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New MRLs for hexazinone and triazophos

Report Categories:
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:
On October 7, 2017, the Government of Japan announced proposed changes to the MRLs for hexazinone and triazophos. The domestic comment period will close on October 21, 2011. After that, MHLW will notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee, which will provide another opportunity to submit public comments on this subject.

General Information:
On October 7, 2011, the Government of Japan held a meeting for foreign diplomats in Tokyo to announce proposed changes to the MRLs for hexazinone and triazophos. The period for sending comments on these changes ends Friday, October 21, 2011. If you have comments it is best to send them 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 the WTO comment period, a final report will be made based on the conclusions of a session held by the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council slated to be held at a later date. This will then constitute the final decision.

Comments can be submitted to GOJ can be either Japanese or English. The GOJ's point of contact for comments is indicated below. If you plan to make a submission, please send it directly to the Japanese Government at:

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Standards and Evaluation Division,
Department of Food Safety,
Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau,
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
1-2-2, Chiyoda-ku, Kasumigaseki, Tokyo, 100-8916
Tel: 03-5253-1111, ext. 2487
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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.

Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits for Agricultural Chemicals in Food

Summary

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) is going to develop compositional specifications for food.

Under the provisions of Article 11, Paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Law, the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare 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 two pesticides (Hexazinone and Triazophos). 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

Hexazinone (herbicide): Not permitted for use in Japan.

The MHLW has reviewed the MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system. MRLs of hexazinone are based on the standard and data from the U.S.

Triazophos (insecticide): Not permitted for use in Japan.

The MHLW has reviewed the MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system.

Hexazinone

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	MRL (current) ppm
Sugarcane	0.02	0.1
Blueberry	0.2	0.2
Pineapple	0.2	0.8
Cattle, muscle	0.5	0.1
Pig, muscle	0.5	0.1
Other terrestrial mammals, muscle	0.5	0.1
Cattle, fat	0.1	0.1
Pig, fat	0.1	0.1
Other terrestrial mammals, fat	0.1	0.1
Cattle, liver	4	0.1
Pig, liver	4	0.1
Other terrestrial mammals, liver	4	0.1
Cattle, kidney	4	0.1
Pig, kidney	4	0.1
Other terrestrial mammals, kidney	4	0.1
Cattle, edible offal (“Edible offal” refers to all edible parts,	4	0.1

except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)		
Pig, edible offal	**4**	**0.1**
Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal	**4**	**0.1**
Milk	**11**	**0.08**
Chicken, muscle		**0.05**
Other poultry animals, muscle		**0.05**
Chicken, fat		**0.05**
Other poultry animals, fat		**0.05**
Chicken, liver		**0.05**
Other poultry animals, liver		**0.05**
Chicken, kidney		**0.05**
Other poultry animals, kidney		**0.05**
Chicken, edible offal		**0.05**
Other poultry animals, edible offal		**0.05**
Chicken, eggs		**0.05**
Other poultry, eggs		**0.05**

Note: The MRLs are established for the residue of hexazinone only for plant products. Similarly, for animal products excluding milk, the MRLs are established for the sum of the residues of hexazinone and its metabolites, B [3-cyclohexyl-6-(methylamino)-1-methyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-(1*H*,3*H*)-dione] and F [3-cyclohexyl-6-amino-1-methyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-(1*H*,3*H*)-dione], expressed as hexazinone equivalents; and for milk the MRL is established for the sum of the residues of hexazinone and its metabolities, B [3-cyclohexyl-6-(methylamino)-1-methyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-(1*H*,3*H*)-dione], C [3-(4-hydroxycyclohexyl)-6-(methylamino)-1-methyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-(1*H*,3*H*)-dione], and F [3-cyclohexyl-6-amino-1-methyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-(1*H*,3*H*)-dione], expressed as hexazinone equivalents.

* 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.

