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Organic Products

Japan Agricultural Standards For Organic

Agricultural Products And Their Processed Foods

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Report Highlights:

This report contains a FAS/Tokyo unofficial translation of the Japan Agricultural Standards For Organic Agricultural Products and the Japan Agricultural Standards For Processed Foods From Organic Agricultural Products.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Tokyo [JA1], JA

Japan Agricultural Standards For Organic Agricultural Products

UNOFFICIAL FAS/TOKYO TRANSLATION

Begin translation

(Purpose)

Article 1 The standards aims at definition of standards etc. for the production of organic agricultural products.

(Principles for the Production of Organic Agricultural Products)

Article 2 The principles for the production of organic agricultural products shall be as follows.

- (1) In order to maintain and promote the natural circulating function of agriculture, organic agricultural products shall be produced in fields, where in principle the use of fertilizers and pesticides which are chemically synthesized is avoided to facilitate the productivity derived from the soil properties of the fields, and where agricultural production management methods which reduce environmental burdens derived from agricultural production as much as possible are adopted.
- (2) Organic agricultural products shall be collected by methods which do not hinder maintenance of the ecological system in collection fields (Said fields mean fields where naturally grown agricultural products are collected. Same applies hereinafter.).

(Definition)

Article 3 Under the standards, organic agricultural products shall be defined as agricultural products produced by the method fulfilling the standards in Article 4.

(Standards for production methods)

Article 4 The standards for the production methods shall be as follows.

Matters	Standards
Requirements for production field etc.	<p>1. Production fields must be clearly separated from the surrounding environment and shall not be influenced by the drift of fertilizers, soil improving materials and pesticides (excluding those listed in Attachment Table 1 and Attachment Table 2, called ‘prohibited use materials’ hereinafter). In the case of rice paddy fields, necessary measures shall be taken to prevent the irrigation water from contamination with the prohibited use materials.</p> <p>2. Either of the following shall be applied.</p> <p>(1) Production fields shall be those in which agricultural production has been performed in accordance with the standards listed as follows for growth management in production fields etc., on seeds and seedlings sown or planted in the fields and for harmful animal and plant control, for more than three years precedent to the first harvest in the cases of production of perennial crops other than grasslands, or more than two years precedent to sowing or planting in the case of production of other crops (more than one year precedent to sowing and planting in the case of production fields newly developed or prohibited use materials not used for over two years).</p> <p>(2) Production fields in a transition period (Said fields mean those under transition to the production fields defined in the text of this clause, and do not meet the particulars defined in the text of this clause) and shall be those in which agricultural production has been performed in accordance with the standards listed as follows for growth management in production fields etc., on seeds and seedlings sown or planted in the fields and for harmful animal and plant control, for more than one year.</p> <p>3. Collecting fields shall be designated areas which do not receive contamination with the prohibited use materials from its surrounding environment, and in which the prohibited use materials have not been used for more than three years precedent to collection of agricultural products.</p>

