



For inquiries, please contact:
Public Health Bureau, Ministry of
Health, Labour and Welfare

Food Inspection and Safety Division,
Office of Import Food Safety

(Ext. 2474, 2496)

Results of Monitoring and Guidance Based on the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for FY 2023

Interim Report

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Public Health Bureau,
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

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1. Introduction

In order to ensure the safety of foods, etc., imported into Japan (hereinafter, “imported foods”), the government established the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for 2023 (hereinafter, “the Plan”) as per the regulations of Article 23, paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Act (Act No. 233, 1947; hereinafter, “the Act”), and monitoring and guidance for imported foods is being conducted based upon the Plan.

(The Plan is formulated based on the Guidelines for Monitoring and Guidance for Food Sanitation (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Notification No. 301 of 2003) after conducting collection of public comments and risk communication. The plan is published in the Official Gazette as an official report according to the regulations of Article 23, paragraph 3 of the Act.)

This document publishes an outline of the implementation status of the monitoring and guidance for imported foods, conducted in accordance with the Plan, for the period from April to September 2023.

Reference: “Imported Foods Monitoring: To Ensure the Safety of Imported Foods”

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/shokuhin/yunyu_kanshi/index.html (Japanese)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/shokuhin/yunyu_kanshi/index_00017.html (English)



2. Overview of the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for FY 2023

1. What is the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan?

This is the plan for the implementation of monitoring and guidance for the import of foods by the Japanese government as stipulated by Article 23, paragraph 1 of the Act.

Purpose: To further ensure the safety of imported foods by the national government by promoting intensive, effective, and efficient monitoring for imported foods and guidance to importers.

2. Principles of Monitoring and Guidance for Imported Foods

The basic concept is implementation of measures to ensure food safety at each stage, from the production in the exporting countries to domestic distribution after import, in light of Article 4 (“food safety shall be ensured by taking the necessary measures appropriately at each stage of the food supply process both in and outside of Japan”) of the Food Safety Basic Act (Act No. 48 of 2003).

3. Priority Items for Monitoring and Guidance

- Check for the compliance to the Act at the time of import
- Implementation of monitoring inspections*¹ (FY 2023 Plan: 171 food groups, approximately 100,000 cases)
- Inspection orders*²
- Regulations for comprehensive import bans*³
- Emergency measures based on oversea information

*1: Systematic inspection based on a statistical approach considering the import volume and violation rate for each type of food.

*2: Inspection for products with a high probability of violation where inspection is ordered for the importer, each time of the import. Import and distribution is not permitted unless confirm that the results comply with the Act.

*3: Measures whereby the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare prohibits sale or import of specific foods without inspection, in cases where it is deemed necessary to prevent harm.

4. Promotion of Hygiene Control Measures in Exporting Countries

- Disseminate food hygiene regulations in Japan to the authorities and exporters in exporting countries
- Request for the investigation of a cause of violation of the Act and the

establishment of corrective and preventive measures through bilateral consultations, as well as the promotion of hygiene control at production stages, building up a monitoring system and pre-export inspections, etc

- Systematic collection of information on hygiene control measures for foods exported to Japan
- Technical cooperation that helps to build up a food hygiene monitoring system in exporting countries

5. Guidance to Importers on Voluntary Hygiene Control

- Pre-import guidance (known as import consultation)
- Guidance on voluntary inspections at import consultation, initial import and continued import
- Guidance on preparation and storage of records on the import and distribution of imported foods
- Raising awareness of food safety amongst importers

3. Results of Monitoring and Guidance Based on the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for FY 2023 (Interim Report: Tentative)

Figures in brackets are for the same period in the previous year.

The number of import notifications made from April through September 2023 was 1,197,058 cases [1,246,556 cases] , and the weight of notified items was 11,098 thousand tons [12,154 thousand tons] .

Inspections were carried out on 102,256 cases [106,351 cases] (monitoring inspections on 29,145 cases [28,568 cases] , inspection orders on 30,942 cases [33,480 cases] , and voluntary inspections on 42,005 cases [43,716 cases] , deducting duplicates). Of these, 379 cases [388 cases] were found to be in violation of the Act, and steps were taken for reshipment or disposal, etc. (Table 1).

