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Voluntary  Public

**Date:** 10/27/2017

**GAIN Report Number:** JA7132

## Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

### **Revised Country of Origin Labeling Requirements for Ingredients**

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

FAIRS Subject Report

Food Processing Ingredients

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**Report Highlights:**

New country of origin labeling (COOL) requirements will enter into force during Japanese Fiscal Year 2022 (April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023). This report contains a translation of a formal report from the Consumer Committee to Japan's Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, which revises Japan's COOL requirements for ingredients incorporated into foodstuffs manufactured in Japan. The rule change requires Japanese food manufacturers to identify on the label of the product the country(ies) where the main ingredient, by weight, was manufactured.

**General Information:**

Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) initiated a study of the nation's country of origin labeling (COOL) requirements in 2016.<sup>1</sup> Japan's food labeling law, which has been in effect since April 2015 (see [JA7078](#)), already required COOL for ingredients for a limited number of processed foods manufactured in Japan. See Attachment 1 below. However, the study was initiated to determine if stricter requirements were needed to satisfy consumer expectations and to promote the use of domestically produced ingredients in the face of increased competition.

MAFF and the CAA selected 17 members for a study group to review different perspectives (see [JA6032](#)). After several public meetings (see [JA6044](#) and [JA6048](#)), Japan notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) its "Outline of draft amendment to the Food Labelling Standards concerning the place of origin labelling of ingredients of processed foods" (see [JA7048](#)). The draft amendment explained that the country of origin labelling requirement for ingredients would be expanded to include the heaviest ingredient in all processed foods produced in Japan. Japan subsequently notified supplementary explanatory material on its [Concept of the New Country of Origin Labeling System for Ingredients](#) in July, and a document entitled [New Country of Origin Labelling System for Ingredients Q&A \(excerpted from the Food Labelling Standard Q&A \(Notice No.410, September 1, 2017\)\)](#) in October 2017.

After MAFF and the CAA concluded their study, the Consumer Committee<sup>2</sup> reviewed the MAFF/CAA proposal and concurred with their suggestion to expand Japan's COOL requirements for ingredients in processed foods manufactured in Japan. The revised labeling requirements were proposed to the Prime Minister on August 10, 2017 (see Attachment 2), and promulgated on September 1, 2017.

The new requirements are to be effectuated in Japanese Fiscal Year 2022 (April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023) to allow food manufacturers in Japan to position themselves to meet the new requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> This action followed Japan's issuance of the "Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas" (see [JA5013](#)), the outline of the "Comprehensive Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement-related Policy Framework" in 2015, and [Japan's 2016 Revitalization Strategy](#) in 2016.

<sup>2</sup> The Consumer Committee in Japan investigates and discusses various consumer issues and submits opinions (proposals, etc.) to relevant government ministries and agencies, including the CAA.

## Attachment 1

(The Food Labeling Standards of the Appendix Table 15)

Agricultural processed foods (9 food groups):

1. Dried mushrooms, vegetables and fruits (excluding those flaked or powdered)
2. Salted mushrooms, vegetables and fruits
3. Boiled or steamed mushrooms, vegetables, pulses and bean jams (excluding those canned, bottled or retort pouched)
4. Mixed vegetables, mixed fruits, other mixtures of vegetables, fruits and mushrooms (excluding those mixed without cut)
5. Green tea and packaged or bottled green tea beverage
6. Rice cake
7. Roasted shelled peanuts, roasted peanuts, fried peanuts and roasted beans
8. Sugar cane sugar and its products
9. Alimentary konjac products

Processed meat (5 food groups):

10. Seasoned meat (excluding those processed by heating, or those frozen after processed)
11. Boiled or steamed poultry meat and eggs (excluding those canned, bottled or retort pouched)
12. Slightly roasted meat
13. Prepared meat with deep-fry batter (excluding those processed by heating, or those frozen after heated)
14. Ground meats and other mixed meats (including meats or ground meats with their form shaped)

Processed seafood (8 food groups):

15. Unsalted and dried fish and shellfishes, salted and dried fish and shellfishes, boiled and dried fish and shellfish, tangle, dried laver, roasted laver and other dried seaweeds (excluding those chopped, minced or powdered)
16. Salted fish, shellfishes and seaweeds
17. Seasoned fish, shellfishes and seaweeds (excluding those processed by heating, those frozen after heated and those canned, bottled or retort pouched)
18. Kelp roll with fish
19. Boiled or steamed fish, shellfishes and seaweeds (excluding those canned, bottled or retort pouched)
20. Slightly roasted fish and shellfishes
21. Prepared fish and shellfishes with deep-fry batter (excluding those processed by heating, or those frozen after heated)

Combination food (1 food group):

22. Mixtures of fresh foods other than those described in 4 and 14 (excluding those mixed without cut)

Individual food (4 food items):

23. Pickled vegetables

## Attachment 2

Cabinet Office Extinguishing Committee No. 198

August 10, 2017

Prime Minister

S h i n z o A b e

Consumer Committee

Chairman Kawasaki Tadashi

### Report

Provisions pertaining to the raw material place of origin display system for processed foods mentioned in food labeling standards (Cabinet Office Ordinance No. 10, Year 2015), which had been consulted based on Digestion Table No. 15 No. 6 on March 22, 2017, and a partial amendment of the appended table are reported as below.

