

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Japan

Post: Tokyo

Revises Aluminum Ammonium Sulfate and Aluminum Potassium Sulfate Specifications

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

On August 27, 2018, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) notified [G/SPS/N/JPN/595](#) to the World Trade Organization informing trade partners of proposes changes to the specifications for the food additives Aluminum Ammonium Sulfate and Aluminum Potassium Sulfate. Please send your to us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov for possible inclusion in the U.S. official position by October 12, 2018.

Keyword: JA8067

General Information:

On August 27, 2018, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) notified [G/SPS/N/JPN/595](#) to the World Trade Organization informing trade partners of proposed changes to the specifications for the food additives Aluminum Ammonium Sulfate and Aluminum Potassium Sulfate. Please send your comments to us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov for possible inclusion in the U.S. official position by October 12, 2018.

Previously, Japan only restricted the use of Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate in the production of "miso". The revised specifications will now restrict the use of Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate to 0.1 g per kilogram in bread, moist cakes and confections.

Amendment to the Standards and Specifications for Foods and Food Additives

The government of Japan will revise the current standards for use of Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate.

Summary

Under Article 10 of the Food Sanitation Act (Act No. 233, 1947) (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), food additives shall not be used or marketed without authorization by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister"). In addition, when specifications or standards are established for food additives based on Article 11 of the Act and stipulated in the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Notification (Ministry of Health and Welfare Notification No. 370, 1959), those additives shall not be used or marketed unless they meet the standards or specifications.

In response to a request from the Minister, the Committee on Food Additives of the Food Sanitation Council that is established under the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council has discussed the adequacy of the revision of standards for use of Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate as a food additive. The conclusion of the committee is outlined below.

Outline of conclusion

The Minister should revise the existing standards for use of Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate, based on Article 11. (see Attachment).

Attachment

Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate

硫酸アルミニウムアンモニウム及び硫酸アルミニウムカリウム

Current regulations

(1) Aluminum ammonium sulfate

Aluminum ammonium sulfate is not permitted in miso.

(2) Aluminum potassium sulfate

Aluminum potassium sulfate is not permitted in miso.

Revised regulations

Use in bread, moist cakes and confections will be limited for Aluminum ammonium sulfate and Aluminum potassium sulfate with a maximum use level of 0.1 g as aluminum per kg of each product.