

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- South African Cherries Gain Market Access to China
- Enforcement of EU Amendments to Plastic Food Contact Material Regulation

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

South African Cherries Gain Market Access to China

- On September 8, South Africa and China [signed](#) a phytosanitary protocol during the 9th Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Ministerial Meeting in Beijing, granting South African cherries market access to China for the first time.
- The deal falls under the recent *Economic Partnership Framework Agreement for Shared Development*, which provides zero-tariff access for South African products to the Chinese market (*BCI Monitor* 4/14/26).
- The deal is significant as China is the world's largest cherry importer: China imported nearly 586,900 metric tons (MT) of cherries in 2025, valued at approximately \$3.3 billion.

Enforcement of EU Amendments to Plastic Food Contact Material Regulation

- On September 16, the European Union's (EU) [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2025/351](#), amending [Regulation \(EU\) No 10/2011](#), [Regulation \(EU\) 2022/1616](#), and [Regulation \(EC\) No 2023/2006](#), and repealing [Regulation \(EC\) No 282/2008](#), will be enforced (*BCI Monitors* 3-26-24, 4-9-24, 3-4-25).
- As previously reported, the amendments to *Regulation (EU) No. 10/2011* include the following provisions of potential interest to CCB:
 - The compositional requirements in Chapter 2 of the regulation are clarified to include all plastic FCMs. Previously, the requirements could be misinterpreted to only apply to multi-layer FCM packaging.
 - Article 14a on labeling is added to the regulation. Article 14a requires the party responsible for placing a FCM intended for repeated use on the market to provide information about its maximum life to the end-user through labeling. Labeling should include instructions on slowing deterioration of the FCM and a description of deterioration that may indicate that it has reached its maximum lifespan.
- The regulation entered into force March 13, 2025. Plastic materials and articles complying with *Regulation (EU) No 10/2011* placed on the EU market before September 16, 2026, may continue to be sold until stocks are exhausted.

A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD

Bryant Christie Inc. – Seattle
2033 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1030
Seattle, WA 98121
Phone: (206) 292-6340 Fax: (206) 292-6341

Bryant Christie Inc. – Sacramento
2005 "I" Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95811
Phone: (916) 492-7062 Fax: (916) 492-7061