

COUNTRY REPORT

Current Situation of Plant Protection in Japan

25th Session of

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1. Introduction

Japan has continued to improve plant protection system in accordance with WTO-SPS Agreement and relevant international standards on phytosanitary measures since the last session of the APPPC. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) is mainly responsible for plant protection and for implementation of the action to control and prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants. Plant Protection Station (PPS), MAFF is responsible for the issuance of phytosanitary certificates and for the import/export inspections. Ministry of the Environment (MOE) is responsible for Invasive alien species.

2. Plant Quarantine

The PPS of Japan consisted of five head-offices, 15 sub-stations, 53 branches, three detached offices and one plant inspector's office including 788 plant quarantine officers authorized to implement appropriate inspection/certification.

We have had the training course on the disinfestation technique of fruit fly since 1988 as international cooperation project targeting trainees from developing countries where fruit flies are present. Five trainees in 2005, four trainees in 2006 participated in this project. We also have implemented international cooperation

project for improvement of plant quarantine treatment technique against fruit flies on fresh fruits in Vietnam since 2003.

Regarding exportation of plants, 9,270 phytosanitary certificates were issued in 2006. Total number of import inspections carried out was 1,141,047 and pests were intercepted from more than 30,000 commodities. The top three commodities which pests were intercepted from were Banana, Pineapple and Rose.

In Japan, all pests except 143 species of non-quarantine pests and all pathogens except 5 genus plus 14 species of non-quarantine pathogens are listed as regulated pests.

We have been actively conducting PRA. For instance, from 2005 to 2006, we added about 80 species to the lists of non-quarantine pests based on the results of the PRA.

Based on the result of a PRA for wood packaging material, Japan has amended its Import Plant Quarantine Regulation (MAF Notification No. 206, 1950). This amendment was published on 6 October 2006 and entered into force on 1 April 2007.

With a view to harmonizing our regulation with the international standards, the definition of wood packaging material and measures for it in the regulation have been revised to become equivalent to those provided in ISPM No. 15.

We recognize that the use of International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) for information exchange is important and the use should be encouraged.

Japan has been tackling to enhance the phytosanitary capacity using PCE tools in Asian countries and has placed an officer in Rome since 2007 for that purpose.

3. Surveillance and Pest Outbreaks

In Japan, adequately number of staff is designated for surveillance and management of pest outbreaks. We have 77 PPS, 8 Regional Agricultural Administration Offices and 56 prefectural Plant Pest Control Stations including more than 5,000 staffs in total. Since the last meeting of the APPC, the frequent occurrence of White-backed rice planthopper, Blast and Rice bug group has been observed in the paddy field.

4. Pest Management

The strategy of the future pest management of Japan has been studied by the expert of the pest management and other related fields. In 2005, we published the guidelines on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practice as a result of the study. Furthermore, we provided the specific guidelines for Rice, cabbage and citrus to facilitate the implementation of IPM for individual farmers. We support making the IPM approach check sheet and the development of Model-Area in prefectures. We conducted the research on IPM for Soybean, potato, tomato, strawberry etc.

5. Pesticide Management

5.1 Changes in national strategy, organization, legislation and regulations since 2005

Agricultural chemicals products shall be registered by the MAFF under Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law, if they are manufactured, imported and distributed in Japan.

The risk assessment and risk management of the products have been conducted in terms of product's quality, human health, and environmental effects by Food Agricultural Material Inspection Center (FAMIC) (reorganized in April 1st 2007; Former name was Agricultural Chemicals Inspection Station), Food Safety Commission (FSC), Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW), Ministry of the environment (MOE) and MAFF.

The list of the relevant law, ministerial ordinance and notification are as follows;

1. Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law
2. Enforcement Ordinance for of the Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law
3. Enforcement Regulations of the Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law
4. Ministerial ordinance
 - 4.1 Mandatory standard for users of agricultural chemicals
 - 4.2 Prohibition of distribution on Agricultural Chemicals designated by the Minister of AFF
5. Notification on Designated harmless agricultural chemicals
6. Notification by the director-General of Food Safety and Consumers Affairs bureau
 - 6.1 Data requirements for supporting registration of pesticides
 - 6.2 Guidelines for Safety Evaluation of Microbial Pesticides
 - 6.3 Notification on the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) Standards for Agricultural Chemicals

➤ **Matters changed since 2005**

Since April 1st 2007, Agricultural Chemicals Inspection Station (ACIS) has been a merged into FAMIC with another two organizations, (“Food Quality, Labeling and Consumer Services” and “Fertilizer and Feed Inspection Services”).

