

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Japan To Begin Enforcement of Organic Regulations for Turkey Products

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal

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Report Highlights:

From July 25, 2021, Japan’s organic standards for livestock products will encompass turkey products. Once the regulation goes into effect, all turkey products sold as “organic” will require appropriate certification. Per the terms of the U.S.-Japan organic equivalency arrangement, U.S. turkey products will retain access to the Japanese organic market provided they are certified under the USDA National Organic Program and exported to Japan under the arrangement.

Background

In 2001, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) established organic standards for livestock products. Yet, turkey products were outside of the scope of MAFF's organic standards. In response to Japan's growing consumption of turkey products, MAFF decided to expand the scope of its livestock organic regulations to turkey products distributed in Japan.

On July 9, 2020, Japan notified the proposed regulatory change ([G/TBT/N/JPN/671](#)) to the World Trade Organization. On January 25, 2021, MAFF released a public ministerial notification (#187 of Japanese Fiscal Year 2020) that stated that Japan will begin to enforce organic regulations for turkey products from July 25, 2021 after a six-month transition period (see [this side-by-side comparison of the relevant revision](#) for more details; available in Japanese only).

The scope of the U.S.-Japan organic equivalency arrangement expanded in July 2020 ([JA2020-0145](#)) includes organic turkey products. Therefore, U.S. organic turkey certified under the National Organic Program (NOP) will remain eligible to access the Japanese market as "organic" from July 25, 2021. Please see the [NOP trade site for Japan](#) and the [2020 Japan FAIRS report](#) for further information about the U.S.-Japan organic equivalency arrangement and Japan's import requirements for organic products.

Attachments:

No Attachments.