

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Japan proposes changes to the MRLs for Acequinocyl Cloransulam-methyl and 5 other substances

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

On November 2, 2010, Government of Japan announced proposed changes to the MRLs for Acequinocyl, Cloransulam-methyl, Mepronil, Metominostrobin, Pyridalyl, Pyriminobac-methyl, and Trinexapac-ethyl. The comment period will close on November 16, 2010. After the domestic comment period closes, MHLW will then notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee, which will provide another opportunity to submit public comments on this subject.

Executive Summary:

On November 2, 2010, Government of Japan announced proposed changes to the MRLs for Acequinocyl, Cloransulam-methyl, Mepronil, Metominostrobin, Pyridalyl, Pyriminobac-methyl, and Trinexapac-ethyl. The period for sending comments on these changes ends Tuesday, November 16, 2010. If you have comments it is best to send directly to MHLW as soon as possible. However, MHLW will also notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee, which will provide another chance for public comments to be submitted on this subject. The actual WTO-SPS notifications can be found at the site below.

http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/work_and_doc_e.htm

After the closing of a the comment period in the WTO, a final report will be made based on the conclusions of a session of the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council slated to be held at a later date; this will constitute the final decision.

The comments to GOJ can be either Japanese or English. GOJ point of contact for the comment is indicated below.

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If you have comments, please send them directly to the Japanese Government at:

Please also consider copying the U.S. Embassy, Tokyo at agtokyo@usda.gov on your comments in order for them to be considered as part of the official U.S. Government comments to the WTO.

General Information:**Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits for Agricultural Chemicals in Food**Summary

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) is going to develop the compositional specification for food.

Under the provisions of Article 11, Paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Law, the MHLW is authorized

to establish residue standards (maximum residue limits: MRLs) for pesticides, feed additives, and veterinary drugs (hereafter referred to as just “agricultural chemicals”) that may remain in foods. Any food for which standards are established pursuant to the provisions is not permitted to be marketed in Japan unless it complies with the established standards.

On May 29, 2006, the MHLW introduced the positive list system for agricultural chemicals in food.* Basically, all foods distributed in the Japanese marketplace are subject to regulation based on the system.

This time the MHLW has newly established MRLs (draft) for some food commodities as well as has comprehensively reviewed the current MRLs. This activity is targeted to seven pesticides (Acequinocyl, Cloransulam-methyl, Mepronil, Metominostrobin, Pyridalyl, Pyriminobac-methyl, and Trinexapac-ethyl). Details are given below.

Note: The positive list system was established based on the 2003 amendment of the Food Sanitation Law. The system aims to prohibit the distribution of any food in the Japanese marketplace if it contains agricultural chemicals at amounts exceeding a certain level (0.01 ppm) specified under the Law.

Outline of revision

Acequinocyl (acaricide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) has decided to expand the scope of target crops for which the use of the chemical is permitted. In response to the MAFF’s action, the MHLW has newly established MRLs (draft) for some crops.

Cloransulam-methyl (herbicide): This chemical is not permitted for use in Japan. The MHLW has comprehensively reviewed the MRLs established at the introduction of the positive list system.

Mepronil (fungicide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. In response to a request from MAFF for the setting of a residue limit for the “fish and shellfish” category, the MHLW has newly established a specific MRL (draft) for this category. In addition, the MHLW has reviewed the MRLs established at the introduction of the positive list system.

Metominostrobin (fungicide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. In response to a request from MAFF for the setting of a residue limit for the “fish and shellfish” category, the MHLW has newly established a specific MRL (draft) for this category. In addition, the MHLW has reviewed the MRLs established at the introduction of the positive list system.

Pyridalyl (insecticide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. The MAFF has decided to expand the scope of target crops for which the use of the chemical is permitted. In response to the MAFF’s action, the MHLW has newly established MRLs (draft) for some crops.

Pyriminobac-methyl (herbicide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. In response to a request from MAFF for the setting of a residue limit for the “fish and shellfish” category, the MHLW has examined whether to establish a specific MRL. As a result, the MHLW has decided not to set any limit for this category.