The notification by the director-General of Food Safety and Consumers Affairs bureau “Data requirements for supporting registration of a agricultural chemicals” was revised to reflect the revision of “Standards for withholding of agricultural chemicals registration” concerning pollution in water and persistence in soil on April 2nd, 2007.

5.2 Status of ratification and implementation of international conventions on pesticide management (Rotterdam, Stockholm, Basel, Montreal) including

national strategic planning for ratification and implementation of the conventions.

1) Rotterdam Convention (Japan ratified the convention on June 15th, 2004.)

When agricultural chemicals listed under Export Trade Control Ordinance are exported, these agricultural chemicals shall be approved by the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry in advance.

Under the ordinance, agricultural chemicals listed in ANNEX of the convention and 21 agricultural chemicals whose distribution has been prohibited under Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law have been covered.

2) Stockholm Convention (Japan ratified the convention on August 30th, 2002.)

Distribution of agricultural chemicals (POPs agricultural chemicals) listed in ANNEX of the Convention has been prohibited under the Ministerial ordinance (Prohibition of distribution on Agricultural Chemicals designated by the Minister of AFF).

Distribution of some organochlorinate agricultural chemicals including POPs list was prohibited or restricted under a Ministerial ordinance in 1971 due to the long term persistence in soil. However, there were no systematical and adequate disposing methods for them at that time, thus these agricultural chemicals were adequately stored in the ground in accordance with the governmental guidance.

These sites for storage and the amount of agricultural chemicals were investigated in 2001. These agricultural chemicals have adequately been disposed with the developed decomposition methods by government since 2004.

5.3 Status of the implementation of International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and use of Pesticides

Japan legislated Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law in 1948, and agricultural chemicals have been regulated in all phases (e.g. manufacture, import, distribution and use).

Some measures for risk reduction on Agricultural chemicals with regard to human health and environmental effects (e.g. guidance for the use of protecting equipment and the proper use of agricultural chemicals) have been conducted in cooperation with prefectural governments.

International regulations (e.g. Stockholm convention) have already been implemented under some domestic law etc. accordingly.

Thus, Japan has actively taken some measures for the risk reduction, and the contents are satisfied with Code of conduct on the distribution and use of agricultural chemicals by FAO.

5.4 Adequacy of personnel and facilities for the implementation and enforcement of pesticide regulation

Agricultural Chemicals Inspection Station of FAMIC is responsible for pesticide risk assessment and risk management.

The number of the filed products for the registration per year is approximately 200 as new products and 1,500 as the addition of applicable crops etc.

The risk assessment and management concerning the product's quality, human health and environmental effects has been conducted based on the data and the product filed by the applicant for the registration in cooperation with the relevant Ministries.

5.5 National trends in the amount and facilities for the implementation and enforcement of pesticide regulations

Table 1. Shipment of pesticide (October 2004 – September 2005)

Class	Amount (tons)
Insecticide	106,035
Fungicide	55,992
Combined chemicals for plant pest and disease	26,165
herbicide	70,058
Others	17,088
Total	275,338

Table 2. Import and export of pesticide (October 2004 – September 2005)

Class	Import	Export (tons)
Technical Product	14,436 tons	22,268
Formulation		
• Insecticide	2,287	7,081
• Fungicide	4,963	5,636
• Herbicide	10,699	8,637
• Others	168	226
Total	32,553	43,848

5.6 Progress in the monitoring and management of pesticide residues in food and the environment

The monitoring of Agricultural chemicals in food has been conducted by MHLW. The result has been published in Japanese at the following URL.

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/topics/bukyoku/iyaku/syoku-anzen/zanryu2/060418-1.html>

The monitoring of Agricultural chemicals in public water areas has been conducted

by MOEt. The result has been published in both Japanese and English at the following URL.

