

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: The 266th Japan Food Safety Group Outcomes

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

The Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) of Japan proposed revisions of Japan's maximum residue levels for four agricultural chemicals (Butachlor, Etofenprox, Spinetoram, and Prallethrin) for various agricultural commodities. By April 21, 2025, interested U.S. parties should submit their comments to PlantDivision@usda.gov for plant products, TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov for animal products, and PPTRD@usda.gov for processed products. The CAA will also notify these proposed revisions to the World Trade Organization. In addition, the CAA released a survey to understand the current status of food additive sales and usages. By May 31, 2025, interested U.S. parties should submit their responses to PPTRD@usda.gov using the designated form (in attachments).

General

On April 7, 2025, the Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) of Japan proposed regulatory revisions at the 266th Food Safety Group meeting.

Agenda 1

The CAA proposed revisions of Japan's maximum residue levels (MRLs) for the following three pesticides and one veterinary drug.

Pesticides:

- Butachlor
- Etofenprox
- Spinetoram

Veterinary Drug:

- Prallethrin

Agenda 2

The CAA issued a survey to understand the sale, manufacture, and use of 62 existing food additives approved in Japan. Pages 18 and 19 on the attached document show the 62 food additives subject to this survey. Per the Japanese regulation, if the substance is not found to be actively manufactured, sold, or otherwise in usage, the concerned substance may be subject to cancellation as an approved food additive. Therefore, relevant industries and stakeholders are highly encouraged to respond to the survey.

For details of Japan's proposal, please review the attached document distributed by the CAA, which has also been shared electronically with Tokyo-based embassies.

For the above agenda 1, interested U.S. parties are encouraged to submit their comments about plant-related proposals to PlantDivision@usda.gov, animal-related proposals to TFAA.FAS.AnimalDivision@usda.gov, and proposals for processed products to PPTRD@usda.gov by April 18, 2025. Japan will also notify these revisions to the World Trade Organization (WTO), providing another opportunity to submit comments.

For the above agenda 2, interested U.S. parties are encouraged to submit their responses for the survey to PPTRD@usda.gov by May 31, 2025. FAS/Tokyo will transmit the compiled survey responses to the CAA.

Attachments:

[266th FSG \(English\).pdf](#)

[\(Appendix 2\) Food Additive Survey Form.xlsx](#)