### Note

#### Cabinet Office Ordinance

Provisions pertaining to the raw material place of origin display system for processed foods mentioned in the food labeling standards (Cabinet Office Ordinance No. 10, Year 2015) and partial amendments to the appended table shall be appropriate to be in accordance with the consulted amendment (Attachment) on the premise of implementation of 1 to 10 of Attachment 1 except for (1) (2) below.

- (1) 5 - A (B) from Article 3 Paragraph 2 Table 1 must be revised.
- (2) It is necessary to add additional information related to the range of products for which the raw material place of origin label is not displayed due to current partial revision, as well as concerning the effective date and transitional measures.

Regarding above (1)(2), since the modified policy being discussed and accepted in the food display subcommittee meeting based on the explanation by the consumer agency (shown in Attachment 2), the suggested food labeling standard plan shall be changed.

Also, as described in Attachment 3, the consumer committee's problem awareness shall be attached

as an incidental opinion.

During the deliberation of this case, many concerns / doubts were discussed and it was confirmed that the "exception label display" in this system would not lead to misunderstanding by consumers and would be fully utilized for product selection, and confirmed that the facts can be accurately grasped if there are business operators who intentionally perform fraudulent display in the main system where social verification such as book (ledger) inspection is the main stream of the monitoring method. While on the other hand, various explanations were given by Consumer Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on the system operation after the introduction of the system, and this report was issued after a certain evaluation. However, many prerequisites and supplementary comments are attached to this report by taking into consideration the fact that this system is a new system as well as considering the progress of the deliberation in which many concerns / doubts have been indicated as described above.

The Consumer Committee intends to confirm the preconditions attached to this report and the state of response against the incidental comments after the system is enforced.

[Prerequisite to validate the suggested food labeling standard draft]

<Setting of target value concerning the status of consumer and business operators understanding>

1. The system, that makes it mandatory to display the ingredient place of origin label on all processed foods, is conceived by securing a reasonable choice of consumer products, and unless consumers correctly understand the meaning of the displayed label and utilize the same, the purpose of introducing the system can not be achieved. While introducing the system, it is imperative that the business operator understands the system correctly and that the administrators are fully informed in such a way that the erroneous labels are not used due to lack of understanding. For this purpose, while enlightening and spreading information to consumers and publicizing the system to business operators, set target values in advance that needs to be achieved with respect to level of understanding, and conduct the publicity activities while appropriately checking the achievement status.

<Dissemination of information to consumers and enlightenment>

2. While dissemination of information to consumers and enlightenment, by taking in to consideration the current situation that consumers' previous understanding about food labels is not improved, a new dissemination / enlightenment method such as creating Q&A for consumers shall be incorporated and the same shall be implemented in a polite and perfect way to achieve your goals.

<Publicity to business operators>

3. Regardless of the size of the company, this system makes it mandatory for all the businesses operators in Japan to display the labels with details of place of origin of processed foods. So when notifying business operators, it is important not only to hold briefing sessions, but to implement the policies that fully consider small and medium businesses / micro enterprises that have difficulty in taking time out to participate in briefing sessions. At the same time, the measures shall be taken such as permanently establishing consultation windows throughout the country that allow business operators to avail specific individual consultations when they need it, and business operators shall be carefully and thoroughly notified so that they do not incorrectly display the labels due to insufficient understanding.

<Implementation of Q&A for business operators>

4. Based on the discussion in the food labeling subcommittee meeting, Q&A should be further implemented and an accurate explanation on the system that is easy to understand shall be given

so that business operators do not misinterpret the system. In particular, a proper explanation shall be provided with which business operator clearly understands the criteria for judging whether or not it meets "exception requirements", and rules related to storage of basic material for labeling of place of origin of main ingredients, also understand about items required for explanation at the time of inspection. In addition, when describing the label examples to Q&A, further inspection of display label examples should be conducted such that the contents of the labels to be created by the business operators with reference to the example are not misleading the consumers.

<Understanding and analysis of circumstances concerning public awareness during transitional period>

5. The "Survey to grasp public awareness" to be conducted by the Consumer Affairs Agency should be conducted not only for consumers but also for business operators. Conduct annual surveys during the transitional period, analyze the current situation of the public awareness status, and flexibly take measures like changing the public awareness methods or additional implementation of public awareness activities according to situations to achieve the objective.