Regarding violations categorized by provision, violations of Article 13 of the Act (standards for food (e.g., microbiological criteria, agricultural chemical residues, and veterinary drug residues) and standards for use for food additives) were the most common with 234 cases, followed by 109 cases of violation of Article 6 (e.g., contamination with harmful or toxic substances such as aflatoxin, cyanide), 33 cases of violation of Article 12 (use of undesignated additives), 17 cases of violation of Article 18 (standards for apparatus, containers and packaging), 7 cases of violation of Article 10 (prohibition for distribution, etc. of meat from diseased animal), and 2 cases of violation of Article 68 (mutatis mutandis application for toys for infants) (Table 2).

Monitoring inspections were conducted for 29,145 cases (running total of 62,540 cases compared to the planned cumulative total of 100,109 (implementation rate: approx. 62%)), and of which, 76 cases (running total of 84 cases) were confirmed to be in violation of the Act, and steps were taken for their recalls, etc. (Table 3). For the same type of imported foods that were found to be in violation of the Act by monitoring inspections, the inspection rate was increased as necessary, to determine the probability of violations (Table 4). Additionally, for imported foods that are considered to have a high probability of violation to the Act, inspections were strengthened by making them subject to inspection orders (Table 5).

As of September 30, 2023, 15 items from all exporting countries, and 100 items from 40 countries and regions were subject to inspection orders. The inspections

have been carried out for 30,942 cases (running total of 42,316 cases), 106 cases of which (running total of 106 cases) were found to be in violation of the Act, and steps were taken for reshipment or disposal, etc. (Table 6).

As emergency measures based on overseas information, measures were taken to reship chocolate from Belgium using almonds as ingredient due to potential contamination with Aflatoxin and measures were taken to strengthen inspections for natural cheese imported from Australia (Table 7).

Table 1 - Notifications, Inspections, and Violations (Apr-Sep 2023: Tentative)

| Notifications ^{*1} (cases) | Imported Weight ^{*1} (thousand tonnes) | Inspections ^{*2} (cases) | Proportion ^{*3} (%) | Violations (cases) | Proportion ^{*3} (%) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1,197,058 | 11,098 | 102,256 (30,942 ^{*4}) | 8.5 | 379 | 0.03 |
| (FY2022) | | | | | |
| 1,246,556 | 12,154 | 106,351 | 8.5 | 388 | 0.03 |

*1 Cargoes of planned import system (excluding the time of first importation) are not included.

*2 Number of inspections by authorities, registered inspection organizations and foreign official laboratories, deducting duplications.

*3 Proportion compared to notifications.

*4 Number of inspection orders.

Table 2 - Violations by Legal Provision (Apr-Sep 2023: Tentative)

| Provision violated | Violations (cases) | Proportion | Major Violation Details |
|---|---|------------|--|
| Article 6 (Foods and additives prohibited to distribute) | 109 (Gross) 107 (Actual) | 27.1% | Detection of aflatoxin from almonds, corn, pistachio nuts, hazelnuts, peanuts, detection of cyanide from flaxseeds, detection of methanol from brandy, detection of enterohemorrhagic <i>E.coli</i> O26 from perilla, decay and spoilage due to accidents during the transport of rice, wheat, soybeans, etc. |
| Article 10 (Prohibition for distribution, etc. of meat from diseased animal) | 7 (Gross) 7 (Actual) | 1.7% | Non-attachment of health certificate |
| Article 12 (Limitation on distribution, etc. of additives, etc.) | 33 (Gross) 30 (Actual) | 8.2% | Use of undesignated additives (TBHQ, Azorubine, Quinoline yellow, Potassium aluminum silicate, Cyclamic acid, Brilliant Black BN, Borax, Manganese sulfate, Potassium iodide, Iodized salt). |
| Article 13 (Standards and criteria for foods and additives) | 234 (Gross) 219 (Actual) | 58.2% | Violations of standards for vegetables and their processed products (exceeding pesticide residue limits, <i>E.coli</i> positive, etc.), violations of standards for livestock foods, aquatic foods, and their processed products (exceeding veterinary drug residue limits, etc.), violations of standards for other processed foods (coliform bacteria test positive, etc.), violations of standards for use of additives (Sorbic acid, Sulfur dioxide, Polysorbate, etc.), violations of specifications for additives, detection of genetically modified foods that have not undergone safety assessment, etc. |
| Article 18 (Standards and criteria for apparatus, containers and packaging) | 17 (Gross) 16 (Actual) | 4.2% | Violations of material standards |
| Article 68 (Mutatis mutandis application for toys for infants) | 2 (Gross) 2 (Actual) | 0.5% | Violations of standards for toys for infants |
| Total | (Gross) ^{*1} (Actual) ^{*2} | 402 379 | |