Trinexapac-ethyl (plant growth regulator): This chemical is not permitted for use on crops in Japan. The MHLW has comprehensively reviewed the MRLs established at the introduction of the positive list system.

The current MRLs for Cloransulam-methyl, Mepronil, Metominostrobin, and Trinexapac-ethyl appear in the Provisional MRLs List (Item 7, Section A “General Compositional Standards for Food,” Part I “Food” of the Specifications and Standards for Food, Food Additives, Etc.). These MRLs have been modified as necessary. Finalized MRLs will be placed on the MRLs List (Item 6 of the same section) and the MRLs currently placed in Item 7 will be deleted.

Acequinocyl

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Beans, dry (including butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans.	0.5	0.5
Yam	0.2	0.2
Other composite vegetables	5	
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	2	
Egg plant	1	1
Other solanaceous vegetables	1	1.0
Cucumber (including gherkin)	0.5	0.5
Pumpkin (including squash)	0.5	0.5
Oriental pickling melon (vegetable)	0.7	0.7
Water melon	0.1	0.1
Melons	0.1	0.1
<i>Makuwauri</i> melon	0.1	0.1
Other cucurbitaceous vegetables	0.7	0.7

Other vegetables	1	0.7
Unshu orange, pulp	0.2	0.2
Citrus <i>natsudaikai</i>, whole	2	2
Lemon	1	1
Orange (including navel orange)	2	2
Grapefruit	2	2
Lime	2	2
Other citrus fruits	1	1
Apple	0.7	1
Japanese pear	1	1
Pear	1	1
Quince	0.4	0.4
Loquat	0.4	0.4
Peach	0.1	0.1
Nectarine	1	1
Japanese plum (including prune)	0.7	0.7
Mume plum	2	
Cherry	2	2
Strawberry	2	2
Other berries		
Grape	0.5	0.5
Papaya	1	1
Mango	0.5	0.5
Other fruits	2	2
Chestnut	0.02	0.02
Pecan	0.02	0.02
Almond	0.02	0.02
Walnut	0.02	0.02
Other nuts	0.02	0.02
Tea	40	40
Other spices	5	5
Other herbs	10	10
Cattle, fat	0.02	0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, fat	0.02	0.02
Cattle, liver	0.02	0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, liver	0.02	0.02

* The MRLs are established as the sum of the parent compound acequinocyl and hydroxyl acequinocyl (3-Dodecyl-2-hydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone), calculated as acequinocyl.

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities not listed above.

* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word *other* is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

Cloransulam-methyl

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Soybeans, dry	0.02	0.06

* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities not listed above.

Mepronil

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Rice (brown rice)	2	2.0
Wheat	2	2.0
Barley	2	2.0
Rye	2	2.0
Other cereal grains	2	
Potato	0.02	1.0
Konjac	0.1	1.0
Sugar beet	0.2	1.0
Japanese radish, roots (including radish)	0.02	1.0
Japanese radish, leaves (including radish)	1	5.0
Lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce)	1	1.0
Other composite vegetables	0.2	1.0
Tomato	0.02	1.0
Cucumber (including gherkin)	0.02	1.0
Water melon	0.02	2.0
Spinach	0.7	1.0
Japanese pear	1	2.0
Pear	1	2.0
Grape	2	5.0
Other herbs		1
Fish and shellfish	2	

* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word other is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

Metominostrobin

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Rice (brown rice)	0.5	0.5
Fish and shellfish	0.3	

* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities not listed above.

PyridalyI

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Soybeans, dry	0.2	0.2
Potato	0.05	0.05
Taro	0.05	0.05
Sweet potato	0.05	0.05
Japanese radish, roots (including radish)	0.1	0.1
Japanese radish, leaves (including radish)	5	5
Chinese cabbage	1	1
Cabbage	0.2	0.2
Qing-geng-cai	15	15
Broccoli	2	2
Lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce)	20	20
Other composite vegetables	5	5
Welsh (including leek)	5	5
Asparagus	3	3
Tomato	5	5
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	2	2
Egg plant	1	1
Other solanaceous vegetables	5	5
Cucumber (including gherkin)	0.5	0.5
Melons	0.05	0.05
Peas, immature (with pods)	5	5
Kidney beans, immature (with pods)	3	
Green soybeans	5	5
Other vegetables	5	
Strawberry	5	5
Other herbs	30	30

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities not listed above.

* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word *other* is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

Pyriminobac-methyl

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Rice (brown rice)	0.05	0.1

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities not listed above.

Trinexapac-ethyl

Commodity	MRL Draft ppm	MRL Current ppm
Rice (brown rice)		0.5
Wheat	0.6	0.02
Barley	0.6	0.02
Rye	0.6	0.02
Corn (maize, including pop corn and sweet corn)		0.02
Buckwheat		0.02
Other cereal grains	0.6	0.02
Soybeans, dry		0.02
Beans, dry (including butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans.		0.02
Peas		0.02
Broad beans		0.02
Peanuts, dry		0.02
Other legumes/pulses		0.02
Potato		0.02
Taro		0.02
Sweet potato		0.02
Yam		0.02
Konjac		0.02
Other potatoes		0.02
Sugar beet		0.02
Sugarcane		0.05

Japanese radish, roots (including radish)	0.02
Japanese radish, leaves (including radish)	0.02
Turnip, roots (including rutabaga)	0.02
Turnip, leaves (including rutabaga)	0.02
Horseradish	0.02
Watercress	0.02
Chinese cabbage	0.02
Cabbage	0.02
Brussels sprouts	0.02
Kale	0.02
<i>Komatsuna</i> (Japanese mustard spinach)	0.02
<i>Kyona</i>	0.02
Qing-geng-cai	0.02
Cauliflower	0.02
Broccoli	0.02
Other cruciferous vegetables	0.02
Burdock	0.02
Salsify	0.02
Artichoke	0.02
Chicory	0.02
Endive	0.02
<i>Shungiku</i>	0.02
Lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce)	0.02
Other composite vegetables	0.02
Onion	0.02
Welsh (including leek)	0.02
Garlic	0.02
<i>Nira</i>	0.02
Asparagus	0.02
Multiplying onion (including shallot)	0.02
Other liliaceous vegetables	0.02
Carrot	0.02
Parsnip	0.02
Parsley	0.02
Celery	0.02
<i>Mitsuba</i>	0.02
Other umbelliferous vegetables	0.02
Tomato	0.02
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	0.02
Egg plant	0.02
Other solanaceous vegetables	0.02

Cucumber (including gherkin)		0.02
Pumpkin (including squash)		0.02
Oriental pickling melon (vegetable)		0.02
Water melon		0.02
Melons		0.02
<i>Makuwauri</i> melon		0.02
Other cucurbitaceous vegetables		0.02
Spinach		0.02
Bamboo shoots		0.02
Okra		0.02
Ginger		0.02
Peas, immature (with pods)		0.02
Kidney beans, immature (with pods)		0.02
Green soybeans		0.02
Button mushroom		0.02
<i>Shiitake</i> mushroom		0.02
Other mushrooms		0.02
Other vegetables		0.02
<i>Unshu</i> orange, pulp		0.02
Citrus <i>natsudaikai</i> , whole		0.02
Lemon		0.02
Orange (including navel orange)		0.02
Grapefruit		0.02
Lime		0.02
Other citrus fruits		0.02
Apple		0.02
Japanese pear		0.02
Pear		0.02
Quince		0.02
Loquat		0.02
Peach		0.02
Nectarine		0.02
Apricot		0.02
Japanese plum (including prune)		0.02
Mume plum		0.02
Cherry		0.02
Strawberry		0.02
Raspberry		0.02
Blackberry		0.02
Blueberry		0.02

Cranberry		0.02
Huckleberry		0.02
Other berries		0.02
Grape		0.02
Japanese persimmon		0.02
Banana		0.02
Kiwifruit		0.02
Papaya		0.02
Avocado		0.02
Pineapple		0.02
Guava		0.02
Mango		0.02
Passion fruit		0.02
Date		0.02
Other fruits		0.02
Sunflower seeds		0.02
Sesame seeds		0.02
Safflower seeds		0.02
Cotton seeds		0.02
Rapeseeds		0.02
Other oil seeds		0.02
Ginkgo nut		0.02
Chestnut		0.02
Pecan		0.02
Almond		0.02
Walnut		0.02
Other nuts		0.02
Tea		0.02
Coffee beans		0.02
Cacao beans		0.02
Hop		0.02
Other spices		0.02
Other herbs		0.02

* The MRLs are established as the sum of the parent compound trinexapac-ethyl and its metabolite B (trinexapac), calculated as trinexapac-ethyl.

* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word *other* is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

Notes:

“Other cereal grains” refers to all cereal grains, except rice (brown rice), wheat, barley, rye, corn (maize), and buckwheat.

“Other legumes/pulses” refers to all legumes/pulses, except soybeans (dry), beans (dry), peas, broad beans, peanuts (dry), and spices.

“Other potatoes” refers to all potatoes, except potato, taro, sweet potato, yam, and konjac.

“Other cruciferous vegetables” refers to all cruciferous vegetables, except Japanese radish roots and leaves (including radish), turnip roots and leaves, horseradish, watercress, Chinese cabbage, cabbage, brussels sprouts, kale, *komatsuna* (Japanese mustard spinach), *kyona*, qing-geng-cai, cauliflower, broccoli, and herbs.

“Other composite vegetables” refers to all composite vegetables, except burdock, salsify, artichoke, chicory, endive, *shungiku*, lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce), and herbs.

“Other liliaceous vegetables” refers to all liliaceous vegetables, except onion, welsh (including leek), garlic, *nira*, asparagus, multiplying onion, and herbs.

“Other umbelliferous vegetables” refers to all umbelliferous vegetables, except carrot, parsnip, parsley, celery, *mitsuba*, spices, and herbs.

“Other solanaceous vegetables” refers to all solanaceous vegetables, except tomato, pimiento (sweet pepper), and egg plant.

“Other cucurbitaceous vegetables” refers to all cucurbitaceous vegetables, except cucumber (including gherkin), pumpkin (including squash), oriental pickling melon (vegetable), watermelon, melons, and *makuwauri* melon.

“Other mushrooms” refers to all mushrooms, except button mushroom, and *shiitake* mushroom.

“Other vegetables” refers to all vegetables, except potatoes, sugar beet, sugarcane, cruciferous vegetables, composite vegetables, liliaceous vegetables, umbelliferous vegetables, solanaceous vegetables, cucurbitaceous vegetables, spinach, bamboo shoots, okra, ginger, peas (with pods, immature), kidney beans (with pods, immature), green

soybeans, mushrooms, spices, and herbs.

“Other citrus fruits” refers to all citrus fruits, except *unshu* orange (pulp), citrus *natsudaidai* (pulp), citrus *natsudaidai* (peel), citrus *natsudaidai* (whole), lemon, orange (including navel orange), grapefruit, lime, and spices.

“Other berries” refers to all berries, except strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cranberry, and huckleberry.

“Other fruits” refers to all fruits, except citrus fruits, apple, Japanese pear, pear, quince, loquat, peach, nectarine, apricot, Japanese plum (including prune), mume plum, cherry, berries, grape, Japanese persimmon, banana, kiwifruit, papaya, avocado, pineapple, guava, mango, passion fruit, date and spices.

“Other oil seeds” refers to all oil seeds, except sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, safflower seeds, cotton seeds, rapeseeds and spices.

“Other nuts” refers to all nuts, except ginkgo nut, chestnut, pecan, almond and walnut.

“Other spices” refers to all spices, except horseradish, *wasabi* (Japanese horseradish) rhizomes, garlic, peppers chili, paprika, ginger, lemon peels, orange peels (including navel orange), *yuzu* (Chinese citron) peels and sesame seeds.

“Other herbs” refers to all herbs, except watercress, *nira*, parsley stems and leaves, celery stems and leaves.

“Other terrestrial mammals” refers to all terrestrial mammals, except cattle and pig.

“Other poultry animals” refers to all poultry, except chicken.

“Other fish” refers to all fish, except salmoniformes, anguilliformes, and perciformes.

“Other aquatic animals” refers to all aquatic animal, except fish, shelled molluscs and crustaceans.