

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Voluntary - Public

Date: 3/29/2010

GAIN Report Number: KS1008

Korea - Republic of

Post: Seoul

Recommended Criteria for 2010

Report Categories:

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

The Korean Food & Drug Administration (KFDA) has announced the 2010 Plan for Recommended Criteria for Harmful Materials. The purpose of the program is to monitor and test for harmful substances until an official standard is established.

General Information:

KFDA Releases Recommended Criteria for 2010

In February 2010, KFDA announced its recommended criteria monitoring program for this year, and also released its monitoring results for 2006-09. The 2010 criteria, which are included at the end of this report and on the KFDA website, include 16 harmful substances in 73 different food products ranging from wheat flour to curry powder.

The purpose behind the establishment of recommended criteria is to monitor and test for harmful substances in domestic and imported food products until an official standard is implemented. These interim standards, with one exception, have all been notified to the WTO and KFDA is expected to consider trading partners' comments. [KS7051](#) contains more information about KFDA's internal process for developing these standards.

The six KFDA regional offices collect samples and conduct testing. When products exceed the recommended criteria, KFDA notifies the importer or local manufacturer of the findings. KFDA will also publish this information on its webpage and recommend that the company issue a voluntary recall.

KFDA tests the lots immediately before and after that of the product in question. As the final step, KFDA monitors the implementation of the recommended corrective actions and reports these results up the line to KFDA's Food Safety Evaluation Committee (FSEC).

Results of Recommended Criteria Monitoring Program 2006-09

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Products Tested	3,358	7,681	2054	8,163
Product Test Results Above the Recommended Criteria	47	238	22	8
Products Voluntarily Recalled	9	85	19	8

List of materials subject to advance monitoring in 2010

No	Food category	Material	Recommended Criteria	Measures when exceeding criteria	Operating period	Relevant WTO notification
Materials that were newly selected in 2010						
1	Wheat flour	Total Aflatoxin (sum of B1, B2, G1, and G2)	15 µg/kg or below (10 µg/kg or below for B1)	Voluntary recall	Starting Sep 18, '09	SPS 345
2	Dried fruits				Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
3	Dried fermented soybean paste	Ochratoxin A	20 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Jun 24, '09	SPS 334

4	Red pepper powder		7 µg/kg or below		Starting Jun 24, '09	SPS 334
5	Grape juice, grape juice concentrate (including concentrate as raw material, converted by concentration multiple) grape wine		2 µg/kg or below		Starting Sep 18, '09	SPS 345
6	Raisins		10 µg/kg or below		Starting Sep 18, '09	SPS 345
7	Grains and their simple processed products (grinding, cutting, etc.)		5 µg/kg or below		Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
8	Breakfast cereal	Deoxynivalenol	0.5 mg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
9	Grains and their simple processed products	Zearalenone	200 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 320
10	Confections	Zearalenone	50 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
11	Processed cocoa products or chocolates, processed peanut or nut products, peanut butter	Salmonella	Negative	Voluntary recall	Starting Sep 18, '09	SPS 345
12	Fruit and vegetable beverages	Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli	Negative	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
13	Fresh cut ready to eat food	Ecoli O157:H7	Negative	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 320
14	Ready to eat food and fresh cut products	Clostridium perfringens	100 per gram or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 320
15	Of special purpose foods infant formula, follow-up formula, grain formula for infant/baby, and other infant/baby formula	Benzopyrene	1.0 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355

16	Smoked edible meat product and their processed products	Benzopyrene	5.0 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
17	Grape wine	Lead	0.2 mg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
18	Wheat flour	Lead and cadmium	0.2 mg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	Starting Dec 30, '09	SPS 355
19	Papers	Lead, cadmium, mercury and chromium (VI) - material	100 mg/kg or below (as sum)	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 321
20	Oil and fat that are using during oil frying or oil treating (spot sale food manufacturing & processing business - frying oil)	Benzopyrene	2.0 µg/kg or below	Voluntary recall	-	-

Materials selected in 2009 and continued to be subject to monitoring in 2010

No	Food category	Material	Recommended Criteria	Measures when exceeding criteria	Operating period	Relevant WTO notification
1	Curry powder	Total Aflatoxin (sum of B1, B2, G1, and G2)	15 µg/kg or below (10 µg/kg or below for B1)	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 320
2	Nut meg, turmeric, dried pepper, dried paprika, and natural spices that contain such listed materials					
3	Confections (containing corn over 50%)	Fumonisin	1 mg/kg or below (as sum of B1 and B2)	Voluntary recall	Starting Jun 24, '09	SPS 334
4	Processed grain products (containing sum of corn, simple processed corn products, or corn powder over 50%)					

5	Breakfast cereal (containing sum of corn, simple processed corn products, or corn powder over 50%)					
6	Processed corn products for popcorn					
7	Synthetic resins (40 items)	Lead, cadmium, mercury and chromium (VI) - material	100 mg/kg or below (as sum)	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 321
8	Anti-impotence drug analogs	Chlorodenafil	Shall not be detected	Voluntary recall	Starting Mar 11, '09	SPS 320

¹⁾ Recommended criteria will be applied for products whose proposal to set standards has not been finalized after the draft proposal to set standards is announced.

²⁾ Any materials that are considered to be necessary for advance monitoring may be added to the list through the consultation with the Food Safety Evaluation Committee.