

30 January 2023

(23-0673)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>JAPAN</u>

If applicable, name of local government involved:

- 2. Agency responsible: Ministry of the Environment
- 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Biological pesticides used for the control
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:

[X] All trading partners

[] Specific regions or countries:

- 5. Title of the notified document: Draft Ministerial Order Establishing Cases Defined by Ministerial Order of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Ministry of the Environment under Article 4, Paragraph (1), Item (xi) of the Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Act. Language(s): . Number of pages:
- **6. Description of content:** Establishment of new criteria for refusal of registration for biological pesticides

Biological pesticides are (1) so-called "natural insect killer pesticides" (in the narrow definition), which are generally used with live insects that are predators or parasites (e.g., Insecta, Arachnid, etc.) and (2) microbial pesticides (viruses, bacteria, fungi, etc.), which may be used as pesticides, as Article 2, paragraph 2 of the Act provides that "predators, parasites or microorganisms used for pest control as described in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed to be pesticides."

Biological pesticides are assumed that the use of alive biological pesticides (i.e., not inactivated) may cause significant damages to the habitat or growth of animals and plants in the living environment due to their proliferation, etc (For example, when spiders are used as biological pesticides in agricultural lands, the pesticides may cause significant damages to the habitat or growth of animals and plants in the agricultural lands and surrounding environment by preying beneficial insects in addition to target insects).

The criteria for refusal of registration were newly established so that the registration of such biological pesticides can be refused where an application for registration is submitted.

- Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [X] animal health, [X] plant protection,
 [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [X] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (*e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text*):

	[] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) <i>(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)</i> :
	[] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):
	[X] None
	Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?
	[]Yes []No
	If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: These amendments are to be publicised in "KAMPO" (Official Government Gazette) when adopted (available in Japanese). These draft amendments are also notified under the TBT Agreement. Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Act is available from the URL: https://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/ja/laws/view/3507.
10.	Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 April 2023
	Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 1 October 2023

- 11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 October 2023
 - Trade facilitating measure []

12. Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 31 March 2023

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

International Trade Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fax: +(81 3) 5501 8343 E-mail: enquiry@mofa.go.jp

13. Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

International Trade Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fax: +(81 3) 5501 8343 E-mail: enquiry@mofa.go.jp