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Japan

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Update on Approval of Commonly Used Food Additives

2006

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Report Highlights:

Japan recently released an update on the progress of the 46 food additives that are slated for review by the MHLW and Food Safety Commission. Progress has been disappointingly slow, considering the worldwide acceptance of these substances. So far only 15 of the original 46 that were identified in 2003 have been approved.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Tokyo [JA1]
[JA]

Progress of evaluation of food additives that have been proven safe and are widely used in the world

Attachment 7
October 2006

Substance name	Request for evaluation	Food Safety Commission		MHLW		
		Evaluation by expert committee ¹	Notification of result ²	Discussion by subcommittees ³	Closing date for comments ⁴	Date of designation as food additives
Isobutanol						
2-ethyl-3, (5 or 6)- dimethylpyrazine	21 Nov 2003	24 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	23 Apr 2004(fin.)	19 Aug 2004	24 Dec 2004
2,3,5,6-tetramethylpyrazine		3 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	8 Apr 2004(fin.)	26 Jul 2004	24 Dec 2004
Calcium stearate	4 Mar 2004	3 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	8 Apr 2004(fin.)	26 Jul 2004	24 Dec 2004
Propanol		20 May 2004(fin.)	29 Jul 2004	24 Jun 2004(fin.)	21 Oct 2004	24 Dec 2004
		24 Mar 2004	9 Sep 2004	26 Aug 2004(fin.)	14 Dec 2004	24 Feb 2005
		20 May 2004				
		28 Jul 2005(fin.)				
Nitrous oxide	20 Oct 2003	17 Dec 2003	9 Dec 2004	17 Dec 2004(fin.)	19 Feb 2005	22 Mar 2005
		5 Oct 2004(fin.)				
Isopropanol	15 Dec 2003	24 Mar 2004	9 Dec 2004	28 Oct 2004(fin.)	4 Mar 2005	28 Apr 2005
		9 Apr 2004				
		8 Sep 2004				
		5 Oct 2004(fin.)				
Hydroxypropyl cellulose	16 Aug 2004	22 Dec 2004(fin.)	10 Mar 2005	24 Feb 2005(fin.)	14 Jun 2005	19 Aug 2005
Isosamylalcohol						
2,3,5-trimethylpyrazine	5 Nov 2004	14 Jan 2005(fin.)	17 Mar 2005	24 Feb 2005(fin.)	14 Jun 2005	19 Aug 2005
Amylalcohol						
Natamycin	20 Oct 2003	9 Jan 2004	6 May 2005	24 Mar 2005(fin.)	7 Sep 2005	28 Nov 2005
		16 Nov 2004				
		26 Jan 2005(fin.)				
		3 Mar 2004				
		9 Apr 2004				
Acetaldehyde	21 Nov 2003	27 Apr 2004	21 Jul 2005	23 Jul 2005(fin.)	12 Oct 2005	16 May 2006
		23 Feb 2005				
		13 Apr 2005(fin.)				
2-Ethyl-3-methylpyrazine		14 Jul 2005(fin.)	18 Aug 2005	28 Jul 2005(fin.)	19 Dec 2005	16 May 2006
5-Methylquinoxaline	7 Mar 2005	14 Jun 2005	22 Sep 2005	27 Oct 2005	26 Apr 2006	12 Sep 2006
Butanol		22 Jul 2005(fin.)		24 Nov 2005(fin.)		
Ammonium alginate	28 Mar 2005	2 Dec 2005	30 Mar 2006	23 Mar 2006(fin.)	5 Sep 2006	
Potassium alginate		14 Dec 2005(fin.)				
Calcium alginate						
2-Methylbutanol	19 Dec 2005	14 Jul 2006	12 Oct 2006			
		11 Aug 2006(fin.)				
		28 Jun 2006				
Isobutanol	19 Dec 2005	14 Jul 2006				
		11 Aug 2006				
		13 Sep 2006				
		13 Oct 2006(fin.)				
		9 Apr 2004				
		16 Nov 2004				
		26 Jan 2005				
Nisin	20 Oct 2003	(under consideration)				

Substance name	Request for evaluation	Food Safety Commission		MHLW		
		Evaluation by expert committee ¹	Notification of result ²	Discussion by subcommittee ³	Closing date for comments ⁴	Date of designation as food additives
Polysorbate 20, 60, 65, 80	8 Oct 2003	29 Oct 2003 27 Apr 2004 28 Jul 2004 (under consideration)				
Acetylated distarch adipate						
Acetylated distarch phosphate						
Acetylated oxidized starch						
Starch sodium octenylsuccinate						
Hydroxypropyl starch						
Hydroxypropyl distarch phosphate	26 Nov 2004	23 Mar 2005 17 May 2005 (under consideration)				
Phosphated distarch phosphate						
Monostarch phosphate						
Distarch phosphate						
Oxidized starch						
Starch acetate						
Dimagnesium phosphate	28 Mar 2005	31 May 2006 28 Jun 2006 14 Jul 2006 11 Aug 2006 13 Sep 2006 13 Oct 2006 (under consideration)				
Polyvinylpyrrolidone	20 Jun 2005	13 Sep 2006 13 Oct 2006 (under consideration)				
Sodium aluminum silicate						
Calcium silicate						
Calcium aluminum silicate						
Magnesium silicate(synthetic)						
Calcium ascorbate	3 Oct 2005					
Butanal	19 Dec 2005					
Magnesium hydroxide	9 Mar 2006					
Calcium saccharin	22 May 2006					
Ammonium L-glutamate	22 May 2006					

1. Date when discussion was conducted by the expert committee.
 2. Date when the evaluation result was filed with the MHLW.
 3. Date when discussion was conducted by the Subcommittee on Food Additives under the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council.
 4. Closing date for comment on WTO notification