*1 Number of inspection cases by inspected substance

*2 Number of inspection cases by notification (Of 1 case violated both Article 6 and 13, and 1 case violated both Article 12 and 13)

Table 3 - Implementation of Monitoring Inspections (Apr-Sep 2023: Tentative)

| Food Groups | Inspected Substances *1 | Planned Number in FY | Actual Number | Violations |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|--------------|
| Livestock Foods Beef, pork, chicken, horse meat, other poultry meat, etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 2,178 | 1,231 | 0 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 2,178 | 1,151 | 0 |
| | Additives | 598 | 323 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 657 | 426 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 715 | 426 | 0 |
| | Radiation irradiation | 29 | 16 | 0 |
| | Removal of SRMs | - | 343 | 7 |
| Processed Livestock Foods Natural cheese, meat products, ice cream, frozen food (meat), etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 1,846 | 1,075 | 0 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 1,727 | 1,194 | 0 |
| | Additives | 1,157 | 886 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 3,703 | 2,240 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 2,326 | 1,399 | 5 |
| | Mycotoxins | - | 10 | 0 |
| | Radiation irradiation | - | 6 | 0 |
| Fishery Foods Bivalves, fish, crustacea (shrimps, crabs, etc.), etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 1,817 | 1,287 | 3 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 1,638 | 1,156 | 0 |
| | Additives | 297 | 167 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 1,194 | 988 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 414 | 205 | 0 |
| | Genetically modified food | 59 | 44 | 0 |
| | Radiation irradiation | 64 | 35 | 1 |
| Processed Aquatic Foods Processed fish products (fillet, dried or minced fish, etc.), frozen food (marine animals, fish), processed fish egg products, etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 3,245 | 2,656 | 0 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 3,093 | 2,749 | 0 |
| | Additives | 1,474 | 1,624 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 4,208 | 3,152 | 1 |
| | Standards, etc. | 4,237 | 2,800 | 10 |
| | Mycotoxins | - | 10 | 0 |
| | Radiation irradiation | - | 15 | 0 |
| Agricultural Foods Vegetables, fruit, wheat, corn, beans, peanuts, nuts, seeds, etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 2,470 | 1,811 | 0 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 10,117 | 5,494 | 20 |
| | Additives | 1,043 | 703 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 2,392 | 1,711 | 1 |
| | Standards, etc. | 205 | 207 | 0 |
| | Mycotoxins | 2,147 | 1,235 | 1 |
| | Genetically modified food | 354 | 179 | 0 |
| Radiation irradiation | 119 | 78 | 0 | |
| Processed Agricultural Foods Frozen foods (vegetables), processed vegetable products, processed fruit products, spices, instant noodles etc. | Antibacterial substances, etc. | 598 | 476 | 0 |
| | Residual agricultural chemicals | 6,621 | 5,091 | 7 |
| | Additives | 4,132 | 3,628 | 0 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | 3,048 | 1,821 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 3,487 | 2,593 | 8 |
| | Mycotoxins | 3,853 | 2,227 | 4 |
| | Genetically modified food | 510 | 306 | 0 |
| Radiation irradiation | 458 | 276 | 1 | |
| Other Foods Health foods, soups, seasoning, confectionary, cooking oil and fat, frozen food, etc. | Residual agricultural chemicals | 895 | 945 | 0 |
| | Additives | 2,565 | 2,240 | 6 |
| | Pathogenic microbes | - | 17 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 598 | 412 | 1 |
| | Mycotoxins | 1,794 | 998 | 0 |
| | Genetically modified food | - | 12 | 0 |
| | Radiation irradiation | - | 5 | 0 |
| Beverages Mineral waters, soft drinks, alcohol drinks, etc. | Residual agricultural chemicals | 238 | 215 | 0 |
| | Additives | 1,045 | 720 | 0 |
| | Standards, etc. | 627 | 368 | 0 |
| | Mycotoxins | 178 | 99 | 0 |
| Additives Apparatus, Containers and Packaging Toys for infants | Standards, etc. | 1,761 | 1,059 | 8 |
| Total | | 100,109 *2 | 62,540 *3 Implementation rate of 62% | 84 *3 |

