

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: April 27, 2023

Report Number: JA2023-0040

Report Name: Japan Invites Public Comment on the Guidelines for Handling Alcoholic Beverages with Organisms Developed with Genome Editing Technology

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Biotechnology - Plants and Animals, Beverages

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Report Highlights:

On April 21, Japan's National Tax Agency opened a public comment period for the Guidelines for Handling Alcoholic Beverages with Organisms Developed with Genome Editing Technology. The public comment period will close on May 25, 2023.

Background

On April 21, Japan's National Tax Agency (NTA), which is a part of the Ministry of Finance, opened a public comment period for the Guidelines for Handling Alcoholic Beverages with Organisms Developed from Genome Editing Technology.

The Ministry of Environment (MOE) set the Government of Japan's policy for the regulation of genome editing technologies ([JA9024](#)). The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) then developed the biodiversity and feed safety related guidance for the handling of genome edited organisms. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare also released food safety handling guidelines ([JA2021-0106](#)). Since the NTA has jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages ([JA2022-0079](#)) and it developed the draft guidelines for the handling of alcoholic beverages that contain organisms developed with genome editing technologies.

NTA requests product developers that use organisms derived from genome editing technology that the Cartagena Act does not categorize as genetically engineered to complete and provide a product information sheet to the Director for Analysis and Brewing Technology at NTA's Taxation Department prior to commercialization and as part of an in-advance consultation. More details and text of the proposed guidelines (Japanese only) can be found here: <https://public-comment.e-gov.go.jp/servlet/Public?CLASSNAME=PCMMSTDETAIL&id=410050030&Mode=0>.

Comments can be sent via one of three methods indicated below by May 25, 2023.

How to Submit Comments

1. Japanese Government's "e-Gov" system

Comments can be sent electronically via the "[e-Gov](#)" system which enables electronic submission of comments on regulatory proposals by the Japanese Government. The site for commenting on the proposed regulatory policy can be found at:

<https://public-comment.e-gov.go.jp/servlet/Public?CLASSNAME=PCMMSTDETAIL&id=410050030&Mode=0>

2. Mail

Comments can be mailed to the address below:

Director for Analysis and Brewing Technology

Taxation Department, National Tax Agency

3-1-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8978, Japan

3. Facsimile

Comments can be sent via fax to the number indicated below:

Facsimile number: 03- 3593-0406 (from outside Japan, +81-3- 3593-0406)
Director for Analysis and Brewing Technology
Taxation Department, National Tax Agency

Attachments:

No Attachments.