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Results of Monitoring and Guidance Based on the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for FY 2021

Interim Report

December 2021

Pharmaceutical Safety and Environmental Health Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Result of Monitoring and Guidance Based on the Imported Foods Monitoring and and Guidance Plan for FY 2021 (Interim Report)

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 2021 (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 2021.

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

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

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

2. Overview of the Imported Foods Monitoring and Guidance Plan for FY 2021

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 2021 Plan: 171 food groups, 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 the results comply with the Act.

*3: Measures whereby the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare prohibits sale or import of specific foods without requiring an 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 counties
○ 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 2021 (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 2021 was 1,246,313 cases【1,164,822 cases】, and the weight of notified items was 11,891 thousand tons【11,684 thousand tons】.
Inspections were carried out on 102,352 cases【98,296 cases】(monitoring inspections on 26,614 cases【25,184 cases】, ordered inspections on 32,819 cases【33,233 cases】, and voluntary inspections on 43,742 cases【41,417 cases】, deducting duplicates). Of these, 398 cases【305 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 295 cases, followed by 83 cases of violation of Article 6 (e.g. contamination with harmful or toxic substances such as aflatoxin, cyanide), 22 cases of violation of Article 12 (use of undesignated additives), 22 cases of violation of Article 18 (standards for apparatus, containers and packaging), 2 cases of violation of Article 10 (non-attachment of health certificates for meat) (Table 2).

Monitoring inspections were conducted for 26,614 cases (58,234 cases compared to the planned cumulative total of 99,995 (implementation rate: approx. 58%)), and of which, 78 cases (running total of 78 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 ordered inspections (Table 5).

As of September 30, 2021, 15 items from all exporting countries, and 85 items from 30 countries and one region were subject to ordered inspections. The inspections have been carried out for 32,819 cases (running total of 41,804 cases), 87 cases of which (running total of 87 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 processed shellfish products from China contaminated with hepatitis A virus, natural cheese from Ireland contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, and dried sausages from Spain contaminated with *Salmonella* spp. (Table 7).

Table 1 - Notifications, Inspections, and Violations (Apr-Sep 2021: Tentative)

Notifications[*1] (cases)	Imported Weight[*1] (thousand tonnes)	Inspections[*2] (cases)	Proportion[*3] (%)	Violations (cases)	Proportion[*3] (%)
1,246,313	11,891	102,352 (32,819[*4])	8.2	398	0.03
(FY2020)					
1,164,822	11,684	98,296	8.4	305	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 oranaizations and foreign official laboratories, deducing dupulications.

*3 Proportion compared to notifications.

*4 Number of ordered inspections.

Table 2 - Violations by Legal Provision (Apr-Sep 2021: Tentative)

Provision violated	Violations (cases)	Proportion	Major Violation Details
Article 6 (Foods and additives prohibited to distribute)	83 (Gross) 83 (Actual)	19.6%	Aflatoxin contamination in almonds, dried figs, spice (chili pepper), corn, nutmeg, pistachio nuts, peanuts, etc., detection of cyanide from flax seeds, manioc, decay and deterioration (e.g. unpleasant smell or mold) due to accidents during the transport of rice, wheat and rape seeds, etc.
Article 10 (Prohibition for distribution, etc. of meat from diseased animal)	2 (Gross) 2 (Actual)	0.5%	Non-attachment of health certificate
Article 12 (Limitation on distribution, etc. of additives, etc.)	22 (Gross) 22 (Actual)	5.2%	Use of undesignated additives (TBHQ, Methylene chloride, Cyclamic acid, Zinc oxide, Patent blue V)
Article 13 (Standards and criteria for foods and additives)	295 (Gross) 274 (Actual)	69.6%	Violations of standards for vegetables and its processed products (agricultural chemicals residues exceeding the standards, coliform bacteria test positive, etc.), violations of standards for livestock foods, aquatic foods and their processed products (coliform bacteria test positive, veterinary drugs residues exceeding the standards, etc.), violations of standards for other processed products (coliform bacteria test positive, etc.), violations of standards for use of additives (Sodium benzoate , Sorbic acid, Sulfur dioxide, etc.), and violations of specifications for additives, detection of radioactive substances, detection of genetically modified food that has not undergone safety assessment, etc.
Article 18 (Standards and criteria for apparatus, containers and packaging)	22 (Gross) 17 (Actual)	5.2%	Violations of materials standards
Total	(Gross)*1 (Actual)*2	424 398	

