

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

### **New MRLs for Carboxi and other 3 substances**

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

**Approved By:**

Jennifer A. Clever

**Prepared By:**

Suguru Sato

**Report Highlights:**

On December 12, 2011, the Government of Japan announced proposed changes to the MRLs for Carboxin, Primisulfuron-methyl, Pyridaben, and Thidiazuron. The comment period for will close on December 26, 2011. After the domestic comment period closes, MHLW will then notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee, which will provide another opportunity to submit public comments on this subject.

**General Information:**

On December 12, 2011, the Government of Japan held a meeting for foreign diplomats in Tokyo to announce proposed changes to the MRLs for Carboxin, Primisulfuron-methyl, Pyridaben, and Thidiazuron. The period for sending comments on these changes ends December 26, 2011. If you have comments it is best to send directly to MHLW as soon as possible. However, MHLW will also notify these proposed changes to the WTO/SPS committee, which will provide another chance for public comments to be submitted on this subject. The actual WTO-SPS notifications can be found at the site below.

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/sps\\_e/work\\_and\\_doc\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/work_and_doc_e.htm)

After the closing of a the comment period in the WTO, a final report will be made based on the conclusions of a session of the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council slated to be held at a later date; this will constitute the final decision.

The comments to GOJ can be either Japanese or English. GOJ point of contact for the comment is indicated below.

If you have comments, please send them directly to the Japanese Government at:

Hiroko Fukushima, Ms.  
Standards and Evaluation Division,  
Department of Food Safety,  
Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau,  
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare  
1-2-2, Chiyoda-ku, Kasumigaseki, Tokyo, 100-8916  
Tel: 03-5253-1111, ext. 2487  
Fax: 03-3501-4868  
Email; [hiroko-fukushima@mhlw.go.jp](mailto:hiroko-fukushima@mhlw.go.jp)

Please also consider copying the U.S. Embassy, Tokyo at [agtokyo@usda.gov](mailto:agtokyo@usda.gov) on your comments in order for them to be considered as part of the official U.S. Government comments to the WTO.

**Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits for Agricultural Chemicals in Food****Summary**

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) is going to develop compositional specifications for food.

Under the provisions of Article 11, Paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Law, the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare is authorized to establish residue standards (maximum residue limits: MRLs) for pesticides, feed additives, and veterinary drugs (hereafter referred to as just “agricultural chemicals”) that may remain in foods. Any food for which standards are established pursuant to the provisions is not permitted to be marketed in Japan unless it complies with the established standards.

On May 29, 2006, the MHLW introduced the positive list system for agricultural chemicals in food.\* Basically, all foods distributed in the Japanese marketplace are subject to regulation based on the system.

This time the MHLW has newly established MRLs (draft) for some food commodities as well as has comprehensively reviewed the current MRLs. This activity is targeted to four pesticides (Carboxin, Primisulfuron-methyl, Pyridaben, and Thidiazuron). Details are given below.

*Note: The positive list system was established based on the 2003 amendment of the Food Sanitation Law. The system aims to prohibit the distribution of any food in the Japanese marketplace if it contains agricultural chemicals at amounts exceeding a certain level (0.01 ppm) specified under the Law.*

**Outline of revision**

**Carboxin** (fungicide): Not permitted for use in Japan.

The MHLW has reviewed the MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system.

**Primisulfuron-methyl** (herbicide): Not permitted for use in Japan.

The MHLW has reviewed the MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system.

**Pyridaben** (insecticide): Permitted for use in Japan.

This time Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) has decided to expand the application of this compound to tomato and the “other spices” category.\* In response to the MAFF’s action, the MHLW has newly set MRLs for these crops. In addition, the MHLW has reviewed other MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system.

*\*“Other spices” refers to all spices, except horseradish, wasabi (Japanese horseradish) rhizomes, garlic, peppers chili, paprika, ginger, lemon peels, orange peels (including navel orange), yuzu (Chinese citron) peels and sesame seeds.*

**Thidiazuron** (plant growth regulator): Not permitted for use in Japan.

The MHLW has reviewed the MRLs that had been established at the introduction of the positive list system.

**Carboxin**

| Commodity                                       | MRL (draft) ppm | MRL (current) ppm |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|
| Rice (brown rice)                               |                 | 0.2               |
| Wheat   | 0.2             | 0.2               |
| Barley  | 0.2             | 0.2               |
| Rye   |                 | 0.1               |
| Corn (maize, including pop corn and sweet corn) | 0.2             | 0.2               |

