

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** April 27, 2023

**Report Number:** JA2023-0039

**Report Name:** Japan 255th Food Safety Group

**Country:** Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

**Report Category:** Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

**Prepared By:** Tomohiro Kurai

**Approved By:** Mariya Rakhovskaya

**Report Highlights:**

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) proposed revisions to Japan's maximum residue levels for 6 agricultural chemicals (Bifenthrin, Flutolanil, Inpyrfluxam, Picarbutrazox, Pyribencarb, Sethoxydim) for various agricultural commodities. MHLW also proposed to designate zinc oxide as an exempted substance for an MRL establishment. In addition, MHLW proposed the draft of the "10th edition of the Official Compilation of Food Additives", which will revise specification and standards of foods and food additives. Interested U.S. parties should submit their comments to [PlantDivision@usda.gov](mailto:PlantDivision@usda.gov) for plant products and to [TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov](mailto:TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov) for animal products by May 5, 2023.

## General

On April 13, 2023, at the 255th Food Safety Group meeting, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) proposed revisions to Japan's maximum residue levels (MRLs) for the following six pesticides:

- Bifenthrin
- Flutolanil
- Inpyrfluxam
- Picarbutrazox
- Pyribencarb
- Sethoxydim

MHLW also proposed to newly designate zinc oxide as a substance "Having No Potential to Cause Damage to Human Health". This designation will exempt zinc oxide for an MRL establishment upon implementation.

In addition, MHLW proposed the draft of the "10th edition of the Official Compilation of Food Additives". This compilation (currently 9th edition) defines specification and standards of foods and food additives allowed in Japan.

For details of Japan's proposal, please consult the attached document distributed by MHLW. MHLW shared the document electronically with Tokyo-based embassies. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to submit their comments about plant-related proposals to [PlantDivision@usda.gov](mailto:PlantDivision@usda.gov) and animal-related proposals to [TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov](mailto:TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov) by May 5, 2023. Japan will subsequently notify these revisions to the World Trade Organization, which will provide another opportunity to comment.

## Attachments:

[255th FSG \(English\).pdf](#)