Growth management in the fields	Maintenance and promotion of the productivity of the farmland derived from soil fertility of the said production fields (the said production fields mean production fields and collecting fields, same applies hereinafter) shall be performed only through application of compost made from the remains of agricultural products produced in the said field or utilization of biological activities of organisms living in or around the said production fields (Fertilizers and soil improvement materials listed in Attachment Table 1 may be used in the cases maintenance and promotion of the productivity of the farmland derived from soil fertility of the said production fields cannot be performed through utilization of biological activities of organisms living in or around the said production fields.).
Seeds and seedlings to be sown or planted in the fields	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeds and seedlings (seedlings, young tree plants, head tree plants, base tree plants and other parts of or whole plants, which are supplied for the purpose of propagation. Same applies hereinafter.) shall meet the standards for requirements for production fields, etc., for requirements for growth management in the fields, harmful animals and plant control in the fields, and for management concerning transportation, selection, preparation, washing, storage and packaging. However, it shall be exempted in the cases when it is difficult to obtain such materials by generally available means. 2. Said materials shall not be those produced through genetic recombination technologies (Technologies to multiply recombinant DNA by introducing recombinant DNA constructed by cleavage and re-ligation using enzymes etc. into a living cell. Same applies hereinafter.)
Harmful animals and plant control in the fields	Said control shall be performed by planting management (Said management means selection of varieties, scheduling of planting times, and other scheduled implementation of ordinary growth management practices, with an intention to control emergence of harmful animals and plants), physical management (Said management means control of emergence of harmful animals and plants through utilization of light, heat or sound, etc., or manpower or mechanical methods.), or biological management (Said management means control of harmful animals and plants through environmental conditioning to suit for introduction of, microorganisms inhibiting the growth of other microorganisms causing diseases, animals preying on harmful animals and plants, plants avoided by harmful animals and plants, or plants effective in inhibiting emergence of harmful animals and plants, or environmental conditioning to suit for such introduction.) or their appropriate combinations. (Only pesticides listed in Table 2 shall be used in the cases there is a significant or immediate danger on agricultural products, and the harmful animals and plants may not be effectively managed by methods other than an appropriate combination of planting management, physical management or biological management.)
Management concerning transportation, selection, preparation, washing, storage and packaging	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organic agricultural products and other agricultural products shall not be mixed with each other during the process of transportation, selection, preparation, washing, storage, packaging, etc. 2. No materials other than materials for preparation (excluding those manufactured using recombinant DNA technology) listed in Attachment Table 2 and Attachment Table 3 shall be used for management of harmful animals and plants or quality maintenance and improvement during the process of transportation, selection, preparation, washing, storage, packaging, etc. 3. No irradiation shall be performed for the purpose of pest management, food preservation, germ elimination and hygiene. 4. Produced organic agricultural products shall be controlled to avoid contamination with pesticides, detergents, sterilizers and other chemicals.

(Labeling of the names of the agricultural products)

Article 5 Labeling of the names of the agricultural products shall be executed in a way specified as follows.

Category	Standards
Method of labeling	<p>1 The labeling shall be as one of the following.</p> <p>(1) <i>yuuki nousanbutsu</i> (organic agricultural product)</p> <p>(2) <i>yuuki saibai nousanbutsu</i> (organically grown agricultural product)</p> <p>(3) <i>yuuki nousanbutsu XX</i> or “<i>XX (yuuki nousanbutsu)</i>”</p> <p>(4) <i>yuuki saibai nousanbutsu XX</i>” or “<i>XX (yuuki saibai nousanbutsu)</i>”</p> <p>(5) “<i>yuuki saibai XX</i>” (organically grown XX) or “<i>XX (yuuki saibai)</i>”</p> <p>(6) “<i>yuuki XX</i>” (organic XX) or “<i>XX (yuuki)</i>”</p> <p>(7) “<i>organic XX</i>” or “<i>XX (organic)</i>”</p> <p>(Note) The most commonly used name of the agricultural product is printed for XX.</p> <p>2 Regardless of the rules in the previous provision, agricultural products collected in collecting fields shall be labeled according to the labeling methods (1), (3), (6) or (7), and organic agricultural products obtained from production fields in a transition period shall be labeled as “<i>tenkan kikan-chu</i>” (during a transition period) either before or after the product name labeling determined in the previous provision</p>

Attachment Table 1

Fertilizers or soil improvement materials	Standards
Composts derived from agricultural products and their residues	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Composts derived from livestock and poultry manure	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Composts derived from food processing etc.	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Composts from household refuse	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Composts from bark	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Fish refuse meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Rapeseed refuse and its meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Rice bran oil refuse and its meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Soybean oil refuse and its meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Steamed bone meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Nitrous guano	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Dried aquatic plants and their meal	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Grass and wood ash	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Calcium carbonate fertilizers	Crushed natural rocks (including magnesium calcium carbonate)
Fossil shell fertilizers	Those without addition of chemically synthesized magnesium fertilizers
Potassium chloride	Crushed or purified from water-washed natural rocks, or extracted from natural <i>kansui</i> (salt water)
Potassium sulfate	Purified from water-washed natural rocks
Potassium magnesium sulfate	Purified from water-washed natural rocks
Natural phosphorous rock	Cadmium content must be below 90 mg in 1 kg as phosphorous pentoxide
Magnesium sulfate fertilizers	Crystallized <i>nigari</i> (bitters) or purified natural magnesium sulfate rocks
Magnesium hydroxide fertilizers	Crushed natural rocks
Gypsum (calcium sulfate)	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Sulfur	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances

Trace elements	Those without addition of chemically synthesized substances other than the trace elements, in the case normal growth of agricultural products cannot be guaranteed due to a shortage of trace elements such as manganese or boron
Wood charcoal	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Peat	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Bentonite	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Perlite	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Zeolite	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Vermiculite	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Roasted diatomaceous earth granules	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Alkaline slug	
Slug silicate fertilizer	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Fused phosphate fertilizer	Natural substances, or substances derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances
Sodium chloride	Only mined salt
Aluminum calcium phosphate	Cadmium content must be below 90 mg in 1 kg as phosphorous pentoxide
Hypochlorite powder	
Other fertilizers and soil improvement materials	Natural substances or those derived from natural substances (limited to those manufactured through combusting, roasting, melting, carbonizing or saponifying natural substances, or those manufactured from natural substances through a method other than chemical one) without addition of chemically synthesized substances, to be used in soil in order to change soil characteristics to provide plants with nutrients or to contribute to plant cultivation, and such substances (including living organisms) to be used on plants to provide the plants with nutrients

Attachment Table 2

Directions for use printed on containers of pesticides must be followed when the pesticides are used.

Pesticides	Standards
Emulsion preparation of Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium	Those extracted from pyrethrum
Emulsion preparation of Derris	
Powder of Derris	
Powder preparation of Derris	
Emulsion preparation of rapeseed oil	
Aerosol of machine oil	
Emulsion preparation of machine oil	
Fumigation preparation of sulfur	
Powder preparation of sulfur	
Aqueous preparation of sulfur and copper	
Aqueous preparation of sulfur	
Liquid preparation of extract from shiitake mushroom mycelium	
Liquid preparation of sodium bicarbonate	
Liquid preparation of sodium bicarbonate and copper	

Liquid preparation of copper	
Powder preparation of copper	
Copper sulfate	Limited to the use for preparation of Bordeaux mixture
Slaked lime	Limited to the use for preparation of Bordeaux mixture
Preparation of aqueous nitrogen	
Natural enemy pesticides and biological pesticide preparation	
Preparation of sex pheromone	
Attractants	
Repellents	
Liquid preparation of Chlorella extract	
Liquid preparation of extracted mixed natural herbs	
Casein lime	Limited to the use as a developer
Paraffin	Limited to the use as a developer
Aqueous preparation of wax	
Preparation of carbon dioxide	Limited to the use in storage facilities
Preparation of diatomaceous earth	Limited to the use in storage facilities

Note: The instructions on the bottles, etc. must be closely followed when the agricultural chemicals are used.

Attachment Table 3

Processing aids etc.	Standards
Calcium carbonate	
Calcium oxide	
Carbon dioxide	
Nitrogen	
Ethanol	
Casein	
Gelatin	
Activated carbon	
Talc	
Bentonite	
Kaolin	
Diatomaceous earth	
Perlite	
DL-Tartaric acid	
L-Tartaric acid	
DL-Potassium bitartrate	
L-Potassium bitartrate	
DL-Sodium tartrate	
L-Sodium tartrate	
Citric acid	
Processing aids etc. derived from microorganisms	
Enzymes	
Egg white albumin	
Isinglass	
Vegetable oil	
Preparations of bark components	
Hazelnut shells	
Other processing aids, etc.	Said processing aids, etc. are natural substances or those derived from natural substances without addition of chemically synthesized substances, which are essential during the process of transportation, selection, preparation, washing, storage, packaging, etc.

Japan Agricultural Standards For Processed Foods From Organic Agricultural Products

UNOFFICIAL FAS/TOKYO TRANSLATION

Begin translation

(Purpose)

Article 1 The standards aims at definition of standards etc. for the production of processed foods from organic agricultural products.

(Principles for the Production of Processed Foods From Organic Agricultural Products)

Article 2 The principles for the production of processed foods from organic agricultural products shall be as follows. The said processed foods shall be principally manufactured; through manufacturing methods utilizing physical and biological functions, aiming at maintaining characteristics of organic agricultural products (Said agricultural products mean those defined in Article 3 of the Japan Agricultural Standards for organic agricultural products (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries notification No. 59 on January 20, 2000) as ingredients; and by avoiding the use of chemically synthesized food additives or agents.

(Definition)

Article 3 The said processed foods from organic agricultural products are defined as processed foods from agricultural products produced by the method fulfilling the standards in Article 4.

(Standards for production methods)

Article 4 The standards for the production methods shall be as follows.

