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Japan

Grain and Feed

MAFF Press Release: Ban on Use of Animal Protein Products for Feed and Fertilizers—As Well as Imports 2001

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Report Highlights: Following the ban on the use of ruminant Meat and Bone Meal (MBM) in cattle feed, effective September 18, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) announced on October 1 it will ban an extensive list of animal protein products to be used in all feeds, including swine and poultry feed, as well as in fertilizers. Japan will also ban imports of these products from all countries. This report contains an unofficial translation of MAFF's press release.

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

Following the ban on the use of ruminant Meat and Bone Meal (MBM) in cattle feed, effective September 18, (see *FAS/Japan's report, JA1093*) Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) announced on October 1 it will ban an extensive list of animal protein products to be used in feed products, including swine and poultry feed, as well as in fertilizers. Japan will also ban imports of these products from all countries. Both measures will become effective on October 4 for an undetermined period of time until safety assessments are made.

Details of the announcement are contained in the translation of MAFF's press release below.

Press Release -- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

Handling of MBM for the Present Time

October 1, 2001

It is believed that feeding of Meat and Bone Meal, and related materials (see #1 under Note, below) to livestock animals other than ruminants (poultry, swine, etc.) is scientifically sound and is a reasonable method in order to efficiently utilize MBM resources. Therefore, we have been ensuring the safety by suspending imports of MBM from high risk countries, mandating heat treatment based on OIE standard for imports from low risk countries, and providing guidance on its proper use (e.g. not to feed MBM derived from ruminants to ruminants, etc.).

However, as we found some cases where farmers used MBM inappropriately, public suspicion about the use of MBM is becoming stronger, and various parties among producers of compound feed manufacturers have requested a temporary suspension of MBM use. In addition, suggestions were made in the "MAFF BSE Technical Committee," etc., to suspend importation.

Therefore, in order to prevent misuse and commingling of MBM in cattle feed, as well as to ensure the smooth distribution and consumption of meat including poultry and pork, we are suspending temporarily imports of MBM products from all countries as an emergency measure, and requiring the temporary suspension of the production and sale of MBM and related products for feed and fertilizers, and the production and sale of feed and fertilizers containing MBM and related products.

Lifting of the temporary suspension period will be discussed in the MAFF BSE Control Measures Committee (provisional name) consisting of experts, consumers, etc.

NOTE

1. *Items subject to temporary suspension for import, production, and sale*

MBM, meat meal, offal meal, bone meal (excluding those treated at 1,000 degree C or higher by making it into ash), blood meal, dry blood plasma, other blood products, hydrolyzed protein, hoof meal, horn meal, skin/hide meal, fish meal (excluding those produced at plants where no animal protein other than fish meal is produced), feather meal, greaves, dicalcium phosphate (excluding those derived from mineral and those which do not contain fat and protein), gelatine collagen (excluding those derived from skin/hide and those treated in certain ways), etc., for use in feed and fertilizer, and

products containing the above items and have possibility of becoming ingredients for feed and fertilizers..

2. *Period*

From October 4, 2001, until further notice.

End of Report.