|  |                                |                                  |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Buckwheat  |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other cereal grains  | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Soybeans, dry  |                                | 0.2                              |
| Beans, dry (including butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans) | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Peanuts, dry   | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Onion  | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Kidney beans, immature (with pods)   | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Green soybeans   | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Other vegetables   | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Safflower seeds  | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Cotton seeds   | 0.2                            | 0.2                              |
| Rapeseeds  | 0.03                           | 0.03                             |
| Other spices   |                                | 0.2                              |
| Other herbs  |                                | 0.2                              |
| Cattle, muscle   | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Pig, muscle  | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Other terrestrial mammals, muscle  | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Cattle, fat  | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Pig, fat   | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Other terrestrial mammals, fat   | 0.05                           | 0.1                              |
| Cattle, liver  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Pig, liver   | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Other terrestrial mammals, liver   | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Cattle, kidney   | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Pig, kidney  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Other terrestrial mammals, kidney  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Cattle, edible offal ("Edible offal" refers to all edible parts, except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)                  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Pig, edible offal  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal  | 0.1                            | 0.1                              |
| Milk   | 0.05                           | 0.01                             |
| Chicken, muscle  |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other poultry animals, muscle  |                                | 0.1                              |
| Chicken, fat   |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other poultry animals, fat   |                                | 0.1                              |
| Chicken, liver   |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other poultry animals, liver   |                                | 0.1                              |
| Chicken, kidney  |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other poultry animals, kidney  |                                | 0.1                              |
|  | <b>MRL<br/>(draft)<br/>ppm</b> | <b>MRL<br/>(current)<br/>ppm</b> |
| Chicken, edible offal  |                                | 0.1                              |
| Other poultry animals, edible offal  |                                | 0.1                              |

|                            |  |             |
|----------------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>Chicken, eggs</b>       |  | <b>0.01</b> |
| <b>Other poultry, eggs</b> |  | <b>0.01</b> |

The MRLs are established for the sum of the residues of carboxin and its metabolite sulfoxide, expressed as carboxin equivalents.

\* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

\* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

\* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word other is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

### Primisulfuron-methyl

| <b>Commodity</b>   | <b>MRL<br/>(draft)<br/>ppm</b> | <b>MRL<br/>(current)<br/>ppm</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Corn (maize, including pop corn and sweet corn)</b>   | <b>0.02</b>                    | <b>0.06</b>                      |
| <b>Cattle, muscle</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Pig, muscle</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, muscle</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Cattle, fat</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Pig, fat</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, fat</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Cattle, liver</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Pig, liver</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, liver</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Cattle, kidney</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Pig, kidney</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, kidney</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Cattle, edible offal ("Edible offal" refers to all edible parts, except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)</b> |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Pig, edible offal</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Milk</b>  |                                | <b>0.02</b>                      |
| <b>Chicken, muscle</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other poultry animals, muscle</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Chicken, fat</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other poultry animals, fat</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Chicken, liver</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other poultry animals, liver</b>  |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Chicken, kidney</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other poultry animals, kidney</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Chicken, edible offal</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Other poultry animals, edible offal</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |
| <b>Chicken, eggs</b>   |                                | <b>0.1</b>                       |

|                            |  |            |
|----------------------------|--|------------|
| <b>Other poultry, eggs</b> |  | <b>0.1</b> |
|----------------------------|--|------------|

\* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

\* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

\* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word other is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

### Pyridaben

| Commodity  | MRL<br>(draft)<br>ppm | MRL<br>(current)<br>ppm |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Soybeans, dry  |                       | 0.1                     |
| Beans, dry (including butter beans, cowbeans (red beans), lentil, lima beans, pegia, sultani, sultapya, and white beans) | 0.05                  | 0.1                     |
| Peas   |                       | 0.1                     |
| Broad beans  |                       | 0.1                     |
| Peanuts, dry   |                       | 0.1                     |
| Other legumes/pulses   |                       | 0.1                     |
| Potato   |                       | 0.1                     |
| Taro   | 0.1                   | 0.1                     |
| Sweet potato   | 0.05                  | 0.1                     |
| <i>Shungiku</i>  |                       | 3.0                     |
| Other composite vegetables   | 2                     | 2.0                     |
| Welsh (including leek)   |                       | 1.0                     |
| Garlic   |                       | 1.0                     |
| <i>Nira</i>  |                       | 2.0                     |
| Multiplying onion (including shallot)  |                       | 1.0                     |
| Other liliaceous vegetables  |                       | 2.0                     |
| Celery   |                       | 3.0                     |
| <i>Mitsuba</i>   |                       | 3.0                     |
| Other umbelliferous vegetables   |                       | 2.0                     |
| Tomato   | 5                     | 1.0                     |
| Pimiento (sweet pepper)  | 3                     | 3.0                     |
| Egg plant  |                       | 1.0                     |
| Other solanaceous vegetables   | 0.3                   | 2.0                     |
| Cucumber (including gherkin)   | 0.7                   | 1.0                     |
| Pumpkin (including squash)   | 0.5                   | 1.0                     |
| Water melon  | 0.05                  | 1.0                     |
| Melons   | 0.05                  | 1.0                     |
| <i>Makuwauri</i> melon   |                       | 1.0                     |
| Other cucurbitaceous vegetables  | 1                     | 2.0                     |
| Bamboo shoots  |                       | 3.0                     |
| Peas, immature (with pods)   |                       | 2.0                     |
| Kidney beans, immature (with pods)   |                       | 2.0                     |
| Green soybeans   | 2                     | 2.0                     |
| Other vegetables   |                       | 3.0                     |