Matters	Standards
Raw ingredients (including processing aids)	<p>No materials other than listed below may not be used.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organic agricultural products (limited to those labeled with certification on their packaging, container or invoice, however, the said requirements are exempted for organic agricultural products certified under Article 14 or Article 15 of the Japan Agricultural Standards Law (referred to as the law hereinafter) which are produced or processed by the producer of the said processed foods) 2. Processed foods from organic agricultural products (limited to those labeled with certification on their packaging, container or invoice, however, the said requirements are exempted for processed foods from organic agricultural products certified under Article 14 or Article 15 of the law which are produced or processed by the producer of the said processed foods) 3. Agricultural products (excluding those which are the same kinds to the corresponding organic agricultural products, processed foods from agricultural products which are the same kinds to the corresponding organic processed foods from agricultural products, irradiated foods, and foods obtained through DNA recombination technologies (Technologies to multiply recombinant DNA by introducing recombinant DNA constructed by cleavage and religation using enzymes, etc. into a living cell. Same applies hereinafter.), and livestock and fisheries products (excluding irradiated foods and foods obtained through DNA recombination technologies), and their processed foods (excluding agricultural products which are the same kinds to the corresponding organic agricultural products, processed foods from agricultural products which are the same kinds to the corresponding organic processed foods from agricultural products, irradiated foods, and foods obtained through DNA recombination technologies.) 4. Table salt and water 5. Food additives listed in Attachment Table 1 (excluding those obtained through DNA recombination technologies. Same applied hereinafter.)

Ratios of raw ingredients	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The weight ratio of agricultural, livestock and fisheries products which are not organic agricultural products nor processed foods from organic agricultural products must be less than 5% of the weight of the ingredients other than water and table salt. The use of food additives must be the least amount necessary in manufacturing or processing the said processed foods.
Management concerning manufacturing, processing and packaging	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Manufacturing and processing methods must be mechanical, physical or biological except for the cases the food additives listed in Attachment Table 1 are used (enzymes, etc. used are limited to those obtained not through DNA recombination methods.). No irradiation shall not be used for the pest control, food preservation, germ elimination, and hygiene purposes. Pesticides to be used for control of harmful insects are limited to those listed in Attachment Table 2. However, contamination in raw materials and products must be prevented. Organic agricultural products and processed foods from organic agricultural products used as raw ingredients must be controlled in order not to be mixed with agricultural products and processed foods other than those. The processed products from organic agricultural products must be controlled in order not to be contaminated with pesticides, detergents, disinfectants or other chemicals.

(Labeling of the names of the processed foods from organic agricultural products, and raw ingredients)

Article 5 Labeling of the names of the processed foods from organic agricultural products and raw ingredients for the said processed foods shall be executed in a way specified as follows.

Kinds	Standards
Methods of labeling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The labeling shall be as one of the following. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> “<i>yuuki nousanbutsu kako shokuhin</i>” (processed product from organic agricultural product). “<i>yuuki XX</i>” (organic XX) or “<i>XX (yuuki)</i>” “<i>organic XX</i>” or “<i>XX (organic)</i>” (Note) The most commonly used name of the agricultural product is printed for XX. Regardless of the rules in the previous provision, products using organic agricultural products in a transition period as a part of or whole ingredients, and those containing manufactured or processed products from organic agricultural products in a transition period shall be labeled as “<i>tenkan kikan-chu</i>” (during a transition period) either before or after the product name labeling determined in the labeling method 1.
Labeling of raw ingredients	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Among the used raw ingredients, organic agricultural products (excluding organic agricultural products in a transition period) or processed foods from organic agricultural products (excluding those using organic agricultural products in a transition period as raw ingredients) shall be labeled with a term such as “<i>yuuki</i>” etc. on the top of the most commonly used name of the agricultural products or processed foods from agricultural products. Products manufactured or processed using organic agricultural products in a transition period or processed foods from organic agricultural products in a transition period as raw ingredients, shall be labeled as “<i>tenkan kikan-chu</i>” (during a transition period) either before or after the printed names of raw ingredients determined in the labeling method 1.