*1 Number of inspection cases by inspected substance

*2 Number of inspection cases by notification

Table 3 - Implementation of Monitoring Inspections (Apr-Sep 2021: Tentative)

Food Groups	Inspected Substancces *1	Planned Number in FY	Actual Number	Violations
Livestock Foods Beef, pork, chicken, horse meat, other poultry meat, etc.	Antibacterial substances, etc.	2,208	1,205	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	1,281	943	0
	Additives	118	96	0
	Pathogenic microbes	717	358	0
	Standards, etc.	385	195	0
	Radiation irradiation	29	7	0
	Removal of SRMs	-	596	1
Processed Livestock Foods Natural cheese, meat products, ice cream, frozen food (meat), etc.	Antibacterial substances, etc.	1,996	1,042	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	1,817	1,236	0
	Additives	1,247	1,049	0
	Pathogenic microbes	3,764	1,903	0
	Standards, etc.	2,057	1,258	3
	Mycotoxins	-	12	0
	Radiation irradiation	-	5	0
Fishery Foods Bivalves, fish, crustacea (shrimps, crabs, etc.) , etc.	Antibacterial substances, etc.	1,817	1,113	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	1,698	1,000	0
	Additives	297	138	0
	Pathogenic microbes	1,493	956	0
	Standards, etc.	534	229	0
	Genetically modified food	59	28	0
	Radiation irradiation	64	37	0
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.	3,035	2,450	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	3,243	2,719	0
	Additives	1,564	1,672	0
	Pathogenic microbes	5,376	3,041	0
	Standards, etc.	5,495	2,753	19
	Mycotoxins	-	6	0
	Radiation irradiation	-	6	0
Agricultural Foods Vegetables, fruit, wheat, corn, beans, peanuts, nuts, seeds, etc.	Antibacterial substances, etc.	2,410	2,090	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	10,959	5,440	22
	Additives	983	580	1
	Pathogenic microbes	1,434	1,505	0
	Standards, etc.	415	239	0
	Mycotoxins	2,297	1,268	1
	Genetically modified food	502	215	0
	Radiation irradiation	119	128	0
Processed Agricultural Foods Frozen foods (vegetables), processed vegetable products, proessed fruit products, spices, instant noodles etc.	Antibacterial substances, etc.	598	344	0
	Residual agricultural chemicals	7,160	4,994	12
	Additives	3,683	3,323	1
	Pathogenic microbes	1,970	1,257	0
	Standards, etc.	3,398	2,470	7
	Mycotoxins	3,313	1,728	2
	Genetically modified food	302	191	1
	Radiation irradiation	458	276	0
Other Foods Health foods, soups, seasoning, confectionary, cooking oil and fat, frozen food, etc.	Residual agricultural chemicals	1,074	778	0
	Additives	2,565	1,761	0
	Pathogenic microbes	-	6	0
	Standards, etc.	1,196	452	0
	Mycotoxins	1,135	634	2
	Genetically modified food	-	6	0
	Radiation irradiation	-	8	0
Beverages Mineral waters, soft drinks, alcohol drinks, etc.	Residual agricultural chemicals	118	149	0
	Additives	1,075	714	0
	Standards, etc.	657	320	1
	Mycotoxins	118	79	2
Additives **Apparatus, Containers and Packaging** **Toys for infants**	Specifications, etc.	1,762	1,226	3
Total (gross)		99,995 *2	58,234 *3 Implementation rate of 58%	78 *3

*1 Examples of inspected substances
- Antibacterial substances, etc. : Antibiotics, synthetic antimicrobials, hormon agents, etc.
- Residual agricultural chemicals : Organophosphorus, organochionne, carbamates, pyrethroid, 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 : Items stipulated in the standards (bacterial count, coliform bateria, radioactive substances, etc. (excluding pathogenic microbes)) , shellfish poisons (diarrhetic shellfish poison and paralytic shell fish poison) , 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 strengthened inspections added.

*3 Gross number of inspection cases by inspected substances. The number of notification cases is 26,614 cases. The number of violations by notifications is 78.

