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## Japan

### Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

### Changes to the MRLs for Dimethomorph, Halosulfuron-methyl and Cyromazine 2008

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**Report Highlights:**

On June 17, 2008, Government of Japan announced proposed changes to the MRLs for Dimethomorph, Halosulfuron-methyl and Cyromazine. The comment period will close on July 1, 2008. After the given date, MHLW will also notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee.

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

**Summary**

The Japanese Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare (MHLW) announced on June 17 proposed changes to the MRLs for Dimethomorph, Halosulfuron-methyl and Cyromazine. The period for sending comments on these changes ends July 1, 2008. If you have comments it is best to send 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. Then after the closing of a the comment period in the WTO, a final report will be made based on the conclusions of a session of the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council slated to be held at a later date, and this will constitute the final decision.

The comments can be either Japanese or English.

If you have comments, please send them directly to the Japanese Government at:

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Department of Food Safety,  
Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau,  
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Please also consider copying the U.S. Embassy, Tokyo at [agtokyo@usda.gov](mailto: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.

Detail of changes

## **Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits for the Pesticides and Veterinary Drug (Dimethomorph, Halosulfuron-methyl and Cyromazine) in Food**

### Purpose and Background

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) is going to develop the compositional specification for food.

Under the provisions of Article 11, Paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Law, the Minister of Health, Labour, 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 unless such food 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 reviewed MRLs for some pesticides which had been provisionally established at the time of the introduction of the new system. Also, the MHLW has newly established draft MRLs for some food commodities.

This activity is targeted to 3 chemicals: Dimethomorph, Halosulfuron-methyl, and Cyromazine. 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

Dimethomorph (fungicide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) will expand the scope of target crops for which the use of the chemical is permitted. In response to MAFF's action, the MHLW has comprehensively reviewed the existing MRLs to establish MRLs for the new targets.

Halosulfuron-methyl (herbicide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. The MHLW has reviewed MRLs which had been provisionally established at the time of the introduction of the new system.

Cyromazine (insecticide): This chemical is already permitted for use in Japan. MAFF will expand the scope of target crops for which the use of the chemical is permitted. Also, MAFF has decided to approve some veterinary drug products whose effective ingredient is cyromazine. In response to MAFF's actions, the MHLW has comprehensively reviewed the existing MRLs for this substance.

For draft MRLs, see Attachments 1-1 through 1-3.

The existing MRLs for the three chemicals appear in either of the MRLs List (the Item 6, Section A "General Compositional Standards for Food," Part I "Food" of the Specifications and Standards for Food, Food Additives, Etc.) or Provisional MRLs List (Item 7, Section A), according to food commodities. These MRLs have been modified as necessary. Finalized MRLs for these chemicals will be placed on the MRLs List in Item 6, and the MRLs currently placed in Item 7 will be deleted.

Attachment. 1-1

Dimethomorph (fungicide)

Commodity	MRL (ppm)	Current MRL (ppm)
Soybeans, dry	0.2	0.2
Beans, dry <sup>2</sup>	0.3	0.3
Potato	0.1	0.1
Chinese cabbage	2.0	2.0
Cabbage	2	2.0
Brussels sprouts	2.0	2.0
Kale	20	20
Komatsuna, Japanese mustard spinach	20	20
Kyona	20	20
Qing-geng-cai	20	20
Cauliflower	2.0	2.0
Broccoli	1	2.0
Other cruciferous vegetables <sup>5</sup>	0.02	20
Lettuce	10	10
Onion	2.0	2.0
Welsh (including leek)	2	2
Garlic	2.0	2.0
Other liliaceous vegetables <sup>7</sup>	2.0	2.0
Tomato	3	3
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	1	1.5
Egg plant	1	1.5
Other solanaceous vegetables <sup>9</sup>	1	1.5
Cucumber	0.7	0.7
Pumpkin	1	1
Oriental pickling melon (vegetable)	0.5	0.5
Water melon	0.5	0.5
Melons	0.5	0.5
Makuwauri melon	0.5	0.5
Other cucurbitaceous vegetables <sup>10</sup>	0.5	0.5
Okra	1	
Green soybeans	10	10
Other vegetables <sup>12</sup>	10	
Unshu orange, pulp	0.5	
Strawberry	0.05	
Grape	5	5
Pineapple	0.01	
Other fruits <sup>15</sup>	1	1.5
Hop	80	60
Other spices <sup>18</sup>	15	1.5
Other herbs <sup>19</sup>	20	20