<Monitoring>

6. Upon implementation and launching of this system, if any business operator deliberately making a label display different than the actual one, it is mandatory to accurately grasp such fraudulent label indication and have a monitoring system and system operation with which counter-measures against that business operator can be taken. In addition to further strengthening the monitoring system related to food labeling, further examine the operation related to the monitoring of this system, prepare guidelines / procedures for monitoring and promptly establish an institutional operation in cooperation with country / local government bodies that does not allow fraudulent label display.

<Clarification about criteria to add items in Attachment Table 15 (related to Article 3, Article 10)>

7. Hereafter, clarify and announce the criteria for selecting the items to be added to Attachment Table 15 (Previous food group 22 + 4th item ingredient place of origin label) such as "Rice ball".

<Verification of exception label display>

8. Upon enforcement of the system, periodically investigate circumstances and verify the percentage of country-wise display of the labels in ascending order of weight, which is main base of the system and verify the display of exception label, and verify the situation of exception label display of ingredients and product groups where exception display is often used.

<Execution of survey to check level of understanding>

9. Upon completion of the transitional period, regularly conduct surveys on consumer's degree of

understanding / degree of utilization / satisfaction level with respect to [Labeling of place of origin of main ingredients for processed foods] by dividing it into weight order based country-wise label display and exception display, investigate the load status such as business operator cost pertaining to the system, analyze the current situation, and publish the results. Also, conduct surveys of consumers' questions and opinions sent to business operators and utilize them for current consumer situation analysis.

<Review of the system>

10. This ingredient place of origin labelling system is such a complicated system that targets "all processed foods" and guarantees the feasibility of business operators. In addition, it has a merit that it expands the amount of information to be offered to consumers. However, on the other hand, it has a demerit that it may increase burden on small businesses and decline the competitiveness of food industry. Because of this, aiming for two years from the end of the transitional period, based on the results of various surveys including above 8.9. Survey, confirm the status of changes in consumer needs for labelling and the conditions of business operators, verify the effect of the implementation of the system, and conduct a wide-ranging review as necessary, including expansion and abolition of the system.

[Contents to be amended or added in discussed Food Labeling Standards Proposal]

(1) Article 3 Section (2) Table 1 , 5-A (B)

For the place of origin of target ingredient for which the 'certain period usage ratio' is less than 5%, add parentheses next to the label of corresponding place of origin and attach a label indicating that the use ratio is less than 5% for a certain period. However, there is no obligation for the display of labels for "other" under provisions mentioned in Point 4 of Article 3 Section 2 Table 1.

(2) Range of the products for which "Ingredient's place of origin display labels" need not to be displayed after the modifications in date of enforcement, transitional measures, or after revision of this standard

Enforcement shall be from the date of announcement pertaining to a partial revision of this Food Labeling Standard and the transitional period shall be from the date of enforcement of the Cabinet Order until March 31, 2022.

Also, at the time of enforcement after the partial changes are made in this food labeling standards, the labels for the food processed in the manufacturing process at manufacturing plants or processing plants of processed foods can be displayed based on examples of conventional food labeling standards.

[Supplementary opinion]

1. As the obligation on label increases, the number of characters displayed on the product increases considerably. If the number of indispensable labels including the "Labelling for ingredient's place of origin of processed foods" increases in future, the situation will become more serious, and because of which consumers may overlook safety related displayed labels. D. Current food labels are displayed on the product, however, including study of measures to incorporate the label display on the Internet by adding it into the framework of the label display system, a comprehensive study about the way of display and about the sequence of priority for food display shall be conducted in future.
2. "Ingredient's place of origin label display system" for processed foods is almost unparalleled system internationally. Hence, when there are questions from each country, an explanation regarding the system shall be provided politely and carefully so as not to hinder fair trade and competition with foreign countries.
3. The "Article 3 of Supplementary Provisions" presented by the Consumer Agency to the food labeling subcommittee (The changes that are consulted (discussed) in the proposal) may also be written as the provisions on transition measures. After just reading it once at a glance, it is hard to notice that it is not necessary to attach the labels for the foods processed during the manufacturing process at processed plants or processing plants. In order to prevent a person from false interpretation such that attaching label is not necessary, if processed food is in the manufacturing process at the time of expiration of the transitional measures, it is expected that a polite and careful explanation shall be given regarding changes in the standard proposal or regarding Q & A .