Triazophos

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	MRL (current) ppm
Rice (brown rice)		**N.D.**
Wheat	**0.05**	**N.D.**
Barley	**0.05**	**N.D.**
Rye	**0.05**	**N.D.**

Corn (maize, including pop corn and sweet corn)	0.05	N.D.
Buckwheat	0.05	N.D.
Other cereal grains	0.05	N.D.
Soybeans, dry		N.D.
Beans, dry (including butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans)		0.2
Peas		0.02
Broad beans		N.D.
Peanuts, dry		0.02
Other legumes/pulses		0.02
Potato		N.D.
Taro		0.02
Sweet potato		0.02
Yam		0.02
Konjac		0.02
Other potatoes		0.02
Sugar beet		N.D.
Sugarcane		N.D.
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		0.1
Brussels sprouts		0.1
Kale		0.02
Komatsuna(Japanese mustard spinach)		0.02
Kyona		0.02
Qing-geng-cai		0.02
Cauliflower		0.1
Broccoli		0.02
Other cruciferous vegetables		0.02
Commodity	**MRL (draft) ppm**	**MRL (current) ppm**
Burdock		0.02
Salsify		0.02
Artichoke		0.02
Chicory		0.02
Endive		0.02
Shungiku		0.02
Lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce)		0.02

Other composite vegetables		**0.02**
Onion		**N.D.**
Welsh (including leek)		**0.02**
Garlic		**0.02**
Nira		**0.02**
Asparagus		**0.02**
Multiplying onion (including shallot)		**0.02**
Other liliaceous vegetables		**0.02**
Carrot		**0.5**
Parsnip		**1**
Parsley		**0.02**
Celery		**0.02**
Mitsuba		**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**
***Makuwauri* 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)		**0.1**
Kidney beans, immature (with pods)		**0.1**
Green soybeans		**0.02**
Button mushroom		**0.02**
***Shiitake* mushroom**		**0.02**
Other mushrooms		**0.02**
Other vegetables		**0.1**
Commodity	**MRL (draft) ppm**	**MRL (current) ppm**
***Unshu* orange, pulp**		**0.02**
Citrus *natsudaidai*, pulp		**0.02**
Citrus *natsudaidai*, peel		**0.02**
Citrus *natsudaidai*, whole		**0.02**
Lemon		**0.02**

Orange (including navel orange)		0.02
Grapefruit		0.02
Lime		0.02
Other citrus fruits		0.02
Apple		0.2
Japanese pear		0.2
Pear		0.2
Quince		0.2
Loquat		0.2
Peach		0.02
Nectarine		0.02
Apricot		0.02
Japanese plum (including prune)		0.02
Mume plum		0.02
Cherry		0.02
Strawberry		N.D.
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		N.D.
Avocado		0.02
Pineapple		0.02
Guava		0.02
Mango		0.02
Passion fruit		0.02
Date		0.02
Other fruits		0.02
Commodity	**MRL (draft) ppm**	**MRL (current) ppm**
Sunflower seeds		0.02
Sesame seeds		0.02
Safflower seeds		0.02
Cotton seeds	0.2	0.1
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		0.1
Tea		0.05
Coffee beans		N.D.
Cacao beans		N.D.
Hop		0.05
Other spices		0.1
Other herbs		0.1
Cattle, muscle		0.01
Pig, muscle		0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, muscle		0.02
Cattle, fat		0.01
Pig, fat		0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, fat		0.02
Cattle, liver		0.02
Pig, liver		0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, liver		0.02
Cattle, kidney		0.02
Pig, kidney		0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, kidney		0.02
Cattle, edible offal (“Edible offal” refers to all edible parts, except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)		0.02
Pig, edible offal		0.02
Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal		0.02
Milk		0.01
Chicken, muscle		0.02
Other poultry animals, muscle		0.02
Chicken, fat		0.02
Other poultry animals, fat		0.02
Chicken, liver		0.02
Other poultry animals, liver		0.02
Chicken, kidney		0.02
Other poultry animals, kidney		0.02
Chicken, edible offal		0.02
Other poultry animals, edible offal		0.02
Commodity	**MRL (draft) ppm**	**MRL (current) ppm**
Chicken, eggs		0.02
Other poultry, eggs		0.02

Cotton seed oil (Note)	**1**	

Note: This product does not include the refined cotton oil and cotton salada oil that are specified under the category "edible vegetable oils" of the Japanese Agricultural Standards and products that are deemed to meet specifications equivalent or superior to the JAS.

* 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.