

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/JPN/106

21 July 2003

(03-3910)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>JAPAN</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
3.	<b>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):</b> Food additives (L-ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, sulfites and tar colors)
4.	<b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> All countries
5.	<b>Title, language and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Amendment of the enforcement ordinance of the Food Sanitation Law and the standards and specifications for food additives (Available in English, 17 pages)
6.	<b>Description of content:</b> Authorization of L-ascorbic acid 2-glucoside as a food additive and establishment of standards and specifications for the substance. Revision of the current standards for use of sulfites (potassium pyrosulfite, sodium hydrosulfite, sodium pyrosulfite, sodium sulfite, and sulfur dioxide). Amendment of the compositional specifications for tar colors.
7.	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
8.	<b>International standard, guideline or recommendation:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None (except sulfur dioxide MRL for raisins) <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b> Sulfur dioxide MRL for raisins is identical to CODEX STAN 67 (1,500 mg/kg)
9.	<b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> The basic law is the Food Sanitation Law. The amendments will appear in "KANPO" (Official Government Gazette) when adopted.
10.	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> As soon as possible after the final date for the comment period.
11.	<b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> As soon as possible after the final date for the comment period.

**12. Final date for comments:** 22 September 2003

**Agency or authority designated to handle comments:** [ ] National notification authority, [ X ] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

**13. Texts available from:** [ ] National notification authority, [ X ] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: