

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 8/21/2018

GAIN Report Number: JA8059

Japan

Post: Tokyo

Proposed Modifications to Gibberellin MRLs Notified to WTO

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Approved By:

Christopher Riker

Prepared By:

Jess K. Paulson

Report Highlights:

On July 30, 2018, Japan notified the World Trade Organization of draft amendments to the maximum residue level (MRL) for the plant hormone Gibberellin via [G/SPS/N/JPN/583](#). The public comment period for the draft will close on September 28, 2018. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by September 12, 2018.

Keywords: JA8059, WTO

General Information:

On July 30, 2018, Japan notified the World Trade Organization of draft amendments to the maximum residue level (MRL) for the plant hormone Gibberellin via [G/SPS/N/JPN/583](#). The public comment period for the draft will close on September 28, 2018. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by September 12, 2018.

A key provision of this notification is, rather than enforce the default MRL of 0.01 parts per million for commodities without an established MRL, Japan will regulate residues that exceed the physiological level contained (naturally) in each commodity (see underlined text below the table). Below are the MRLs Japan proposes to establish for Gibberellin.

Gibberellin

| Commodity | MRL (draft) ppm | MRL (current) ppm |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| Potato | ○ 0.05 | |
| Japanese radish, roots (including radish) | ● | 0.2 |
| Japanese radish, leaves (including radish) | ● | 0.2 |
| Turnip, roots (including rutabaga) | ● | 0.2 |
| Turnip, leaves (including rutabaga) | ● | 0.2 |
| Horseradish | ● | 0.2 |
| Watercress | ● | 0.2 |
| Chinese cabbage | ● | 0.2 |
| Cabbage | ● | 0.2 |
| Brussels sprouts | ● | 0.2 |
| Kale | ● | 0.2 |
| Komatsuna(Japanese mustard spinach) | ● | 0.2 |
| Kyona | ● | 0.2 |
| Qing-geng-cai | ● | 0.2 |
| Cauliflower | ● | 0.2 |
| Broccoli | ● | 0.2 |
| Other cruciferous vegetables ¹ | ● 0.05 | 0.2 |
| Burdock | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Salsify | ● | 0.2 |
| Artichoke | ● | 0.2 |
| Chicory | ● | 0.2 |
| Endive | ● | 0.2 |
| Shungiku | ● | 0.2 |
| Lettuce (including cos lettuce and leaf lettuce) | ● | 0.2 |
| Other composite vegetables ² | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Onion | ● | 0.2 |
| Welsh (including leek) | ● | 0.2 |
| Garlic | ● | 0.2 |
| | MRL | MRL |

| Commodity | (draft) ppm | (current) ppm |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| Nira | ● | 0.2 |
| Asparagus | ● | 0.2 |
| Multiplying onion (including shallot) | ● | 0.2 |
| Other liliaceous vegetables ³ | ● | 0.2 |
| Carrot | ● | 0.2 |
| Parsnip | ● | 0.2 |
| Parsley | ● | 0.2 |
| Celery | ○ 2 | 0.2 |
| Mitsuba | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other umbelliferous vegetables ⁴ | ● | 0.2 |
| Tomato | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Pimiento (sweet pepper) | ● | 0.2 |
| Egg plant | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Other solanaceous vegetables ⁵ | ● | 0.2 |
| Cucumber (including gherkin) | ● | 0.2 |
| Pumpkin (including squash) | ● | 0.2 |
| Oriental pickling melon (vegetable) | ● | 0.2 |
| Water melon | ● | 0.2 |
| Melons | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Makuwauri melon | ● | 0.2 |
| Other cucurbitaceous vegetables ⁶ | ● | 0.2 |
| Spinach | ● | 0.2 |
| Bamboo shoots | ● | 0.2 |
| Okra | ● | 0.2 |
| Ginger | ● | 0.2 |
| Peas, immature (with pods) | ● | 0.2 |
| Kidney beans, immature (with pods) | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Green soybeans | ● | 0.2 |
| Button mushroom | ● | 0.2 |
| Shiitake mushroom | ● | 0.2 |
| Other mushrooms ⁷ | ● | 0.2 |
| Other vegetables ⁸ | ○ 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Unshu orange, pulp | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Citrus natsudaidai, whole | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Lemon | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Orange (including navel orange) | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Grapefruit | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Lime | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other citrus fruits ⁹ | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Apple | ● | 0.2 |
| Japanese pear | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Pear | ● | 0.2 |
| Quince | ● | 0.2 |
| Loquat | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Peach | ● | 0.2 |
| Nectarine | ● | 0.2 |
| Apricot | ● | 0.2 |
| Japanese plum (including prune) | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| | MRL | MRL |

