

SPS/TBT Notifications Affecting Agricultural Trade

Listed below are proposed changes in international agricultural, food and related standards as notified via the World Trade Organization. The first table provides a summary of all notifications; individual details follow separately. Interested parties may obtain a full text of any notification for review and COMMENT. Simply check the "Request a Copy" check box next to the Notification and return by fax (202) 690-0677 to the attention of Deborah A. Thompson, Food Safety Technical Services Division in USDA/FAS.

Please provide us with your E-mail address (on the request form). For questions regarding policy matters, call Carolyn Fillmore Wilson (202) 720-2239, otherwise Ms. Thompson at (202) 720-9124 for address/telephone changes.

NOTE - Please include your name/fax number on all request forms.

Type	WTO Number	Product	Country	FSTSD #	Request a Copy
SPS	ARG/69	Fresh-cut Flowers, Inflorescences, Fruits and Foliage...	Argentina	02.0360	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	CAN/143	Pesticide: Imidacloprid	Canada	02.0361	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	JPN/86	Food and Food Additives	Japan	02.0362	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	KOR/116	Import Declaration and Inspection Method for Livestock Products	Korea	02.0363	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	KOR/117	Animal Products Imported from any Foreign Country	Korea	02.0364	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	KOR/118	Pharmaceuticals	Korea	02.0365	<input type="checkbox"/>

FSTSD # 02.0360 **Country -** Argentina **Product** Fresh-cut Flowers, Inflorescences, Fruits an

Comment Deadline Date - 9/23/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 09/30/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS ARG/69

Objective - Plant Protection

Description - The notified draft regulations lay down the characteristics of identity, quality, preparation, packaging and presentation for the aforementioned products and establish minimum quality and tolerance specifications for each regulated species, with respect to spots, bruises, wounds, scars, damage caused by physical, biological and/or chemical agents, extraneous matter, growth defects and malformations.

FSTSD # 02.0361 **Country -** Canada **Product** Pesticide: Imidacloprid

Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date -** **WTO Type/Number -** SPS CAN/143

Objective - Food Safety, Plant Protection

Description - The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), of Health Canada, has recently approved an application to amend the registration of imidacloprid in order to allow its use for the control of western cherry fruit fly and black cherry fruit fly on sour cherries and sweet cherries. After the review of all available data, the PMRA has determined that an MRL for imidacloprid, including its metabolites, of 3 p.p.m. in sour cherries and sweet cherries would not pose an unacceptable health risk to the public.

As a means to improve the responsiveness of the regulatory system, an Interim Marketing Authorization (IMA) is being issued to permit the immediate sale of sour cherries and sweet cherries with an MRL for imidacloprid of 3 p.p.m. while the regulatory process is undertaken to formally amend the Regulations. A revision to this notification will be published at the start of the amendment process and members will be given the opportunity at that time to submit comments on this proposed measure.

FSTSD # 02.0362 **Country -** Japan **Product** Food and Food Additives

Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date -** 09/07/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS JPN/86

Objective - Food Safety

FSTSD # 02.0362 **Country -** Japan **Product** Food and Food Additives

Description - The Ministerial Ordinance mainly describes the factors that the Minister takes into account when he or she decides whether sale, manufacturing and import of specific foods, etc. from a specific country, region or plant should be prohibited under the recently amended Food Sanitation Law (its amendment has been notified by G/SPS/N/JPN/84). The Guideline provides detailed guidance for implementing the recently amended Food Sanitation Law.

EMERGENCY MEASURE: Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:
Protection of public health

FSTSD # 02.0363 **Country -** Korea **Product** Import Declaration and Inspection Method f

Comment Deadline Date - 11/15/2002 **Enforcement Date -** to be deter **WTO Type/Number -** SPS KOR/116

Objective - Food Safety

Description - The proposed amendments are as follows:

1. Carry out more than five rounds of consecutive laboratory tests for import livestock products that are disqualified or have a history of failure in the past.

2. Expand the scope and permissible standard of minimum import quantity:

-The initial import quantities weighing less than minimum import quantities of 100 kg must pass laboratory tests from the government-accredited corporations, institutions, or organizations.

-In the case where the same products are imported again, no test requirements are necessary for products weighing less than 100 kg, while a new laboratory test requirement is necessary for those products weighing 100 kg and over 100 kg.

FSTSD # 02.0364 **Country -** Korea **Product** Animal Products Imported from any Foreign

Comment Deadline Date - 9/30/2002 **Enforcement Date -** **WTO Type/Number -** SPS KOR/117

Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health

Description - The National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service is proposing a draft of the scope and criteria for sterilization, pasteurization and processing of animal products to ensure effective import quarantine and inspection in accordance with the provisions of Article 20.2 of the Act for Prevention of Livestock Epidemics and Article 15 of its Ministerial Ordinance.

-Amendment of the definition of pasteurization

-In the case of dairy products, pasteurization means the process of commercial pasteurization or other methods that are equivalent to or more strict than commercial pasteurization.

- Clarify scope of products associated with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) according to countries and items. The conditions under which the import-prohibited products can be allowed are also specified in the regulation.

FSTSD # 02.0365 **Country -** Korea **Product** Pharmaceuticals

Comment Deadline Date - 9/30/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 10/15/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS KOR/118

Objective - Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease

Description - If ingredients originating from animals are contained in final products or used in the manufacturing process, the name of the animal and part of the animal should be indicated. Additionally, in the case of using ingredients originating from ruminants, selecting (originating country, age of ruminants) or processing methods, etc. for preventing the transmission of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) should be indicated.

End of Report.