Table 4 - Items Subject to Enhanced Monitoring Inspections[*1] (Apr-Sep 2021)

Country / Region	Subject Items (Inspection order item, etc.)	Inspected Substances
Italy	Non-glutinous rice	Deltamethrin and tralomethrin
Iran	Pistachio nut	Imidacloprid
India	Processed almond products	Aflatoxin
	Black tea	Ethion
Ecuador	Banana	Pyriproxyfen
Ghana	Cacao beans	Cypermethrin
South Korea	Red hot pepper	Propiconazole
		Hexaconazole
	Oriental melon	Procymidone
Spain	Non-glutinous rice	Deltamethrin and tralomethrin
Sri Lanka	Red hot pepper	Triazophos
	Black tea	Diuron
Thailand	Immature peas	Diniconazole
		Flusilazole
		Hexaconazole
Taiwan	Banana	Imidacloprid
		Deltamethrin and tralomethrin
China	Green soybeans	Difenoconazole
	Okra	Methomyl
	Wood ears	Imidacloprid
		Chlorpyrifos
	Rape flower	Pyridaben
	Chinese chive	Procymidone
	Spinach	Pyraclostrobin
	Immature peas	Hexaconazole
Turkey	Chickpea	Aflatoxin
Paraguay	Chia seeds	Aflatoxin
Brazil	Processed brazil nuts products	Aflatoxin
Burkina Faso	Sesame seeds	Aflatoxin
Vietnam	*Limnophila aromatica*	Iprobenfos
		Diflubenzuron
		Hexaconazole
	Pitahaya (Dragon fruit)	Metalaxyl and mefenoxam
	Lychees	Tricyclazole
Venezuela	Cacao beans	Cypermethrin
South Africa	Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate	Patulin
Mexico	Avocado	Bifenthrin

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

Table 5 - Items Transferred to Inspection Order (Apr-Sep 2021)

Country/Region	Subject Items (Inspection order item, etc.)	Inspected Substances
Argentina	Kidney beans	Aflatoxin
Italy	Foods containing red pepper or pistachio (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
Iran	Foods containing almond or pistachio (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
India	Pearl millet	Aflatoxin
Australia	Apple juice and Apple juice concentrate	Patulin
South Korea	Green hot pepper	Tebufenpyrad
		Hexaconazole
Spain	Foods containing dried fig or almond	Aflatoxin
China	Foods containing almond, chia seed or peanut (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
	Foods (manufacturer limited)	Cyclamic acid
	Sunflower seeds	Aflatoxin
Nepal	Buckwheat	Aflatoxin
Pakistan	Foods containing pistachio (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
Bangladesh	Foods containing red pepper, turmeric, chickpea or peanut (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
France	Foods containing red pepper or pistachio (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
	Natural cheese (manufacturer limited)	*Listeria monocytogenes*
Vietnam	*Limnophila aromatica*	Isoprothiolane
		Tricyclazole
		Lufenuron
	Foods (manufacturer limited)	Cyclamic acid
	Durian	Procymidone
	Banana	Permethrin
Poland	Foods containing dried fig (manufacturer limited)	Aflatoxin
Myanmar	Mung bean	Thiamethoxam

Table 6 - Major Items Subject to Ordered Inspections and Inspection Results (Apr-Sep 2021: Tentative)

Country/Region	Major Subject Foods	Major Inspected Substances	Inspections (cases)	Violations (cases)
All exporting countries (15 items)	Almonds, Chili peppers, Peanuts, etc.	Aflatoxin	6,051	40
	Manioc, Beans containing cyanide	Cyanide	158	4
	Salted salmon roe	Nitrite	83	0
China (18 items)	Vegetables (Onion, Carrot, Spinach, etc.), Short-neck clam	Agricultural chemical residues (Endrin, Chlorpyrifos, Dimethomorph, Thiamethoxam, Triadimenol, Haloxyfop, Procymidone, Prometryn)	18,275	18
	Bivalves	Paralytic shellfish poison, Diarrhetic shellfish poison	4,120	0
	Eel, Soft-shelled turtle	Veterinary drug residues etc. (Enrofloxacin, Oxolinic acid, Sulfadimidine)	273	0
	Sichuan pepper, Sunflower seeds, Sorghum	Aflatoxin	208	0
	Processed foods	Cyclamic acid	53	0
South Korea (13 items)	Bivalves	Paralytic shellfish poison, Diarrhetic shellfish poison	2,203	0
	Green hot pepper, Perilla	Agricultural chemical residues (Tebufenpyrad, Fluquinconazole, Hexaconazole, Indoxacarb, Paclobutrazol)	257	2
Vietnam (13 items)	Shrimp, Filefish	Veterinary drug residues etc. (Enrofloxacin, Chloramphenicol)	4,811	3
	Green hot pepper, Red pepper,Capsicum frutescens, Carrot, Durian, Banana	Agricultural chemical residues (Tricyclazole, Propiconazole, Hexaconazole, Procymidone, Permethrin)	270	2
	Processed foods	Cyclamic acid	29	0
	Proso millet	Aflatoxin	1	0
India (9 items)	Cultured shrimp	Furazolidone	1,059	5
	Cassia tora , Pearl millet, Corn, Basil seeds	Aflatoxin	49	1
	Chili pepper, Fennel seed	Agricultural chemical residues (Triazophos)	42	0
Thailand (9 items)	Feverweed, Okra, Greeen asparagus, Durian, Banana, Mango, Mangosteen	Agricultural chemical residues (EPN, Imazalil, Chlorpyrifos, Cypermethrin, Procymidone, Propiconazole)	1,197	2
USA (8 items)	Dried dates, Corn, Pistachio nuts	Aflatoxin	1,620	3
	Corn	Deltamethrin and tralomethrin	47	0
Other (29 countries and 1 region; total of 43 items)			998	7
Grand total		(Gross)*1	41,804	87
		(Actual)*2	32,819	87