## Dimethomorph (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Cattle, muscle	0.01	0.01
Pig, muscle	0.01	0.01
Other terrestrial mammals <sup>20</sup> , muscle	0.01	0.01
Cattle, fat	0.01	0.01
Pig, fat	0.01	0.01
Other terrestrial mammals, fat	0.01	0.01
Cattle, liver	0.01	0.01
Pig, liver	0.01	0.01
Other terrestrial mammals, liver	0.01	0.01
Cattle, kidney	0.01	0.01
Pig, kidney	0.01	0.01
Other terrestrial mammals, kidney	0.01	0.01
Cattle, edible offal	0.01	0.01
Pig, edible offal	0.01	0.01
Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal	0.01	0.01
Milk	0.01	0.01
Chicken, muscle	0.01	
Other poultry <sup>21</sup> , muscle	0.01	
Chicken, fat	0.01	
Other poultry, fat	0.01	
Chicken, liver	0.01	
Other poultry, liver	0.01	
Chicken, kidney	0.01	
Other poultry, kidney	0.01	
Chicken, edible offal	0.01	
Other poultry, edible offal	0.01	
Chicken, eggs	0.01	
Other poultry, eggs	0.01	
Pepper, dried	5	
Raisin	5	

## Attachment. 1-2

## Halosulfuron-methyl (Herbicide)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Rice (brown rice)	0.05	0.1
Wheat		0.02
Barley		0.02
Rye		0.02
Corn (maize)	0.05	0.1
Buckwheat		0.02
Other cereal grains <sup>1</sup>	0.05	0.05
Soybeans, dry		0.02
Beans, dry <sup>2</sup>	0.05	0.05
Peas		0.02
Broad beans		0.02
Peanuts, dry		0.02
Other legumes/pulses <sup>3</sup>	0.05	0.02
Potato		0.02
Taro		0.02
Sweet potato		0.02
Yam		0.02
Konjac		0.02
Other potatoes <sup>4</sup>		0.02
Sugar beet		0.02
Sugarcane	0.05	0.1
Japanese radish, roots		0.02
Japanese radish, leaves		0.02
Turnip, roots		0.02
Turnip, leaves		0.02
Horseradish		0.02
Watercress		0.02
Chinese cabbage		0.02
Cabbage		0.02
Brussels sprouts		0.02
Kale		0.02
Komatsuna, Japanese mustard spinach		0.02
Kyona		0.02
Qing-geng-cai		0.02
Cauliflower		0.02
Broccoli		0.02
Other cruciferous vegetables <sup>5</sup>		0.02
Burdock		0.02
Salsify		0.02
Artichoke		0.02
Chicory		0.02
Endive		0.02
Shungiku		0.02
Lettuce		0.02
Other composite vegetables <sup>6</sup>		0.02

## Halosulfuron-methyl (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Onion		0.02
Welsh (including leek)		0.02
Garlic		0.02
Nira		0.02
Asparagus	0.2	0.8
Multiplying onion		0.02
Other liliaceous vegetables <sup>7</sup>		0.02
Carrot		0.02
Parsnip		0.02
Parsley		0.02
Celery		0.02
Mitsuba		0.02
Other umbelliferous vegetables <sup>8</sup>		0.02
Tomato	0.05	0.05
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	0.05	0.05
Egg plant	0.05	0.05
Other solanaceous vegetables <sup>9</sup>	0.05	0.05
Cucumber	0.5	0.5
Pumpkin	0.5	0.5
Oriental pickling melon (vegetable)	0.5	0.5
Water melon	0.1	0.1
Melons	0.1	0.1
Makurauri melon	0.1	0.1
Other cucurbitaceous vegetables <sup>10</sup>	0.5	0.5
Spinach		0.02
Bamboo shoots		0.02
Okra		0.02
Ginger		0.02
Peas, immature (with pods)	0.05	0.05
Kidney beans, immature (with pods)	0.05	0.05
Green soybeans		0.02
Button mushroom		0.02
Shiitake mushroom		0.02
Other mushrooms <sup>11</sup>		0.02
Other vegetables <sup>12</sup>	0.05	0.05
Unshu orange, pulp		0.02
Citrus natsudaidai, whole		0.02
Lemon		0.02
Orange		0.02
Grapefruit		0.02
Lime		0.02
Other citrus fruits <sup>13</sup>		0.02
Apple		0.02
Japanese pear		0.02
Pear		0.02

