

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** February 14,2020

**Report Number:** JA2020-0034

**Report Name:** Japan Finalizes Handling Procedures for Genome Edited Feed and Feed Additives

**Country:** Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Grain and Feed, Biotechnology - Plants and Animals, Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Biotechnology - Plants and Animals, Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

On February 7, 2020, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) released the final "Feed Safety Guidelines on the Handling of Genome Edited Feed and Feed Additives." MAFF made changes to the previously published draft guidelines, including to the handling of crossbred progeny when products meet specific conditions.

### **General Information:**

On February 7, 2020, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) released the final "Feed Safety Guidelines on the Handling of Genome Edited Feed and Feed Additives." From September 11 to October 10, 2019, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries held a public comment period for the Guidelines ([JA2019-0020](#)). MAFF made updates to the Guidelines between the close of the public comment period and the release of the final Guidelines, including to the handling of crossbred progeny. MAFF has not released a translated version of either the draft or final Guidelines. A comparison of section six, "Handling of Crossbred Progeny," using a provisional translation is included below. The Guidelines can be found here (in Japanese only):

[http://www.famic.go.jp/ffis/feed/sub1\\_tuti.html](http://www.famic.go.jp/ffis/feed/sub1_tuti.html)

### **Draft Guidelines in September 2019**

Starts.

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#### 6. Handling of Crossbred Progeny

(1) Regarding genome edited feed, notification is not required for the following.

- [1] Progenies crossbred between varieties of which notification to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries was announced or crossbred with a conventional breed variety.
- [2] Crossbred progenies between a variety of which notifications to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries were announced, and a living organism obtained using recombinant DNA technology of which safety assessment was completed.

(2) Among genome edited feeds, prior consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is required for progenies crossbred between those of which are judged that safety assessment is required or crossbred with a living organism of which the metabolic pathway is modified by recombinant DNA technology.

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Ends.

### **Final Guidelines in February 2020**

Starts.

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#### 6. Handling of Crossbred Progeny

MAFF shall request notification for crossbred progeny products derived from genome edited plants bred through conventional breeding techniques with conventional varieties\* if they fall into any of the three categories below:

1. Properties that are newly acquired through genome editing techniques change in the crossbred progeny cultivars,
2. Progeny is a result of crossbreeding between subspecies; and/or
3. There is a change in the amount of ingestion, edible part of the plant, or processing method, etc.

\* In addition to conventional cultivars, it includes, but not limited to, products notified to MAFF as genome edited, genetically engineered products granted with safety approval, etc.

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Ends.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.