# Attachment

- Cabinet Office Ordinance to revise some of food labeling standards - New and old control provisions
- o Food labeling standards (Cabinet Office Ordinance No. 10, 2015) (Extract)

(The underlined part is the revised part)

Revision proposal	Current												
<p>Chapter 2 Processed food Section 1 Standards pertaining to food-related business operators Subsection 1 General processed food (Cross-sectional obligation display) Article 3 (abbr.)</p> <p>2 In addition to what is prescribed in the preceding paragraph, when a food-related business operator sells the items listed in the upper column of the following table among general processed foods (excluding cases where facilities are provided for eating and drinking), the display contents listed in the middle column of the same table shall be displayed in accordance with the label indication method prescribed in the lower column of the same table.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="92 987 1058 1421"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="92 987 260 1101">(abbr.)</th> <th data-bbox="260 987 436 1101">(abbr.)</th> <th data-bbox="436 987 1058 1101">(abbr.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="92 1101 260 1421">Processed foods other than imported goods</td> <td data-bbox="260 1101 436 1421">Names of origins of the ingredients</td> <td data-bbox="436 1101 1058 1421">The place of origin of the target ingredients (It means the ingredients with the highest proportion of the weight of the ingredients used. The same shall apply hereinafter) (In the standard of labeling of alcoholic beverages under the provision of Article 86-6, paragraph 1 of law (Act No. 7 of 1953) on liquor industry association etc. and conservation of liquor tax, the rice grains is excluded which is an ingredient (Excluding the rice grain and those listed in (6) of appended table 15-1)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	(abbr.)	(abbr.)	(abbr.)	Processed foods other than imported goods	Names of origins of the ingredients	The place of origin of the target ingredients (It means the ingredients with the highest proportion of the weight of the ingredients used. The same shall apply hereinafter) (In the standard of labeling of alcoholic beverages under the provision of Article 86-6, paragraph 1 of law (Act No. 7 of 1953) on liquor industry association etc. and conservation of liquor tax, the rice grains is excluded which is an ingredient (Excluding the rice grain and those listed in (6) of appended table 15-1)	<p>Chapter 2 Processed food Section 1 Standards pertaining to food-related business operators Subsection 1 General processed food (Cross-sectional obligation display) Article 3 (abbr.)</p> <p>2 In addition to what is prescribed in the preceding paragraph, when a food-related business operator sells the items listed in the upper column of the following table among general processed foods (excluding cases where facilities are provided for eating and drinking), the display contents listed in the middle column of the same table shall be displayed in accordance with the label indication method prescribed in the lower column of the same table.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1142 987 1950 1421"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1142 987 1339 1101">(abbr.)</th> <th data-bbox="1339 987 1516 1101">(abbr.)</th> <th data-bbox="1516 987 1950 1101">(abbr.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1142 1101 1339 1421">Processed foods listed in appended Table 15  (excluding</td> <td data-bbox="1339 1101 1516 1421">Names of origins of the ingredients</td> <td data-bbox="1516 1101 1950 1421">1 For the items 1 to 22 listed in Table 15, map the country of origin of the items which is considered as perishable food that has highest percentage of the weight of the ingredient and additives and which has that percentage more than 50% with the ingredient name, and display it as follows.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	(abbr.)	(abbr.)	(abbr.)	Processed foods listed in appended Table 15  (excluding	Names of origins of the ingredients	1 For the items 1 to 22 listed in Table 15, map the country of origin of the items which is considered as perishable food that has highest percentage of the weight of the ingredient and additives and which has that percentage more than 50% with the ingredient name, and display it as follows.
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such as of the rice specified in Article 2, Paragraph 3 of law (Act No. 26 of 2009) stipulated for the recording of information relating to transactions etc. of ingredients and rice, etc. for which it is necessary to display the label of the country of origin and concerning the transmission of production place information) shall be indicated according to the following details, corresponding to the ingredient name.

1 The target ingredients that are considered as perishable food (excluding those listed in point 2 to 5 from appended table 15) shall be displayed according to following provisions.

A For domestic products, indicate that it is

imported goods, hereinafter referred to as "Target processed foods".)

(Newly established)

1 For domestic products,

domestic, and for imported goods, indicate the country of origin. However, for domestic products, the following place names can be displayed instead of labels which indicates that the product is domestic.

- (A) For agricultural products, prefecture name and other known place names
  - (B) For livestock products, the prefecture name to which the main farming area (It is a place where the feeding period is longest. The same applies below) belongs, and other commonly known place names
  - (C) For fishery products, the name of the water area (Including collection and harvesting. The same applies below.) (hereinafter referred to as "Water Area Name"), the name of the harbor port, the landed port or the name of the prefecture to which the main fish farm belongs (It means the place with the longest cultivation period. The same applies below.) and other commonly known place names.
- B For imported fishery products, the name of the waters area can be written in the country of origin field.

indicate that it is domestic, and for imported goods, indicate the country of origin. However, for domestic products, the following place names can be displayed instead of labels which indicates that the product is domestic.