## Halosulfuron-methyl (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Quince		0.02
Loquat		0.02
Peach		0.02
Nectarine		0.02
Apricot		0.02
Japanese plum		0.02
Mume plum		0.02
Cherry		0.02
Strawberry		0.02
Raspberry		0.02
Blackberry		0.02
Blueberry		0.02
Cranberry		0.02
Huckleberry		0.02
Other berries <sup>14</sup>		0.02
Grape		0.02
Japanese persimmon		0.02
Banana		0.02
Kiwifruit		0.02
Papaya		0.02
Avocado		0.02
Pineapple		0.02
Guava		0.02
Mango		0.02
Passion fruit		0.02
Date		0.02
Other fruits <sup>15</sup>	0.05	0.05
Sunflower seeds		0.02
Sesame seeds		0.02
Safflower seeds		0.02
Cotton seeds	0.05	0.05
Rapeseeds		0.02
Other oil seeds <sup>16</sup>		0.02
Ginkgo nut		0.05
Chestnut	0.05	0.05
Pecan	0.05	0.05
Almond	0.05	0.05
Walnut	0.05	0.05
Other nuts <sup>17</sup>	0.05	0.05
Tea		0.02
Coffee beans		0.02
Cacao beans		0.02
Hop		0.02
Other spices <sup>18</sup>	0.05	0.05
Other herbs <sup>19</sup>	0.05	0.05



## Halosulfuron-methyl (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Cattle, muscle		0.01
Pig, muscle		0.01
Other terrestrial mammals <sup>20</sup> , muscle		0.01
Cattle, fat		0.01
Pig, fat		0.01
Other terrestrial mammals, fat		0.01
Cattle, liver	0.1	0.2
Pig, liver	0.1	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals, liver	0.1	0.2
Cattle, kidney	0.1	0.2
Pig, kidney	0.1	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals, kidney	0.1	0.2
Cattle, edible offal	0.1	0.2
Pig, edible offal	0.1	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal	0.1	0.2
Milk		0.01
Chicken, muscle		0.01
Other poultry <sup>21</sup> , muscle		0.01
Chicken, fat		0.01
Other poultry, fat		0.01
Chicken, liver		0.01
Other poultry, liver		0.01
Chicken, kidney		0.01
Other poultry, kidney		0.01
Chicken, edible offal		0.01
Other poultry, edible offal		0.01

Attachment, 1-3

Cyromazine (insecticide;

Commodity	MRL (unit) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Rice		0.05
Wheat		0.05
Barley		0.05
Rye		0.05
Corn (maize)		0.3
Buckwheat		0.05
Other cereal grains <sup>1</sup>		0.05
Soybeans, dry		0.05
Beans, dry <sup>2</sup>	3	1
Peas		1
Broad beans	3	0.05
Peanuts, dry		0.05
Other legumes/pulses <sup>3</sup>	3	1
Potato	0.8	0.5
Taro		0.05
Sweet potato		0.05
Yam		0.05
Konjac		0.05
Other potatoes <sup>4</sup>		0.05
Sugar beet		0.05
Sugarcane		0.02
Japanese radish, roots		0.3
Japanese radish, leaves		0.3
Turnip, roots		0.05
Turnip, leaves		5
Horseradish		0.05
Watercress	7.0	10
Chinese cabbage		3
Cabbage	10	5
Brussels sprouts	10	5
Kale	10	5
Komatsuna, Japanese mustard spinach	10	5
Kyona	10	5
Qing-geng-cai	3	5
Cauliflower	10	5
Broccoli	1	0.5
Other cruciferous vegetables <sup>5</sup>	10	10
Burdock		0.05
Salsify		0.05
Artichoke	3	0.5
Chicory	7.0	4
Endive	7	7
Shungiku	10	10
Lettuce	4	5
Other composite vegetables <sup>6</sup>	7	7

