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Report Name: Japan 234th Food Safety Group

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

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Report Highlights:

On July 30, 2020, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) announced revisions to Japan's maximum residue levels for Azoxystrobin, Cyflufenamid, Bixafen, Pyrifluquinazon and Pyriproxyfen for various agricultural commodities. MHLW also proposes to expand the permitted use of Azoxystrobin, a fungicide classified as a food additive by Japan, to potatoes. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to submit their comments to PlantDivision@usda.gov by August 12, 2020. Japan will subsequently notify these MRL revisions to the World Trade Organization, which will provide another opportunity to comment.

General

On July 30, 2020, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) announced revisions to Japan's maximum residue levels (MRLs) of five agricultural chemicals (azoxystrobin, cyflufenamid, bixafen, pyrifluquinazon and pyriproxyfen) at the 234th Food Safety Group (FSG). MHLW also announced that azoxystrobin, a fungicidal pesticide designated as a food additive by Japan, will be permitted for use in potatoes, in addition to the currently permitted use for citrus products (excluding *unshu orange*s).

Details of Japan's proposal on the MRLs are in the attached document, distributed by MHLW. Due to COVID-19-related concerns, MHLW shared the attached document electronically with embassies based in Tokyo.

Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to submit their comments to PlantDivision@usda.gov by August 12, 2020. Japan will subsequently notify these MRL revisions to the World Trade Organization, which will provide another opportunity to comment.

Attachments:

FSG234 (English).pdf