- A For agricultural products, prefecture name and other known place names
- B For livestock products, the prefecture name to which the main farming area. (It is a place where the feeding period is longest. The same applies below) belongs, and other commonly known place names
- C For fishery products, the name of the produced water area (Including collection and harvesting. The same applies below.) (hereinafter referred to as "Water Area Name"), the name of the harbor port. the landed port

		<p>2 The target ingredients considered as processed foods (excluding those listed in points 2 to 5 of appended Table 15) shall be indicated according to the following provisions.</p> <p>A For domestic products, display the label "Domestic product" for those manufactured in the country and for imported goods, display the label "○○ product" for those manufactured outside the country (○○ shall be the country of origin) .). However, for domestic products, instead of label "Domestic product", the label named "○○ product" can also be displayed (○○ is the prefecture name or other known place name).</p> <p>B Instead of displaying the label with place of origin as per the provision in (A), the place of origin can be displayed together with the name of the perishable food that has highest percentage of the weight of the target ingredient.</p> <p>C For the items listed in point 1 of appended table 15, regardless of the provision of (A), the place of origin shall be indicated along with the name of the perishable food having highest proportion of the weight of the target ingredient.</p>		<p>(Newly established)</p> <p>3 When there are two or more places of origin prescribed in 1, the same shall be displayed in descending order of the</p> <p>4 When there are three or</p>
		<p>3 When there are two or more places of origin to be displayed as per the provisions of 1 and 2, the same shall be displayed in descending order of the weight percentage of the target ingredients.</p>		<p>3 When there are two or more places of origin prescribed in 1, the same shall be displayed in descending order of the</p>
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origin to be displayed as per the provisions of 1 and 2, it is possible to display two or more places in descending order of the weight percentage of the target ingredient, and display other place of origins as "Other".

5

The target ingredients of the items listed in point 1 of appended table 15 and for the target ingredients other than the ingredients for which place of origin is displayed according to the provision of 2 to 6 falls under any of the following category and if it is difficult to display according to provisions of 3 and 4, then the same can be displayed according to the following.

A When there is a possibility that ingredients from two or more places of origin are used as the target ingredient and the order of the proportion of the weight in the target ingredient may fluctuate and if all of the following requirements are met, then regardless of the provisions of paragraph (3), it is possible to use the letters of "OR" in descending order of the place of origin having high percentage of weight in the target ingredient as mentioned in the future fixed period usage plan or as mentioned in the past fixed period usage record (hereinafter referred to as "Fix period usage ratio").

(A) Display the details at a location close to the origin place name on containers and packaging in descending order of fix period

more places of origin prescribed in 1, it is possible to display two or more places in descending order of the weight percentage of ingredients and additives, and display other places of origin as "Others".

(Newly established)

usage percentage such that the details of label of place of origin displayed based on the past fixed period usage record and the details of label of place of origin displayed based on the future fixed period usage plan can be recognized.

- (B) For the place of origin of the target ingredient for which the usage percentage is less than 5% for a certain period, parentheses shall be added after the indication of the relevant place of origin to indicate that the percentage of usage for a certain period is less than 5%.
  - (C) In the past or future fixed period, there shall be a fluctuation in the sequence of the percentage of the weight of the applicable target ingredient in the items that are from two or more origin places, and the data showing the sequence of the percentage of those used for a certain period shall be maintained.
- B There are cases when three or more foreign countries uses materials from original place as ingredients, and there is a possibility that the sequence of the percentage of the weight in the applicable ingredient may fluctuate. So when the documented data showing the fluctuation in the sequence of the percentage of the weight in the relevant ingredient of corresponding place of origin for a

past or future certain period is maintained, then regardless of the provisions of paragraph (3), instead of the displaying the country of origin, if the applicable ingredient is a perishable food, a label such as "Imported" can be displayed, and a label "Foreign Product" can be displayed when the applicable ingredient is a processed food.

- C There are cases when domestic products are used as applicable ingredient or three or more foreign countries uses ingredient from place of origin, and there is a possibility that the sequence of the percentage of the weight in the corresponding applicable ingredient may fluctuate. In cases where all of the following requirements are met, regardless of the provision of paragraph 3, as a place of origin, it is possible to indicate as "Domestic production or Imported" to show that the food is domestic or it is imported when the applicable ingredient is perishable food, and it is possible to indicate as "Domestic Product

or Foreign Product" to show that food is manufactured domestically or it was manufactured in a foreign country when the applicable ingredient is a processed food in descending order of the certain period usage percentage.

- (A) Display the details in descending order of certain period usage percentage at the places close to the name of ingredient place of origin on containers and packaging such that the details when the place of origin is indicated based on the usage record of past certain period, and the details when the place of origin is indicated based on the usage plan for a future certain period can be recognized.
- (B) For the place of origin of the applicable ingredient for which the certain period usage percentage is less than 5%, parentheses shall be added after the indication of the relevant place

of origin to indicate that the usage percentage of a specific period is less than 5%.

(C) During the past or future certain period, there shall be fluctuations in the order of the weight percentage of the applicable target ingredient from three or more place of origin foreign countries that is used as target ingredient, and there shall be fluctuation in the order of the weight percentage in the target ingredient that from three or more place of origin foreign countries and in the applicable target ingredients that are domestic products and the documented data showing the order of the percentage of those used for a certain period shall be maintained.