## Cyromazine (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) (ppm)	Current MRL (ppm)
Onion	0.1	2
Welsh (including leek)	3	2
Garlic		0.1
Nira		0.02
Asparagus		3
Multiplying onion		2
Other liliaceous vegetables <sup>7</sup>		2
Carrot		1
Parsnip		0.05
Parsley	7.0	5
Celery	5	5
Mitsuba		0.05
Other umbelliferous vegetables <sup>8</sup>	7.0	4
Tomato	1	0.5
Pimiento (sweet pepper)	1	1
Egg plant	1	2
Other solanaceous vegetables <sup>9</sup>	1	1
Cucumber	2	0.1
Pumpkin	2	1
Oriental pickling melon (vegetable)	1	1
Water melon	1	1
Melons	0.5	0.2
Mokuwauri melon	0.5	1
Other cucurbitaceous vegetables <sup>10</sup>	1	1
Spinach	7	7
Bamboo shoots		0.02
Okra	1	0.05
Ginger		0.05
Peas, immature (with pods)		0.05
Kidney beans, immature (with pods)		0.05
Green soybeans		0.05
Button mushroom	7	5
Shiitake mushroom	1	5
Other mushrooms <sup>11</sup>	1	5
Other vegetables <sup>12</sup>	1	4
Utsbu orange, pulp		0.05
Citrus natsudaidei, whole		0.05
Lemon		0.05
Orange		0.05
Grapefruit		0.05
Lime		0.05
Other citrus fruits <sup>13</sup>		0.05
Apple		0.05
Japanese pear		0.05
Pear		0.05
Quince		0.05

## Cyromazine (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) (ppm)	Current MRL (ppm)
Loquat		0.05
Peach		0.05
Nectarine		0.05
Apricot		0.05
Japanese plum		0.05
Mume plum		0.05
Cherry		0.05
Strawberry		0.5
Raspberry		0.05
Blackberry		0.05
Blueberry		0.05
Cranberry		0.05
Huckleberry		0.05
Other berries <sup>14</sup>		0.05
Grape		0.02
Japanese persimmon		0.05
Banana		0.05
Kiwifruit		0.05
Papaya		0.05
Avocado		0.05
Pineapple		0.05
Guava		0.05
Mango	0.5	0.3
Passion fruit		0.05
Date		0.05
Other fruits <sup>15</sup>	1	0.02
Sunflower seeds		0.05
Sesame seeds		0.05
Safflower seeds		0.05
Cotton seeds		0.08
Rapeseeds		0.05
Other oil seeds <sup>16</sup>		0.05
Ginkgo nut		0.05
Chestnut		0.05
Pecan		0.05
Almond		0.05
Walnut		0.05
Other nuts <sup>17</sup>		0.05
Tea		0.05
Coffee beans		0.02
Cacao beans		0.02
Hop		0.05

## Cyromazine (Continued)

Commodity	MRL (draft) ppm	Current MRL ppm
Other spices <sup>18</sup>	7.0	4
Other herbs <sup>19</sup>	10	10
Cattle, muscle	0.3	0.05
Pig, muscle	0.3	0.05
Sheep, muscle	0.3	0.05
Other terrestrial mammals <sup>20</sup> (except sheep), muscle	0.3	0.1
Cattle, fat	0.05	0.05
Pig, fat	0.05	0.05
Sheep, fat	0.4	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals (except sheep), fat	0.4	0.05
Cattle, liver	0.3	0.05
Pig, liver	0.3	0.05
Sheep, liver	0.3	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals (except sheep), liver	0.3	0.1
Cattle, kidney	0.3	0.1
Pig, kidney	0.3	0.1
Other terrestrial mammals, kidney	0.3	0.2
Cattle, edible offal	0.3	0.05
Pig, edible offal	0.3	0.05
Sheep, edible offal	0.3	0.2
Other terrestrial mammals (except sheep), edible offal	0.3	0.1
Milk	0.01	0.01
Chicken, muscle	0.1	0.05
Other poultry <sup>21</sup> , muscle	0.1	0.05
Chicken, fat	0.05	0.05
Other poultry, fat	0.05	0.05
Chicken, liver	0.1	0.07
Other poultry, liver	0.1	0.08
Chicken, kidney	0.1	0.07
Other poultry, kidney	0.1	0.08
Chicken, edible offal	0.1	0.07
Other poultry, edible offal	0.1	0.08
Chicken, eggs	0.3	0.07
Other poultry, eggs	0.3	0.08

## Note:

The uniform limit (0.01 ppm) will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given. Some limits in the column, "MRL (draft)," remain unchanged from the current MRLs.

