification package for the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). The package includes updated guidance, revised FAQs, a draft delegated act on product scope, and information system updates aimed at reducing compliance burdens ahead of the regulation's implementation date on December 30, 2026. The draft delegated act is [open for public feedback](#) through June 1, 2026.
- Notably, the proposed amendments to the delegated act clarify that ordinary packaging materials used exclusively to support, protect, or transport another product would generally be excluded from EUDR scope. The proposed exemptions cover single-use and reusable packaging materials and containers, including items such as wooden pallets, crates, cartons, and paperboard packaging accompanying exported goods.
- Additional details regarding the package are provided in a recent USDA FAS [GAIN report](#).

**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

### India Amends Food Labeling Regulation

- India's Food Safety and Standard Authority recently published [Food Safety and Standards \(Labelling and Display\) First Amendment Regulations, 2026](#) (English starting on pg 5), amending [The Food Safety and Standards \(Labelling and Display\) Regulations, 2020](#).
- The amendments of potential interest to CCB include:
  - An update to the exemption definition of minimally processed raw agricultural products, such as fruits and vegetables that comprise a single ingredient.
  - Comprehensive updates to what must appear on non-retail food product packaging, including required statements, identifying information (name, manufacturer/packing info, FSSAI logo, etc.), and declarations.
  - A requirement that non-retail food labeling be clear, prominent, and applied in such a manner that any tampering will be apparent.
- These amendments enter into force on July 1, 2027. In the interim, current regulations remain in force. Notably, the USDA FAS has published a [GAIN report](#) on these amendments.

### Costa Rica Advances Toward CPTPP Membership

- According to a May 7 [announcement](#) from the United Kingdom (UK) Department for Business and Trade, Costa Rica has been granted accession to the [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership](#) (CPTPP).
- The CPTPP is made up of Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, United Kingdom, and Vietnam. CPTPP entered into force in 2018 as a successor to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The bloc continues to expand, with the UK noting ongoing or planned accession discussions with countries including Uruguay, Indonesia, Philippines, and the United Arab Emirates.
- The UK said Costa Rica's accession will expand market access for a range of products and services, including duty-free treatment over time for products such as cheese, pork, biscuits, beef, confectionery, and animal feed. The agreement also includes commitments related to services, investment, government procurement, financial services, state-owned enterprises, and temporary entry for business professionals.