*1 Number of cases by inspected substance

*2 Number of cases by notification

Table 7 - Major Enhanced Monitoring Based on Overseas Information (Apr-Sep 2021: Tentative)

Month of Enhancement	Country	Food Items and Risks	Background and Measures Taken
June	China South Korea	Processed shellfish products (Possible contamination with hepatitis A virus)	Based on the additional information that hepatitis A virus was detected from the processed shellfish products from China and that they were voluntarily recalled in South Korea, the notice was revised and measures such as reshipment were taken when an import notification of the recalled product was made.
July August	Ireland	Natural cheese (Possible contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*)	Based on the information that *Listeria monocytogenes* was detected from the natural cheese and that they were voluntarily recalled in Ireland, measures such as reshipment were taken when an import notification of the recalled product was made.
September	Spain	Dried sausage (Possible contamination with *Salmonella* spp.)	Based on the information that *Salmonella* spp. was detected from the dried sausage and that they were voluntarily recalled in Spain, measures such as reshipment were taken when an import notification of the recalled product was made.

(Reference) Description of Key Terms

Term	Description
Aflatoxin	Mycotoxin produced by fungi *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus*, which belong to fungi inperfecti.
Bifenthrin	Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide)
Chloramphenicol	Veterinary drug (synthetic antibacterial agent)
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
Cypermethrin	Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide)
Deltamethrin and tralomethrin	Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide)
Diarrhetic shellfish poison	Shellfish poison (mainly refers to toxins produced by harmful planktons accumulated in bivalves)
Difenoconazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide)
Diflubenzuron	Agricultural chemical (benzoylphenylurea insecticide)
Dimethomorph	Agricultural chemical (cinnamic acid derivative fungicide)
Diniconazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole insecticide)
Diuron	Agricultural chemical (herbicide)
Endrin	Agricultural chemical (insecticide)
Enrofloxacin	Veterinary drug (new quinolone synthetic antibacterial agent)
Enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*)	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 (insecticide)
Fluquinconazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide)
Flusilazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide)
Furazolidone	Veterinary drug (nitrofuran synthetic antibacterial agent), generates AOZ when metabolized
Haloxyfop	Agricultural chemical (aryloxyphenoxy-propionate herbicide)
Hexaconazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide)
Imazalil	Agricultural chemical (fungicide)
Imidacloprid	Agricultural chemical (neonicotinoid insecticide)
Iprobenfos	Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus fungicide)
Listeria monocytogenes	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)
Metalaxyl and mefenoxam	Agricultural chemical (phenylamide fungicide)
Methomyl	Agricultural chemical (insecticide)
Oxolinic acid	Veterinary drug (quinolone synthetic antibacterial 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 *Penicillium* spp. and *Aspergillus* spp.)
Permethrin	Agricultural chemical (pyrethroid insecticide)
Procymidone	Agricultural chemical (dicarboximide fungicide)
Prometryn	Agricultural chemical (triazine herbicide)
Propiconazole	Agricultural chemical (triazole fungicide)
Pyraclostrobin	Agricultural chemical (strobilurin fungicide)
Pyridaben	Agricultural chemical (pyridazinone group insecticide)
Pyriproxyfen	Agricultural chemical (4-phenoxyphenyl group insecticide)
Salmonella 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 insecticide)
Thiamethoxam	Agricultural chemical (neonicotinoid insecticide)
Triadimenol	Agricultural chemical (fungicide)
Triazophos	Agricultural chemical (organophosphorus insecticide)
Tricyclazole	Agricultural chemical (benzothiazole herbicide)
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	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.)