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**A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

EU Parliament Approves EU-U.S. Trade Agreement with Added Safeguards

- On June 16, the Parliament of the European Union (EU) [approved](#) the EU-U.S. trade agreement that the two parties agreed to in their [joint statement](#) in August 2025 (*BCI Monitors 8-26-25, 9-2-25*).
- Notably, the approved tariff legislation includes four new clauses of potential interest:
 - A sunset clause, which sets the tariff relief provided to expire on December 31, 2029. The EU will publish an assessment by June 30, 2029, on whether to renew or renegotiate the terms of the deal.
 - A steel and aluminum exemption, which allows the EU to suspend tariff relief for steel and aluminum derivatives by December 31, 2026, if the U.S. does not reciprocate by relaxing its tariffs on said products.
 - A strengthened suspension clause, allowing the EU to suspend tariff preferences if the U.S. does not relax its tariffs as previously agreed.
 - A safeguard mechanism, which allows the EU to selectively suspend certain tariff relief if it is determined that said relief is causing serious injury to EU industry or the EU agricultural sector.
- The legislation now moves to the European Council where it is expected to be ratified on June 26, 2026. The legislation will then be published in the EU's official gazette and enter into force the day after publication.

EU Concludes Trade Agreement Negotiations with ESA4

- On June 9, the European Union (EU) [published](#) a joint statement on its recent [conclusion of negotiations](#) on an enhanced Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the States of Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA4), which includes Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles.
- Alongside various investment and sustainability commitments, the EU highlights expanded agri-food trade and cooperation. While the exact details have yet to be released, BCI will continue to monitor for publication.
- The two parties will now go through their respective domestic processes to ratify the negotiated agreement prior to signing and entry into force.

Enforcement of EU Amended Regulation on Non-Quarantine Pests

- The European Union's (EU) [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2025/2249](#) regarding the list and measures for regulated non-quarantine pests will be enforced from July 6, 2026. The EU adopted the implementing regulation November 11, 2025, and it entered into force December 1, 2025 (*BCI Monitor 11-18-25*).
- The regulation amends Annexes IV and V of [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2072](#) to reflect the latest updated version of the international nomenclature for pests and incorporates other changes to improve the organization of the regulation. No changes specific to sweet cherries (*Prunus avium*) were identified.

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:
 - U.S. - China Plant Health Bilateral Meeting, week of June 29, 2026 (in-person; Guangzhou, China). Contact Matt Messenger for details, ppq.pim.requestsmanagement@usda.gov.
 - U.S.- New Zealand Plant Health Bilateral Meeting, week of July 27, 2026 (in-person; Salem, Oregon). Contact John Crowe for details, ppq.pim.requestsmanagement@usda.gov.
 - U.S.- Chile Plant Health Bilateral Meeting, week of August 3, 2026 (in-person; Chile). Contact Eric Longen for details, ppq.pim.requestsmanagement@usda.gov.
 - U.S.- Taiwan Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Meeting, week of September 14, 2026 (in-person; Taiwan). Contact Lisa Kohl for details, ppq.pim.requestsmanagement@usda.gov.
 - U.S.- EU Plant Health Bilateral Meeting, week of September 28, 2026 (in-person; Savannah, Georgia). Contact Lakshmanan Ramamoorthi for details, ppq.pim.requestsmanagement@usda.gov.

Argentina Incorporates Three Mercosur Food Contact Materials Regulations

- On June 8, Argentina's National Administration of Drugs, Food and Medical Devices (ANMAT) [announced](#) the gazettal of [Joint Resolution 6/2026](#), the incorporation into the [Argentine Food Code](#) (all in Spanish) of three Mercosur food contact materials (FCMs) resolutions.
- The joint resolution incorporates the following Mercosur resolutions:
 - [GMC Resolution No. 19/21](#) (in Spanish) amending *GMC Resolution No. 02/12* on the positive list of monomers, other starting substances, and polymers authorized for the manufacture of plastic containers and equipment in contact with food.
 - [GCM Resolution No. 20/21](#) (in Spanish) amending *GCM Resolution No. 56/92* on the general provisions for plastic containers and equipment in contact with food.
 - [GMC Resolution No. 21/21](#) (in Spanish) amending *GMC Resolution No. 40/15* on the regulation of cellulosic materials, containers, and equipment intended to be in contact with food.
- The joint resolution entered into force June 9, 2026.