| Commodity | (draft) ppm | (current) ppm |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Mume plum | ● | 0.2 |
| Cherry | ● | 0.2 |
| Strawberry | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Raspberry | ● | 0.2 |
| Blackberry | ● | 0.2 |
| Blueberry | ● | 0.2 |
| Cranberry | ● | 0.2 |
| Huckleberry | ● | 0.2 |
| Other berries ¹⁰ | ● | 0.2 |
| Grape | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Japanese persimmon | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Banana | ● | 0.2 |
| Kiwifruit | ● | 0.2 |
| Papaya | ○ 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Avocado | ● | 0.2 |
| Pineapple | ● | 0.2 |
| Guava | ● | 0.2 |
| Mango | ● | 0.2 |
| Passion fruit | ● | 0.2 |
| Date | ● | 0.2 |
| Other fruits ¹¹ | ● 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Sunflower seeds | ● | 0.2 |
| Sesame seeds | ● | 0.2 |
| Safflower seeds | ● | 0.2 |
| Cotton seeds | ● | 0.2 |
| Rapeseeds | ● | 0.2 |
| Other oil seeds ¹² | ● | 0.2 |
| Ginkgo nut | ● | 0.2 |
| Chestnut | ● | 0.2 |
| Pecan | ● | 0.2 |
| Almond | ● | 0.2 |
| Walnut | ● | 0.2 |
| Other nuts ¹³ | ● | 0.2 |
| Other spices ¹⁴ | ○ 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other herbs ¹⁵ | ○ 0.3 | 0.2 |

● : Commodities for which MRLs are to be lowered or deleted.

○ : Commodities for which MRLs are to be maintained, increased or newly set.

* Not the uniform limit of 0.01 ppm but the regulation that foods shall not exceed physiological level contained in each commodity will be applied to the commodities for which current MRLs are to be deleted, since this substance is contained in agricultural commodities naturally.

* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs. (**Note:** Those established provisionally at the creation of Japan's positive list in 2006, based on CODEX, U.S. and EU standards.)

The residue definition is gibberellin A3 only.

1. "Other cruciferous vegetables" refers to hatawasabi (farm-grown wasabi) only.

2. "Other composite vegetables" refers to wiper only.
3. "Other liliaceous vegetables" refers to all liliaceous vegetables, except onion, welsh (including leek), garlic, nira, asparagus, multiplying onion, and herbs.
4. "Other umbelliferous vegetables" refers to all umbelliferous vegetables, except carrot, parsnip, parsley, celery, mitsuba, spices, and herbs.
5. "Other solanaceous vegetables" refers to all solanaceous vegetables, except tomato, pimiento (sweet pepper), and egg plant.
6. "Other cucurbitaceous vegetables" refers to all cucurbitaceous vegetables, except cucumber (including gherkin), pumpkin (including squash), oriental pickling melon (vegetable), watermelon, melons, and makuwauri melon.
7. "Other mushrooms" refers to all mushrooms, except button mushroom, and shiitake mushroom.
8. "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.
9. "Other citrus fruits" refers to all citrus fruits, except unshu orange (pulp), citrus natsudaidai (pulp), citrus natsudaidai (peel), citrus natsudaidai (whole), lemon, orange (including navel orange), grapefruit, lime, and spices.
10. "Other berries" refers to all berries, except strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cranberry, and huckleberry.
11. "Other fruits" refers to acerola only.
12. "Other oil seeds" refers to all oil seeds, except sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, safflower seeds, cotton seeds, rapeseeds and spices.
13. "Other nuts" refers to all nuts, except ginkgo nut, chestnut, pecan, almond and walnut.
14. "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.
15. "Other herbs" refers to all herbs, except watercress, nira, parsley stems and leaves, celery stems and leaves.