

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 4/12/2011

GAIN Report Number: BR 0708

Brazil

Post: Brasilia

Restrictions on Agricultural Imports from Japan

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

On March 31, 2011, Brazil began to monitor all imports of food and ingredients from Japan. On April 11, Brazil established the criteria for inspection of food and ingredients from Japan.

General Information:

Due to the earthquake in Japan and subsequent concerns about radioactivity released from nuclear power stations, the Brazilian authorities have adopted new measures affecting food imports from Japan. On April 11, 2011, the Brazilian Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) published Resolution # 15/2011 which establishes new requirements for all manufactured products and food ingredients, semi-bulk, manufactured products produced in Japan after March 11, 2011.

Resolution # 15/2011 establishes different procedures for import of Japanese products from the following provinces located near the plant in Fukushima: Fukushima, Gunma, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Saitama, Tokyo and Chiba. Food imported from these provinces will be required to submit a statement from the Japanese competent authority, accompanied by laboratory analysis report showing that the levels of radionuclide (iodine-131, cesium -134 and cesium-137) are within the limits set by *Codex Alimentarius*. A Brazilian Food and Drug Administration (ANVISA) laboratory will then issue a report regarding the food imports. The products that are above the limits of radiation will be discarded or returned to the exporter.

Brazil imports insignificant volumes of food from Japan: an estimated value of U\$12 million in 2010, less than two percent of total Brazilian food and feed imports. Imports are limited to a small selection of specialty products (such as small volumes of seaweed and sake as well as other Japanese specialty food products such as mushrooms, dried soups and broths, dried noodles, pickled ginger, and wasabi).