|   |                                |                                  |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Unshu orange, pulp</b>               | <b>0.2</b>                     | <b>0.2</b>                       |
| <b>Citrus <i>natsudaikai</i>, whole</b> | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Lemon</b>                            | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Orange (including navel orange)</b>  | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Grapefruit</b>                       | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Lime</b>                             | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Other citrus fruits</b>              | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Commodity</b>                        | <b>MRL<br/>(draft)<br/>ppm</b> | <b>MRL<br/>(current)<br/>ppm</b> |
| <b>Apple</b>                            | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Japanese pear</b>                    | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Pear</b>                             | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Quince</b>                           |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Loquat</b>                           | <b>0.3</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Peach</b>                            | <b>0.3</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Nectarine</b>                        | <b>2</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Apricot</b>                          | <b>2</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Japanese plum (including prune)</b>  | <b>0.7</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Mume plum</b>                        |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Cherry</b>                           | <b>0.7</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Strawberry</b>                       | <b>2</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Raspberry</b>                        |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Blackberry</b>                       |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Blueberry</b>                        |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Cranberry</b>                        | <b>0.5</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Huckleberry</b>                      |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Other berries</b>                    |                                | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Grape</b>                            | <b>1</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Japanese persimmon</b>               | <b>0.5</b>                     | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Banana</b>                           | <b>0.5</b>                     | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Kiwifruit</b>                        | <b>0.1</b>                     | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Papaya</b>                           |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Avocado</b>                          |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Pineapple</b>                        |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Guava</b>                            | <b>0.2</b>                     | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Mango</b>                            | <b>0.7</b>                     | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Passion fruit</b>                    |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Date</b>                             |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Other fruits</b>                     | <b>2</b>                       | <b>2.0</b>                       |
| <b>Sunflower seeds</b>                  |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Sesame seeds</b>                     |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Safflower seeds</b>                  |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Cotton seeds</b>                     |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |
| <b>Rapeseeds</b>                        |                                | <b>1.0</b>                       |

|  |                                |                                  |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Other oil seeds  |                                | 1.0                              |
| Ginkgo nut   |                                | 1.0                              |
| Chestnut   | 0.05                           | 1.0                              |
| Pecan  | 0.05                           | 1.0                              |
| Almond   | 0.05                           | 1.0                              |
| Walnut   | 0.05                           | 1.0                              |
| Other nuts   | 0.05                           | 1.0                              |
| Tea  | 10                             | 10                               |
| Hop  |                                | 10                               |
| Other spices   | 10                             | 3                                |
| Other herbs  | 0.7                            | 3                                |
|  | <b>MRL<br/>(draft)<br/>ppm</b> | <b>MRL<br/>(current)<br/>ppm</b> |
| <b>Cattle, muscle</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Pig, muscle</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, muscle</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Cattle, fat</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Pig, fat</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, fat</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Cattle, liver</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Pig, liver</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, liver</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Cattle, kidney</b>  | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Pig, kidney</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, kidney</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Cattle, edible offal ("Edible offal" refers to all edible parts, except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)</b> | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Pig, edible offal</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal</b>   | 0.05                           | 0.05                             |
| <b>Milk</b>  | 0.01                           | 0.01                             |

\* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

\* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

\* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word other is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.

#### **Thidiazuron**

| <b>Commodity</b>                         | <b>MRL<br/>(draft)<br/>ppm</b> | <b>MRL<br/>(current)<br/>ppm</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Cotton seeds</b>                      | 0.3                            | 0.5                              |
| <b>Cattle, muscle</b>                    | 0.4                            | 0.1                              |
| <b>Pig, muscle</b>                       | 0.4                            | 0.1                              |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, muscle</b> | 0.4                            | 0.1                              |
| <b>Cattle, fat</b>                       | 0.4                            | 0.2                              |
| <b>Pig, fat</b>                          | 0.4                            | 0.2                              |

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, fat</b>  | <b>0.4</b>  | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Cattle, liver</b>   | <b>0.04</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Pig, liver</b>  | <b>0.04</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, liver</b>  | <b>0.04</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Cattle, kidney</b>  | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Pig, kidney</b>   | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, kidney</b>   | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Cattle, edible offal (“Edible offal” refers to all edible parts, except muscle, fat, liver, and kidney)</b> | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Pig, edible offal</b>   | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Other terrestrial mammals, edible offal</b>   | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Milk</b>  | <b>0.02</b> | <b>0.03</b> |
| <b>Chicken, muscle</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry animals, muscle</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Chicken, fat</b>  |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry animals, fat</b>  |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Chicken, liver</b>  |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry animals, liver</b>  |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Chicken, kidney</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry animals, kidney</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Chicken, edible offal</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry animals, edible offal</b>   |             | <b>0.2</b>  |
| <b>Chicken, eggs</b>   |             | <b>0.1</b>  |
| <b>Other poultry, eggs</b>   |             | <b>0.1</b>  |

\* Shaded figures indicate provisional MRLs.

\* The uniform limit 0.01 ppm will be applied to commodities for which draft MRLs are not given in this table and to commodities not listed above.

\* In the "Commodity" column, for the food categories to which the word other is added, refer to the Notes given in the last two pages of the Attachment.