* Numbers in the table are gross number

*1 Examples of inspected substances

- Antibacterial substances, etc. : Antibiotics, synthetic antimicrobials, hormon agents, etc.
- Residual agricultural chemicals : Organophosphorus, organochlorine, carbamates, pyrethroid agricultural chemical, etc.
- Additives : Preservatives, coloring agents, sweeteners, antioxidants, fungicides, etc.
- Pathogenic microbes : *Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli (E. coli) O26, O103, O104, O111, O121, O145 and O157, Listeria monocytogenes, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, etc.*
- Standards, etc. : Items stipulated in the standards (bacterial count, coliform bacteria, radioactive substances, etc. (excluding pathogenic microbes)), shellfish poisons (diarrhetic shellfish poisons and paralytic shellfish poisons), etc.
- Mycotoxins : Aflatoxin, deoxynivalenol, patulin, etc.
- Genetically modified foods : Genetically modified food etc. that have not been assessed for safety.
- Radiation irradiation : Whether irradiation is applied

*2 Gross number of cases with the 10,000 cases planned for enhanced inspections added.

*3 Number of notification cases is 29,145 cases. Number of violations by notification is 76.

Table 4 - Items Subject to Enhanced Monitoring Inspection*¹ (Apr-Sep 2023)

| Country/Region | Subject items | Inspected Substances |
|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| Argentina | Kidney beans | Aflatoxin |
| Iran | Pistachio nut | Imidacloprid |
| | | Chlorpyrifos |
| India | Red hot pepper | Ethion |
| | | Propiconazole |
| | | Methamidophos |
| | Cassia tora | Aflatoxin |
| | Small peanut | Chlorpyrifos |
| | Defatted soy | Aflatoxin |
| | Pearl millet (<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i>) | Aflatoxin |
| | Corn | Aflatoxin |
| | Broccoli | Propiconazole |
| Basil seeds | Aflatoxin | |
| Cultured shrimp | Malachite green | |
| Indonesia | Coffee beans | Isoprocarb |
| United Kingdom | Honey | Glyphosate |
| Ecuador | Cacao beans | Malathion |
| Ethiopia | Mung bean | Cyproconazole |
| Australia | Truffle | Aldrin and Dieldrin |
| | Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate | Patulin |
| Netherlands | Strawberry | Bupirimate |
| | Celeriac | Chlorpropham |
| South Korea | Perilla | Indoxacarb |
| | | Paclobutrazol |
| | Green pepper | Tetraconazole |
| | Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate | Patulin |
| | <i>Allium wakegi</i> | Etofenprox |
| | Hexaconazole | |
| Kenya | Coffee beans | Chlorpyrifos |
| Cote d'Ivoire | Cacao beans | Aflatoxin |
| Costa Rica | Banana | Pyriproxyfen |
| Colombia | Coffee beans | 2,4-D |
| Thailand | Feverweed | Chlorpyrifos |
| | <i>Capsicum frutescens</i> | Propiconazole |
| | Leech lime leaf | Triazophos |
| | | Pirimiphos methyl |
| | Pandanus palm leaf | Pyridaben |
| | | Hexaconazole |
| | Banana | Imidacloprid |
| Sweet basil | Triazophos | |
| Taiwan | Taro | Paclobutrazol |

