



Newsletter

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U.S.-CHINA SIGN PHASE ONE TRADE DEAL

On January 15, 2020, President Trump and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He signed an initial "Phase One" trade agreement. This agreement is said to include commitments by China to purchase \$200 billion of U.S. goods, including an additional \$32 billion in agricultural products over two years. This \$32 billion will be broken down to \$12.5 billion in the year 2020 and \$19.5 billion in the year 2021. It is important to note that U.S. apples could potentially be included in the list of products subject to China's purchase commitments; there are no specific purchase commitments for U.S. apples outlined in the agreement at this time. Rather, the list remains vague and features general HS code chapter headings, such as HS code 0810 for "fruit, fresh."

Aside from additional agricultural purchase commitments, this agreement also includes commitments from both the U.S. and China to uphold science and risk-based sanitary and phytosanitary measures, in addition to increasing technical consultation on maximum residual levels (MRLs). Further, this agreement unfortunately did not include any commitments from China to reduce and/or eliminate any of the existing retaliatory tariffs on U.S. products. Therefore, the existing 40% tariff on U.S. apples will remain at this time, however, it has been suggested that a "Phase Two" agreement could address these tariff issues in the near future.

The CAC staff will continue to monitor the "Phase One" deal, and will provide any additional information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to contact the CAC office with any questions.

PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS USMCA TRADE AGREEMENT

In late January, the U.S. Mexico Canada Free Trade Agreement (USMCA) was officially signed by President Trump. It is expected that the agreement will be put into force in July, however no affirmative date has been provided at this point. Canada still remains the last country who must ratify the agreement, although it has been reported that Canada has begun the ratification process to approve the agreement following recent actions by the U.S. The CAC will continue to monitor the progress of this agreement in the Canadian government, and will keep the industry informed. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the CAC office with any questions regarding this agreement.

eDISCLOSURE FOR e-FILING FORM 700

As outlined by CDFA and the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), all Board of Directors must complete the necessary Form 700. Board members are now eligible to submit their Form 700s

electronically through eDisclosure. To access the eDisclosure system and complete e-filing Form 700, please log on to www.form700.fppc.ca.gov. Upon logging in, you will see a list of positions that you are required to file a Form 700 for. Once completed, your Form 700 will be saved in your online-filing cabinet under "Previous Filings" menu.

As a reminder, the Form 700 is due April 1, 2020.

Should you have any problems accessing or completing your eDisclosure Form 700, please contact your assigned filing officer, Andrea Carey, at (916) 323-3213 or via email at Form700@fppc.ca.gov. As always, the Commission can help you file your Form 700. Please contact the Commission office for assistance.

UPCOMING CA APPLE ELECTIONS

The California Apple Commission will host district meeting conference calls to nominate its candidates for the 2020 – 2021 Board of Directors. All district meeting conference calls will be on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at the Apple Commission office via Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/992137841> or by Conference Call at 1(669) 900 - 6833 - Meeting ID: 992 137 841. District 1 will begin at 9:00 a.m., District 2 will begin at 9:30 a.m., and District 3 will begin at 10:00 a.m. An election notice was mailed to all California growers. Please contact the CAC with any questions.

COMMISSION TO ATTEND CAPITOL HILL DAY

The California Apple Commission will be visiting Washington, D.C. from March 9-12, 2020. The purpose of this visit is to attend the US Apple Association and U.S. Apple Export Council Board Meetings, and to meet with Congressional members to provide information on current problems facing the apple industry. Topics to be discussed will include labor, trade, water, tariffs and export issues, among others. If you would like more information about the upcoming visit, please contact the Commission office.

COMMISSION ATTENDS FRUIT LOGISTICA TRADESHOW

On February 3-7, 2020, the California Apple Commission, along with CAC's Chairman, Jeff Colombini, participated in the Fruit Logistica trade show, located in Berlin, Germany, through the U.S. Apple Export Council. Fruit Logistica is the largest fresh fruit show in the world. It covers the fresh produce business and offers a complete picture of the latest innovations, projects, and services in the international supply chain.

This trade show provides the Commission with the unique opportunity to reach a vast audience of retailers and importers from around the world. If you would like more information and plan on attending next year, please contact the Commission office.

INTERN PARTICIPATES IN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

On January 2-12, the Commission's intern, Nicole Helms, participated in a 10-day study abroad through Fresno State to Santiago, Chile. The Chilean study abroad program primarily focused on agricultural production in Chile. In addition to touring farms and packing houses, the students had the opportunity to meet with USDA at the U.S. Embassy and tour the APHIS inspection site at Valparaiso's port. The exposure to another countries agricultural production and practices has instilled a greater appreciation and understanding of the importance of pest and control measures and trade that the U.S. and other countries participate in.



Intern, Nicole Helms, visited an avocado farm in Quillota, Chile.

APPLE BITES

Kale & Feta Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 bunch kale, large stems discarded, leaves finely chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
- 1 California apple, diced
- 1/3 cup feta cheese
- 1/4 cup currants
- 1/4 cup toasted pine nuts

Directions:

1. Massage kale with salt in a large mixing bowl for 2 minutes. Pour vinegar over the kale and toss to coat. Fold apple, feta cheese, currants, and pine nuts into the kale.

Recipe courtesy of allrecipes.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Capitol Hill Day/US Apple/USAEC
 - March 9-12, 2020
 - Washington, D.C.
- CA Grown Board Meeting
 - March 28, 2020
 - Sacramento, CA



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