



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

Date: 6/6/2008

GAIN Report Number: JA8039

Japan

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Import restriction of fresh tomato from New Mexico and Texas

2008

Approved by:
Stephen Wixom
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:
Suguru Sato

Report Highlights:

Ministry of Health, Labour, Welfare of Japanese Government issued the notification to quarantine offices that fresh tomatoes and processed products containing raw tomato without being heated need to be held and subject to voluntary testing for Salmonella contamination.

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

Executive Summary

The Ministry of Health, Labour, Welfare of Japanese Government issued the notification to quarantine offices that fresh tomatoes and processed products containing raw tomato without being heated need to be held and subject to voluntary testing for Salmonella contamination. This measure is due to the information of Salmonella outbreak in fresh tomatoes in New Mexico and Texas.

A provisional translation of the office note released from MHLW to quarantine stations is noted below

(Provisional translation starts)

Office note
June 6, 2008

To quarantine stations,

Inspection and Safety Division
Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau,
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Regarding the handling of US tomatoes and its processed products

Recently, we received the news of a salmonella outbreak caused by fresh tomatoes in the states of New Mexico and Texas.

Therefore, we request you to confirm the area of production and serving style of tomatoes and processed products (i.e. tomatoes used as ingredients and not cooked by heat) exported from the US. When fresh tomatoes and the products are from the state of New Mexico and/or Texas, please hold the shipment and give guidance to the importer to perform voluntary testing of the shipment for Salmonella contamination.

(Provisional translation ends)