| Country/Region | Subject items | Inspected Substances |
|----------------|---|--|
| China | Red hot pepper | 2,4-D |
| | Short-neck calm | Prometryn |
| | Green soybeans | Difenoconazole |
| | Chinese pepper | Aflatoxin |
| | Wood ears | Chlorfenapyr |
| | Shiitake | Acephate |
| | Perilla | Atrazine |
| | Soft-shelled turtle | Doxycycline |
| | Carrot | Fluopicolide |
| | | Mepiquat-chloride |
| | Garlic sprouts | Thiamethoxam |
| | Potato | Haloxypop |
| | Bayberry | 4-Chlorophenoxyacetic acid |
| Difenoconazole | | |
| Lychees | Isocarbophos | |
| Nepal | Buckwheat | Aflatoxin |
| | Corn | Aflatoxin |
| Pakistan | Sesame seeds | Chlorpyrifos |
| Bangladesh | Green pepper | Methamidophos |
| | Red hot pepper | Methamidophos |
| France | Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate | Patulin |
| USA | Chickpea | Piperonyl butoxide |
| | Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate | Patulin |
| Vietnam | Green pepper | Propiconazole |
| | Red hot pepper | Tebuconazole |
| | Feverweed | Chlorpyrifos |
| | | Cypermethrin |
| | | Profenofos |
| | | Hexaconazole |
| | <i>Capsicum frutescens</i> | Propiconazole |
| | Proso millet | Aflatoxin |
| | <i>Limnophila aromatica</i> | Isoprothiolane |
| | | Lufenuron |
| | Centella | Tolfenpyrad |
| | Boiled crab | <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> ^{*2} |
| | Passion fruit | Cypermethrin |
| | Banana | Metalaxyl and mefenoxam |
| Lufenuron | | |
| Lime | Profenofos | |
| Lime leaf | Profenofos | |
| Honduras | Melon | Azoxystrobin |
| | | Difenoconazole |
| Mexico | Mango | Permethrin |
| Mozambique | Sesame seeds | Thiamethoxam |

*1 Include the items which were rescinded from inspection orders. Exclude the items which were transferred to inspection orders.

*2 Item which 30% of import notifications were inspected as a measure to enhance inspections during the summer period, (Jun-Oct 2023).

Table 5 - Items Transferred to Inspection Order (Apr-Sep 2023)

| Country/Region | Subject items | Inspected Substances |
|----------------|--|---|
| India | Foods containing dried pineapple (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| | Chickpea | Chlorpyrifos |
| Indonesia | Foods containing red pepper or peanut (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| South Korea | Cultured olive flounder (culturing farm limited) | <i>Kudoa septempunctata</i> |
| Sweden | Foods containing almond or sunflower seed (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| Spain | Foods containing almond or dried fig (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| Sri Lanka | Cacao beans | Aflatoxin |
| Thailand | Snakehead | Enrofloxacin |
| China | Foods containing chinese pepper (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| | Perilla (manufacturer limited) | Enterohemorrhagic <i>Escherichia coli</i> O26 |
| | Processed food (manufacturer limited) | Cyclamic acid |
| USA | Foods containing dried fig or dried apple (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| Vietnam | Calamansi | Profenofos |
| | Spiny eel | Enrofloxacin |
| | Durian | Procymidone |
| | Processed food (manufacturer limited) | Cyclamic acid |
| Peru | Foods containing brazil nuts (manufacturer limited) | Aflatoxin |
| Mali | Sesame seeds | Aflatoxin |
| Mozambique | Sesame seeds | Carbaryl |

Table 6 - Major Items Subject to Inspection Orders and Inspection Results (Apr-Sep 2023: Tentative)

