BCI MONITOR

BRYANT CHRISTIE INC.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A REPORT FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHERRY BOARD

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USTR Imposes 25% Tariffs on Brazilian Imports Following Section 301 Investigation

- On July 15, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) announced a notice of action imposing an additional 25% tariff on imports from Brazil, with certain exemptions, concluding the Section 301 investigation into Brazil's trade practices launched one year earlier (*BCI Monitor 7-22-25*). The tariffs apply to goods entered for consumption on or after July 22, 2026.
- The investigation covered Brazil's practices related to digital trade and electronic payment services; unfair, preferential tariffs; anti-corruption enforcement; intellectual property protection; ethanol market access; and illegal deforestation. The notice exempts over 850 tariff lines, including raw materials, products unavailable in sufficient quantities from domestic or alternative sources, and goods subject to Section 232 tariffs.
- Fresh cherries (HS 0809.29) are not included in the exemption list, although Brazil is not a significant supplier of cherries to the United States.
- The Brazilian government responded by announcing it will initiate countermeasure procedures under its *2025 Reciprocity Law*, which authorizes trade restrictions and the suspension of investment or intellectual property-related obligations, and will resume WTO dispute settlement consultations initiated in August 2025. Administration officials reportedly indicated that negotiations with Brazil could continue, while cautioning that retaliation could prompt the U.S. to modify its action.

UK Opens Consultation on Deepening Trade Relationships with Indonesia, the Philippines, UAE, and Uruguay

- On July 14, the United Kingdom's (UK) Department for Business and Trade opened a consultation seeking input on deepening trade relationships with Indonesia, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Uruguay (*BCI Monitors 11-25-25*).
- As previously reported, these four economies have been flagged as leading candidates for further accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). Parties to the CPTPP, including the UK, established an Accession Working Group with Uruguay in 2025, and on June 26, 2026, announced the start of preparatory discussions on accession with Indonesia, the Philippines, and the UAE.
- The UK states that CPTPP accession represents the most likely route to deepening relationships with most of these economies, though the consultation also invites views on other trade policy mechanisms, including bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs), where relevant.
- Supporting materials include a call for input and individual information notes for each of the four economies, plus a general note on FTAs and CPTPP accession.
- Comments are due September 14, 2026, and responses can be submitted via the online survey linked in the consultation notice.

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UK-India Free Trade Agreement Enters into Force

- The UK-India Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (UK-India CETA), signed on July 24, 2025, entered into force on July 15, 2026, following completion of both parties' internal ratification procedures (*BCI Monitor 7-29-25*).
- As previously reported, the UK eliminates tariffs on all fruit imported from India under HS Chapter 8 upon entry into force. India excluded cherries from tariff reductions.
- The agreement also supports food and agricultural trade through streamlined sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) provisions.