6 For the items listed in point 1 of appended table 15, if there is a possibility that items from two or more place origins are used as a target ingredient and possibility that the order of the weight percentage in the target ingredient may fluctuate, then regardless of the provisions of paragraph (3), it is

5 When it is a perishable food with the highest percentage of the weight of the ingredients and additives or when there are special

possible to display the potential place of origin in the sequence of place of origin with high usage percentage for a certain period of time. In this case, it is necessary to display the required labels such that it can be recognized that the label is displayed in descending order of the percentage of usage during a certain period of time.

2 The agricultural pickles listed in point 2 of Appended Table 15 shall be indicated by mapping with the name of the ingredient in accordance with the following details.

circumstances due to the properties of those with the percentage of 50% or more, it is possible to display the label with the specified place of origin in accordance with the provision 1 to 4. In this case, the necessary label must be displayed so that user can understand the fact.

2 The agricultural pickles listed in point 23 of Appended Table 15 shall be indicated by mapping with the name of the ingredient in accordance with the following details.

1 to 3 (abbr.)

3 The vegetable frozen food listed in point 3 of Appended Table 15 shall be indicated by mapping with the name of the ingredient in accordance with the following details.

1 and 2 (abbr.)

4 For the "eel processed food" listed in point 4 of appended table 15, add parentheses next to the name of the eel, and display the place of origin as "Domestic production" if produced within the country and display the applicable country name of origin if the product is an imported product. However, it can be displayed as per the following method.

1 and 2 (abbr.)

5 The "Dried bonito shavings" listed in point 5 of appended table 15 shall be indicated according to the following provisions.

1 Add parentheses next to the characters of the bonito flakes, and regarding the origin of the flakes in case of domestic product, display the label "Domestic product" for those manufactured in the country and for imported goods, display the label "○○ product" for those manufactured outside the country (○○ shall be the country name of origin). However, for domestic products, instead of

1 to 3 (abbr.)

3 The vegetable frozen food listed in point 24 of Appended Table 15 shall be indicated by mapping with the name of the ingredient in accordance with the following details.

1 and 2 (abbr.)

4 For the "eel processed food" listed in point 25 of appended table 15, add parentheses next to the name of the eel, and display the place of origin as "Domestic production" if produced within the country and display the applicable country name of origin if the product is an imported product. However, it can be displayed as per the following method.

1 and 2 (abbr.)

5 The "Dried bonito shavings" listed in point 26 of appended table 15 shall be indicated according to the following provisions.

1 Put parentheses next to the characters of the "Bonito Flakes", and display the place of origin as "Domestic production" if produced within the country and display the applicable country name of origin if the product is an imported product. However,

	<p>label "Domestic product", the label named "○○ product" can also be displayed (○○ is the prefecture name or other known place name). (abbr.)</p> <p>2</p>
	<p>6 In the rice balls listed in point 6 of Appended Table 15 (limited to those using seaweed for the purpose of winding cooked rice as ingredient), put parentheses next to the name of seaweed, and display the place of origin of seaweed as "Domestic production" if it is obtained from within the country and display the applicable country name of origin if the product is an imported product. However, it can be displayed as per the following method.</p> <p>1 In case of domestic products, instead of mentioning as "Domestic Product", it is possible to display the name of the territorial water area, the name of the harbor port, the name of the prefecture to which the harbor port or the main farming place belongs, the name of the municipality, and other commonly known place names.</p> <p>2 For imported goods, the name of the territorial water area can be written along with the country of origin.</p> <p>7 The place of origin of ingredients can be displayed according to the provision of 1 which are not the</p>

	<p>in the case of domestic products, it is possible to display the prefecture name, municipality name, other commonly known place name instead of mentioning as domestic product.</p> <p>(Newly established)</p> <p>6 For the items listed in 1 to 22 of appended Table 15, the place of origin of ingredients other than</p>
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		place of origin that needs to be displayed according to the provisions mentioned in 1 to 6.
abbr.)	abbr.)	abbr.)

3 (abbr.)

		the place of origin of ingredients that needs to be displayed in accordance point 1 and the place of origin of ingredients for other processed foods can be displayed according to the provisions of 1.
abbr.)	abbr.)	abbr.)

3 (abbr.)

## Subsection 2 Business Purpose Processed Foods

(Mandatory labelling)

Article 10 When food items-related business operators sell business purpose processed foods (in cases when food items are not provided in the containers or packages, but served in installed facilities for eating and drinking, or when food items are served where they are produced or processed, or excluding cases in which it is provided for sale for unspecified or numerous persons (excluding sales)), then the label items listed in the following each point shall be displayed according to label display methods prescribed in respective Articles 3 and 4. In this case, the provisions of Article 3, Paragraph 1 proviso shall not apply.

1 to 10 (abbr.)