| Country/Region | Major subject foods | Major Inspected Substances | Inspection s (cases) | Violations (cases) |
|---|--|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| All exporting countries (15 items) | Almond, Dried Fig, Chili pepper, Nutmeg, Job's tears, Pistachio, Brazil nuts, Mixed spices, Mixed nuts, Peanut, Red pepper | Aflatoxin | 5,592 | 40 |
| | Manioc, Cyanide-containing beans | Cyanide | 171 | 1 |
| | Salted salmon roe | Nitrite | 62 | 0 |
| China (22 items) | Red pepper, Buckwheat, Onion, Carrot, Garlic sprout, Broccoli, Spinach | Agricultural chemicals (Endrin, Chlorpyrifos, Dimethomorph, Thiamethoxam, Triadimenol, Haloxyfop, Procymidone, Propiconazole) | 17,552 | 17 |
| | Bivalves | Diarrhetic shellfish poison, Paralytic shellfish poison | 3,208 | 0 |
| | Buckwheat, Sunflower seeds | Aflatoxin | 310 | 1 |
| | Soft-shelled turtle, Cultured eel | Veterinary drug residues etc. (Enrofloxacin, Oxolinic acid, Sulfadimidine) | 237 | 2 |
| | Processed foods | Cyclamic acid | 142 | 0 |
| Vietnam (16 items) | Shrimp, Frog, Filefish | Veterinary drug residues etc. (Enrofloxacin, Chloramphenicol, Doxycycline, Flazolidone) | 8,006 | 7 |
| | Red peppers, Capsicum frutescens, Durian, Carrot, Lychees | Agricultural chemicals (Tricyclazole, Procymidone, Propiconazole, Hexaconazole) | 198 | 1 |
| | Processed foods | Cyclamic acid | 8 | 0 |
| South Korea (13 items) | Bivalves | Diarrhetic shellfish poison, Paralytic shellfish poison | 1,645 | 0 |
| | Green pepper, Red pepper, Perilla, Tomato, Oriental melon | Agricultural chemicals (Chlorfenapyr, Tebufenpirad, Paclobutrazol, Fluquinconazole, Propiconazole, Hexaconazole) | 294 | 0 |
| | Cultured olive flounder | Veterinary drug residues etc. (Enrofloxacin, Oxytetracycline) | 6 | 0 |
| India (10 items) | Cultured shrimp | Veterinary drug residues etc. (Furazolidone) | 792 | 3 |
| | Cashew nut, Black tea, Chickpea | Agricultural chemicals (Chlorpyrifos, Hexaconazole) | 228 | 3 |
| | Pearl millet, Corn | Aflatoxin | 9 | 0 |
| Thailand (10 items) | Red shallot, Okra, green asparagus, Durian, Banana, Mango, Mangosteen | Agricultural chemicals (EPN, Imazalil, Chlorpyrifos, Cypermethrin, Haloxyfop, Procymidone, Propiconazole) | 657 | 5 |
| USA (9 items) | Dried dates, Corn, Pistachio nut | Aflatoxin | 1,678 | 6 |
| Philippines (5 items) | Banana, Mango | Agricultural chemicals (Chlorpyrifos, Fipronil, Phenthoate) | 254 | 0 |
| | Tuna fillet for raw consumption | <i>Salmonella</i> spp. | 122 | 0 |
| Taiwan (4 items) | Oolong tea | Residual agricultural chemicals (Carbaryl) | 340 | 5 |
| Other (35 countries and regions; total of 36 items) | | | 805 | 15 |
| Grand total | | | (Gross)*1 42,316 | 106 |
| | | | (Actual)*2 30,942 | 106 |

*1 Number of cases by inspected substance

*2 Number of cases by notification

Table 7 - Major Enhanced Monitoring Based on Overseas Information (Apr-Sep 2023: Tentative)

| Month of enhancement | Country/Region | Food items and Risks | Background and Measures Taken |
|----------------------|----------------|---|--|
| April | Belgium | Chocolate using almond as ingredient (Possible contamination with Aflatoxin) | Based on the information that Aflatoxin was detected from chocolates using almonds as ingredient were voluntarily recalled in Belgium, measures such as reshipment were taken when an import notification of the recalled product was made. |
| July | Australia | Natural cheese (Possible contamination with <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>) | Based on the information that <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> was detected from the natural cheese and that it was voluntarily recalled in Australia, measures were taken to conduct instructed-based inspections if products from specific manufacturers were imported. |