Currently, an MRL of 0.02 ppm is set for halosulfuron-methyl on some crops, instead of the uniform limit (0.01 ppm) because the determination limit of the applicable analytical method was 0.02 ppm at the time of standards setting. By this review, the limit will be modified and the uniform limit will be applied to these crops because the improved method has enabled the determination of halosulfuron-methyl to the level of 0.01 ppm.

1. "Other cereal grains" refers to all cereal grains, except rice (brown rice), wheat, barley, rye, corn (maize), and buckwheat.
2. "Beans (dry)" includes butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans.
3. "Other legumes/pulses" refers to all legumes/pulses, except soybeans (dry), beans (dry), peas, broad beans, peanuts (dry), and spices.
4. "Other potatoes" refers to all potatoes, except potato, taro, sweet potato, yam, and konjac.
5. "Other cruciferous vegetables" refers to all cruciferous vegetables, except Japanese radish roots and leaves (including radish), turnip roots and leaves, horseradish, watercress, Chinese cabbage, cabbage, brussels sprouts, kale, komatsuna (Japanese mustard spinach), kyona, qing-geng-cai, cauliflower, broccoli, and herbs.
6. "Other composite vegetables" refers to all composite vegetables, except burdock, salsify, artichoke, chicory, endive, shungiku, lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce), and herbs.
7. "Other liliaceous vegetables" refers to all liliaceous vegetables, except onion, welsh (including leek), garlic, nira, asparagus, multiplying onion, and herbs.
8. "Other umbelliferous vegetables" refers to all umbelliferous vegetables, except carrot, parsnip, parsley, celery, mitsuba, spices, and herbs.
9. "Other solanaceous vegetables" refers to all solanaceous vegetables, except tomato, pimiento (sweet pepper), and egg plant.
10. "Other cucurbitaceous vegetables" refers to all cucurbitaceous vegetables, except cucumber (including gherkin), pumpkin (including squash), oriental pickling melon (vegetable), watermelon, melons, and makuwauri melon.
11. "Other mushrooms" refers to all mushrooms, except button mushroom, and shiitake mushroom.
12. "Other vegetables" refers to all vegetables, except potatoes, sugar beet, sugarcane, cruciferous vegetables, composite vegetables, liliaceous vegetables, umbelliferous vegetables, solanaceous vegetables, cucurbitaceous vegetables, spinach, bamboo shoots, okra, ginger, peas (with pods, immature), kidney beans (with pods, immature), green soybeans, mushrooms, spices, and herbs.

13. "Other citrus fruits" refers to all citrus fruits, except unshu orange (pulp), citrus natsudaïdai (pulp), citrus natsudaïdai (peel), citrus natsudaïdai (whole), lemon, orange (including navel orange), grapefruit, lime, and spices.
14. "Other berries" refers to all berries, except strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cranberry, and huckleberry.
15. "Other fruits" refers to all fruits, except citrus fruits, apple, Japanese pear, pear, quince, loquat, peach, nectarine, apricot, Japanese plum (including prune), mume plum, cherry, berries, grape, Japanese persimmon, banana, kiwifruit, papaya, avocado, pineapple, guava, mango, passion fruit, date and spices.
16. "Other oil seeds" refers to all oil seeds, except sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, safflower seeds, cotton seeds, rapeseeds and spices.
17. "Other nuts" refers to all nuts, except ginkgo nut, chestnut, pecan, almond and walnut.
18. "Other spices" refers to all spices, except horseradish, wasabi (Japanese horseradish) rhizomes, garlic, peppers chili, paprika, ginger, lemon peels, orange peels (including navel orange), yuzu (Chinese citron) peels and sesame seeds.
19. "Other herbs" refers to all herbs, except watercress, nira, parsley stems and leaves, celery stems and leaves.
20. "Other terrestrial mammals" refers to all terrestrial mammals, except cattle and pig.
21. "Other poultry" refers to all poultry, except chicken.