11 Ingredient place of origin name (It is limited to ingredients of commercial processed food served as general processed foods, and limited to the place of origin of the items for which it is obliged to indicate the ingredient's place of origin as stipulated in the section on processed foods other than imported items listed in the table of Article 3 Paragraph 2 in the applicable general processed food. (Under the provisions of 'B' of 1-2 of the same paragraph, when food-related business operators, who are parties of the trading (Hereinafter referred to as "when agreed between the parties" in next point and Article 24), agree to display the label for the place of origin of perishable food with the highest percentage of weight in the ingredients used in general purpose processed food, then it is called as perishable food.))

12 Country of Origin (Applicable only when it is an commercial processed food is used as general purpose processed food and for the ingredients in the corresponding general purpose processed food for which it is mandatory to indicate the place of origin as stipulated in the provision of processed foods other than imported items listed in the table of paragraph 2 of Article 3 (Except when agreed between the parties.) and only for the country of origin of imported goods whose characteristics are not changed after importing.)

## Subsection 2 Business Purpose Processed Foods

(Mandatory labelling)

Article 10 When food items-related business operators sell business purpose processed foods (in cases when food items are not provided in the containers or packages, but served in installed facilities for eating and drinking, or when food items are served where they are produced or processed, or excluding cases in which it is provided for sale for unspecified or numerous persons (excluding sales)), then the label items listed in the following each point shall be displayed according to label display methods prescribed in respective Articles 3 and 4. In this case, the provisions of Article 3, Paragraph 1 proviso shall not apply.

1 to 10 (abbr.)

11 Ingredient place of origin name (Applicable only for commercial processed foods to be used for target processed foods and for perishable food with the highest percentage of the weight of ingredient and additives of the target processed food and for the items that includes ingredients having ratio of 50 percent or more.)(For agricultural pickles, the top 4 places of agricultural products (The top three in content weight less than 300 grams) or marine products that account for a high proportion of the weight of ingredients and additives, and for those with a proportion of 5% or more of the weight of ingredients and additives, and for vegetable frozen foods, the top 3 places of vegetables with a high percentage of the weight of ingredients and additives, and those with a proportion of 5% or more of the weight of ingredients and additives and for eel in eel products, and for bonito flakes in bonito shavings.))

12 Country of origin (excluding commercial processed foods which changes its nature after importing.)

13 to 30 (abbr.)

2. (abbr.)

3. Regardless of the provision of paragraph (1), the items listed in the following points can be displayed using labels according to display methods prescribed respectively in these points.

1 · 2 (abbr.)

3 Ingredient place of origin Display the label for the order of the place of origin where the percentage of ingredient's weight is high (including usage ratio for a certain period of time).

4-5 (abbr.)

4. (abbr.)

13 to 30 (abbr.)

2. (abbr.)

3. Regardless of the provision of paragraph (1), the items listed in the following points can be displayed using labels according to display methods prescribed respectively in these points.

1 · 2 (abbr.)

3 For commercial processed food to be used as a processed food listed points from 1 to 22 in appended table 15 and for perishable food with the highest percentage of ingredient weight in the target processed food, and the place of origin of the ingredient whose proportion is 50% or more, as well as agricultural products other than imported products with a high proportion of the weight of ingredients of agricultural pickles (Excluding items whose displayable area of containers and packages is approximately 30 square centimeters or less.) or top 4 items (The top 3 items with contents weight less than 300 grams) among fishery products and for the top 3 vegetables, other than imported items, with a high percentage of the weight of ingredients for vegetable frozen food (The displayable area of container packaging is approximately 30 square centimeters or less.) and for the proportion of items which will be more than 5% of the weight of ingredients, provide details on label in such a way that the sequence of place of origin with high percentage can be recognized.

4-5 (abbr.)

4. (abbr.)

Chapter 3 Perishable Food

Section 1 Standards pertaining to food-related business operators

Subsection 2 Commercial perishable food

(Mandatory labelling)

Article 24 (abbr.)

2. Regardless of the provision of the preceding paragraph, it is possible to display the label to indicate the country of origin of agricultural products or fishery products as "Domestic" in case of domestic products. In addition, when there are two or more places of origin to be displayed as per stipulated in the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the same shall be displayed in such a way that the order of the place of origin having a high percentage of the weight of the commercial perishable food can be recognized.
3. Regardless of the provisions in preceding 2 paragraphs, in case of commercial perishable food served as a general processed food, and under the general processed foods category, in case of items (Including cases where agreement is reached between the parties) other than ingredients which must be displayed with the place of origin as stipulated in the section of processed food other than imported items in the table of Paragraph 2 of Article 3, the display of label of place of origin can be omitted.

Chapter 3 Perishable Food

Section 1 Standards pertaining to food-related business operators

Subsection 2 Commercial perishable food

(Mandatory labelling)

Article 24 (abbr.)