(Reference) Description of Key Terms

| Term | Description |
|--|--|
| 2,4-D | Agricultural chemical (phenoxy acid herbicide) |
| 4-Chlorophenoxyacetic acid | Agricultural chemical (phenoxy acid plant growth regulator) |
| Acephate | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Aflatoxin | Mycotoxin produced by fungi <i>Aspergillus flavus</i> and <i>Aspergillus parasiticus</i> , which belong to fungi imperfecti |
| Aldrin and Dieldrin | Agricultural chemical (organochlorine insecticide) |
| Atrazine | Agricultural chemical (triazine herbicide) |
| Azoxystrobin | Agricultural chemical (strobilurin fungicide) |
| Bupirimate | Agricultural chemical (fungicide) |
| Carbaryl | Agricultural chemical (carbamate insecticide) |
| Chloramphenicol | Veterinary drug (synthetic antibacterial agent) |
| Chlorfenapyr | Agricultural chemical (pyrrole insecticide) |
| Chlorpropham | Agricultural chemical (carbamate herbicide) |
| Chlorpyrifos | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Cyanide | Harmful or poisonous substance (cyanide compounds (e.g. cyanogenic glycosides)) found in plants such as some varieties of beans |
| Cyclamic acid | Undesignated additive (sweetener) |
| Cypermethrin | Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide) |
| Cyproconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Diarrhetic shellfish poison | Shellfish poison (mainly refers to toxins produced by harmful planktons accumulated in bivalves) |
| Difenoconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Dimethomorph | Agricultural chemical (cinnamic acid derivative fungicide) |
| Doxycycline | Veterinary drug (Tetracycline synthetic antimicrobial agents) |
| Endrin | Agricultural chemical (organochlorine insecticide) |
| Enrofloxacin | Veterinary drug (new quinolone synthetic antibacterial agent) |
| Enterohemorrhagic <i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E. coli</i>) | Pathogenic microorganism (a bacterium that exists in the intestines of animals. It contaminates foods and drinking water via faeces and urine, and causes early cold like symptoms followed by severe abdominal pain and bloody diarrhea with a large amount of bright red blood). |
| EPN | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Ethion | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Etofenprox | Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide) |
| Fipronil | Agricultural chemical (phenylpyrazole insecticide) |
| Fluopicolide | Agricultural chemical (dichlorobenzoic acid group fungicide) |
| Fluquinconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Furazolidone | Veterinary drug (nitrofurantoin synthetic antibacterial agent); generates AOZ when metabolized |
| Glyphosate | Agricultural chemical (amino acid herbicide) |
| Haloxypop | Agricultural chemical (aryloxyphenoxy-propionate herbicide) |
| Hexaconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Imazalil | Agricultural chemical (insecticide, fungicide) |
| Imidacloprid | Agricultural chemical (neonicotinoid insecticide) |
| Indoxacarb | Agricultural chemical (oxadiazine insecticide) |
| Isocarbophos | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Isoprocarb | Agricultural chemical (carbamate insecticide) |
| Isoprothiolane | Agricultural chemical (dithiolane fungicide) |
| <i>Kudoa septempunctata</i> | Kind of parasite that causes food poisoning (Myxosporidia) |
| <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> | Pathogenic microorganism (a bacterium that exists widely in the natural environment. It commonly contaminates dairy products and processed meat products, and causes influenza-like symptoms including malaise and fever) |
| Lufenuron | Agricultural chemical (benzoylphenyl urea insecticide) |
| Malachite green | Veterinary drug (green synthetic pigment, a synthetic antibacterial agent often used for conditions like water mold disease in ornamental fish) |
| Malathion | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Mepiquat-chloride | Pesticides (Hetero plant growth regulators) |
| Metalaxyl and mfenoxam | Agricultural chemical (acyl alanine derivative fungicide) |
| Methamidophos | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Nitrite | Additive (color fixative agent) |

| Term | Description |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Oxolinic acid | Veterinary drug (quinolone synthetic antibacterial agent) |
| Oxytetracycline | Veterinary drug (tetracycline antibiotoxic agent) |
| Paclobutrazol | Agricultural chemical (triazole plant growth regulator) |
| Paralytic shellfish poison | Shellfish poison (mainly refers to toxins produced by harmful planktons accumulated in bivalves) |
| Patulin | Mycotoxin (produced by the fungi such as <i>Penicillium</i> spp. and <i>Aspergillus</i> spp.) |
| Permethrin | Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide) |
| Phenthoate | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Piperonyl butoxide | Agricultural chemical (insecticide) |
| Pirimiphos methyl | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Procymidone | Agricultural chemical (dicarboximide fungicide) |
| Profenofos | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Prometryn | Agricultural chemical (triazine herbicide) |
| Propiconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Pyridaben | Agricultural chemical (pyridazinone group insecticide) |
| Pyriproxyfen | Pesticides (Insecticides with 4-phenoxyphenoxy structure) |
| <i>Salmonella</i> spp. | Pathogenic microorganism (a bacterium that exists widely in nature. It commonly contaminates poultry eggs and meat, and causes abdominal pain, diarrhea, and fever) |
| Sulfadimidine | Veterinary drug (synthetic antibacterial agent) |
| Tebufenpyrad | Agricultural chemical (pyrazole ring group insecticide) |
| Tetraconazole | Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide) |
| Thiamethoxam | Agricultural chemical (neonicotinoid insecticide) |
| Tolfenpyrad | Agricultural chemical (pyrazole ring group insecticide) |
| Triadimenol | Agricultural chemical (fungicide) |
| Triazophos | Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide) |
| Tricyclazole | Agricultural chemical (benzothiazole herbicide) |
| <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> | Pathogenic microorganism (a bacterium living in seawater (estuaries, coastal areas, etc.) that commonly contaminates fish and shellfish, and causes abdominal pain, watery diarrhea, fever and vomiting.) |