Attachment Table 1

Food additives	Standards
Citric acid	Limited to the use as a pH adjuster, or to be used on processed vegetable products and processed fruit products.
DL-malic acid	
Lactic acid	Limited to the use in processed vegetable products
L-Ascorbic acid	
Tannin	Limited to the use as a filtering aid

Sulfuric acid	Limited to the use as a pH adjuster for adjusting pH of extraction water used in manufacturing of sugar, etc.
Sodium carbonate	Limited to the use in manufacturing prepared products from confectionary, sugar, beans, etc., or noodles and bread
Potassium carbonate	Limited to the use in drying processed fruit products, or the use in processed grain products, prepared products from beans, noodles and bread, or confectionary
Calcium carbonate	
Ammonium carbonate	
Magnesium carbonate	
Potassium chloride	Limited to the use in processed vegetable products, processed fruit products, seasonings or soup
Calcium chloride	Limited to the use as a coagulant, or in edible oil and fat, processed vegetable products, processed fruit products, and prepared products from beans
Magnesium chloride	Limited to the use as a coagulant, or in prepared products from beans
Crude sea water magnesium chloride	Limited to the use as a coagulant, or in prepared products from beans
Sodium hydroxide	Limited to the use as a pH adjuster in processing of sugar etc., or the use in processed grain products
Potassium hydroxide	Limited to the use as a pH adjuster in processing of sugar etc.
Calcium hydroxide	
DL-Tartaric acid	
L-Tartaric acid	
DL-Sodium tartrate	Limited to the use in confectionary
L-Sodium tartrate	Limited to the use in confectionary
DL-Potassium bitartrate	Limited to the use in processed grain products and confectionary
L-Potassium bitartrate	Limited to the use in processed grain products and confectionary
Mono calcium phosphate	Limited to the use as a raising agent on flour
Calcium sulfate	Limited to the use as a coagulant, or in confectionary, prepared products of beans, and baker's yeast
Alginic acid	
Sodium alginate	
Carob bean gum	
Guar gum	
Tragacanth gum	
Arabic gum	Limited to the use in edible oil and fat, and confectionary
Xanthan gum	
Karaya gum	
Casein	
Gelatin	
Pectin	
Ethanol	
Mixed tocopherol	
Enzyme-treated lecithin	Limited to those obtained without bleaching and organic solvent treatment
Enzyme-decomposed lecithin	Limited to those obtained without bleaching and organic solvent treatment
Plant lecithin	Limited to those obtained without bleaching and organic solvent treatment
Egg yolk lecithin	Limited to those obtained without bleaching and organic solvent treatment
Talc	
Bentonite	
Kaolin	
Diatomaceous earth	
Perlite	
Silicon dioxide	Limited to the use as a gel or a colloidal solution

Activated carbon	
Beeswax	Limited to the use as a separation agent
Carnauba wax	Limited to the use as a separation agent
Flavorings	Those not chemically synthesized
Nitrogen	
Oxygen	
Carbon dioxide	
Other food additives	Those fulfilling the following conditions 1 Essential in manufacturing or processing of the said foods 2 Maintaining nutritional values and stability of the quality 3 No possibility of misleading consumers 4 Natural substances or substances derived from natural substances without adding chemically synthesized compounds

Attachment Table 2

Pesticides	Standards
Emulsion preparation of Chrysanthemum cinerariifolium	Those extracted from pyrethrum
Emulsion preparation of Derris	
Powder of Derris	
Powder preparation of Derris	
Emulsion preparation of rapeseed oil	
Aerosol of machine oil	
Emulsion preparation of machine oil	
Fumigation preparation of sulfur	
Powder preparation of sulfur	
Aqueous preparation of sulfur and copper	
Aqueous preparation of sulfur	
Liquid preparation of extract from shiitake mushroom mycelium	
Liquid preparation of sodium bicarbonate	
Liquid preparation of sodium bicarbonate and copper	
Liquid preparation of copper	
Powder preparation of copper	
Copper sulfate	
Slaked lime	Limited to the use for preparation of Bordeaux mixture
Preparation of aqueous nitrogen	
Natural enemy pesticides and biological pesticide preparation	
Preparation of sex pheromone	
Attractants	
Repellents	
Liquid preparation of Chlorella extract	
Liquid preparation of extracted mixed natural herbs	
Casein lime	Limited to the use as a developer
Paraffin	Limited to the use as a developer
Aqueous preparation of wax	
Preparation of carbon dioxide	Limited to the use in storage facilities
Preparation of diatomaceous earth	Limited to the use in storage facilities

Note: The instructions on the bottles, etc. must be closely followed when the agricultural chemicals are used.