(Newly established)

2. Regardless of the provisions in the preceding paragraph, for the commercial perishable food to be served as a processed food, and for the perishable food with the highest proportion of the weight of ingredients and additives in the target processed food, and for the items other than the items in which the proportion is 50% or more  
(For agricultural pickles, agricultural products with a high proportion of the weight of ingredients and additives or top 4 fishery products (The top 3 items with content weight less than 300 grams), and the items having a proportion of 5% or more of the weight of ingredients and additives, and for vegetable frozen foods, the top 3 vegetables with a high percentage of the weight of ingredients and additives, and the items with 5% or more of the weight of ingredients and additives and eel in case of processed eels), the display of the place of origin can be omitted.

Appended Table 15 (related to Article 3, Article 10)

- 1 Among the following listed items, fresh foods (ingredient of coarse tea for green tea and green tea drinks of (5), the rice grains for rice cake of (6), ingredient of brown sugar for brown sugar and brown sugar processed material of (8), Konjac potato for Konjac of (9) (Including Konjac which is used as an ingredient of Konjac powder), Kelp for Kelp winding of (18)) with the highest proportion of the weight of ingredients and additives is 50 percent or more.
- (1) Dried mushrooms, dried vegetables and dried fruits (excluding flakes or powders).
  - (2) Salted mushrooms, salted vegetables and salted fruits (excluding agricultural pickles)
  - (3) Boiled or steamed mushrooms, vegetables and beans and bean paste (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products).
  - (4) Mixture of different cut vegetables, mixture of different cut fruits and other vegetables, mixture of different fruits and mushrooms (Excluding assorted food items without cutting.)
  - (5) Green tea and green tea drinks
  - (6) Mochi (Rice cake)
  - (7) Roasted shelled peanuts, roasted peanuts, fried peanuts and roasted beans
  - (8) Brown sugar and black sugar processed goods
  - (9) Konjac
  - (10) Seasoned meat (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)

Appended Table 15 (related to Article 3, Article 10)  
(Newly established)

1. Dried mushrooms, dried vegetables and dried fruits (excluding flakes or powders).
2. Salted mushrooms, salted vegetables and salted fruits (excluding agricultural pickles)
3. Boiled or steamed mushrooms, vegetables and beans and bean paste (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products).
4. Mixture of different cut vegetables, mixture of different cut fruits and other vegetables, mixture of different fruits and mushrooms (Excluding assorted food items without cutting.)
5. Green tea and green tea drinks
6. Mochi (Rice cake)
7. Roasted shelled peanuts, roasted peanuts, fried peanuts and roasted beans
8. Brown sugar and black sugar processed goods
9. Konjac
10. Seasoned meat (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)

- (11) Boiled or steamed meat and edible bird eggs (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products.)
- (12) Surface-cooked meat
- (13) Meat with fried dressing (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)
- (14) Ground beef and other mixed meat (including molded items after packing meat or minced meat in container.)
- (15) Salted and dried fish and shellfishes, boiled fish and shellfish and kombu (kelp or seaweed), dried seaweed, baked paste and other dried seaweeds (excluding fine chopped ones or powdered.)
- (16) Salted fish and salted marine seaweeds
- (17) Seasoned fish and shellfish and seaweeds (excluding those applicable to cooked and cooked frozen foods as well as canned, bottled and retort pouched foods.)
- (18) Kelp rolled
- (19) Boiled or steamed fish, shellfish and seaweeds (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products.)
- (20) Grilled seafood
- (21) Fish and shellfish with fried dressing (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)
- (22) In addition to those listed in (4) or (14), the items in which different type of perishable food is mixed (excluding assorted food

11. Boiled or steamed meat and edible bird eggs (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products.)
12. Surface-cooked meat
13. Meat with fried dressing (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)
14. Ground beef and other mixed meat (including molded items after packing meat or minced meat in container.)
15. Salted and dried fish and shellfishes, boiled fish and shellfish and kombu (kelp or seaweed), dried seaweed, baked paste and other dried seaweeds (excluding fine chopped ones or powdered.)
16. Salted fish and salted marine seaweeds
17. Seasoned fish and shellfish and seaweeds (excluding those applicable to cooked and cooked frozen foods as well as canned, bottled and retort pouched foods.)
18. Kelp rolled
19. Boiled or steamed fish, shellfish and seaweeds (excluding canned, bottled and retort pouched food products.)
20. Grilled seafood
21. Fish and shellfish with fried dressing (excluding cooked and cooked frozen foods.)
22. In addition to those listed in (4) or (14), the items in which different type of perishable food is mixed (excluding assorted food without

without cutting.)

2. Agricultural pickles

cutting.)

23. Agricultural pickles

3. Vegetable frozen food

4. Eel processed food

5. Bonito fish flakes

6. Rice Ball (Only applicable to those who uses seaweed as an ingredient for the purpose of winding cooked rice)

24. Vegetable frozen food

25. Eel processed food

26. Bonito fish flakes

(Newly established)