<http://www.env.go.jp/en/press/2005/1220c.html>

5.7 Development and application status of bio-pesticides, including botanical pesticides

Registered bio-pesticides during 2003-2007

Microbial pesticides

Registration number	Date of Registration	Scientific name	Type	Target crops
21069	05/07/03	Zucchini yellow mosaic virus	Fungicide	Cucumber
21071	05/07/03	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Fungicide	Strawberry, Cherry, Grape, Vegetables(except Strawberry)
21204	01/28/04	<i>Dorechslera monoceras</i>	Herbicide	Paddy Rice
21268	04/07/04	Granulosis virus	Insecticide	Apple, Tea
21345	09/22/04	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Fungicide	Vegetables
21434	11/24/04	<i>Trichoderma atroviride</i>	Fungicide	Paddy Rice
21472	02/09/05	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	Plant growth regulator	Tomato, Mini-tomato
21500	04/27/05	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Fungicide	Tomato, Mini-tomato, Egg plant

21555	10/05/05	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Fungicide	Vegetables etc.
21694	04/19/06	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> <i>serovar aizawai</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables etc.
21995	04/19/06	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> <i>serovar aizawai</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables etc.
21734	07/19/06	<i>acillus thuringiensis</i> <i>serovar aizawai</i>	Insecticide	celery cabbage etc.
21858	12/13/06	<i>Bacillus simplex</i>	Fungicide	Paddy Rice
21902	02/07/07	<i>Trichoderma atroviride</i>	Fungicide	Paddy Rice
21905	02/21/07	<i>Beauveria bassiana</i>	Insecticide	Pine
21906	02/21/07	<i>Beauveria bassiana</i>	Insecticide	Pine
21919	03/07/07	<i>Talaromyces flavus</i>	Fungicide	Strawberry
21920	03/07/07	<i>Talaromyces flavus</i>	Fungicide	Paddy Rice
21924	03/07/07	<i>Spodoptera litura</i> <i>Nucleopolyhedrovirus</i>	Insecticide	Strawberry etc.

Natural enemy

Registrati	Date of	Scientific name	Type	Target crops
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on number	Registratio n			
21060	04/22/03	<i>Franklinothrips vespiformis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21070	05/07/03	<i>Eretmocerus californicus</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21082	06/03/03	<i>Amblyseius californicus</i>	Insecticide	Fruit crops, Vegetables (Green house)
21081	06/03/03	<i>Amblyseius degenerans</i>	Insecticide	Egg plant (Green house), bell pepper (Green house)
21221	01/28/04	<i>Franklinothrips vespiformis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21362	10/06/04	<i>Orius imilis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21361	10/06/04	<i>Orius imilis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21473	02/09/05	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21517	06/22/05	<i>Neochrysocharis Formosa</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house)
21596	11/30/05	<i>Encarsia formosa</i>	Insecticide	Tomato (Green house) etc.
21625	01/25/06	<i>Diglyphus isaea</i>	Insecticide	Tomato (Green house) etc.
21685	04/05/06	<i>Phytoseiulus persimilis</i>	Insecticide	Vegetables (Green house) etc.
21814	10/18/06	<i>Phytoseiulus persimilis</i>	Insecticide	Egg plant etc.

5.8 Changes in the List of banned/prohibited agricultural chemicals

No agricultural chemicals have been included in the following list since last report.

Aldrin (POPs, PIC),
Dieldrin (POPs, PIC),
DDT (POPs, PIC),
Chlordane (POPs, PIC),
Heptachlor (POPs, PIC),
Hexachlorobenzene (POPs, PIC),
Toxaphene (POPs, PIC),
Mirex (POPs),
Endrin (POPs),
Parathion (PIC),
Methyl Parathion (PIC),
Gamma- hexachlorocyclohexane (PIC),
Mercury Compounds (PIC),
Lead arsenate, 2,4,5-T (PIC),
PCP (PIC),
Captafol (PIC),
TEPP
Cyhexatin,
Quintozene,
Chlornitrofen,

5.9 Impact of cooperation projects in pesticide management

Japanese government has a plan to dispatch two experts to Oman and Uruguay for the contribution to Agricultural chemicals management (e.g. the development of the legislation system) in 2007.