

## Monthly Update on Activity of the Food Safety Commission of Japan (FSCJ)

### January 2016

Discussions from the 590th to 592nd Meetings of the Commission held on the 12th, 19th and 26th of January 2016 are summarized as follows:

(1) Risk assessment requests on the following items were made by risk management organizations<sup>1</sup>.

Pesticides	• Picarbutrazox • Fludioxonil
Microorganisms and viruses	• Amendment of the Ordinance of the Ministry of Welfare, No.52, 1951 <sup>2</sup>
Prions	• Usage of proteins made with inosine as feeds.
Genetically modified foods / feeds	• Disodium 5'-Inosinate produced using RN-No.2 strain

(2) The Risk Assessment Reports on the following items were finalized and notified to the relevant risk management organizations concerned.

#### Pesticides

Item	ADI	ARfD
Thifluzamide	0.014 mg/kg bw per day	0.25 mg/kg bw
Fosetyl	0.88 mg/kg bw per day	Not required
Lepimectin	0.02 mg/kg bw per day	2 mg/kg bw

#### Veterinary medicinal products

Item	ADI
Altrenogest	0.00004 mg/kg bw per day
Lomefloxacin	0.025 mg/kg bw per day

#### Microorganisms and viruses

Item	Conclusion
Amendment of the Ordinance of the Ministry of Welfare, No.52, 1951 <sup>3</sup>	FSCJ conclusion: FSCJ evaluated that the item does not increase risk to human health from intake of the said skimmed condensed milk as long as the standards for manufacturing and preservation are followed, thus the item is considered to

<sup>1</sup> E.g. Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA).

<sup>2</sup> The Ordinance of the Ministry of Welfare, No.52, 1951, regarding standard of element and others of milk and dairy products.

<sup>3</sup> The Ordinance of the Ministry of Welfare, No.52, 1951, regarding standard of element and others of milk and dairy products.

	be of no food safety concern. Accordingly, FSCJ concluded that the item falls under the category which is the case where the contents and degree of adverse effects on human health are clear <sup>4</sup> .
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#### Prions

Item	Conclusion
Cattle meat and offal imported from Italy	FSCJ conclusion: With regard to the age limit for BSE testing and definition of SRMs, variation in potential BSE risks to human health would be very small, if it arises. Hence, an effect of the variation on human health is negligible.
Consideration of risk variations in Japan derived from the proposed revisions of the current countermeasures against BSE in sheep and goat.	FSCJ conclusion: With regard to the age limit for BSE testing, definition of SRMs and border measures in the domestic control measures, variation in potential BSE risks to human health would be very small, if it arises. Hence, an effect of the variation on human health is negligible.

#### Genetically modified foods/feeds

Item	Conclusion
L-Threonine produced using THR-No.2 strain	FSCJ conclusion: According to the “Stance on the safety assessment of amino acids and other end products” <sup>5</sup> , FSCJ concluded that livestock products derived from animals which consumed the item have no concern relevant to human health.

#### Antimicrobial resistant bacteria

Item	Conclusion
Florfenicol products used for cattle and pigs: Risk of Antimicrobial-resistant Bacteria	FSCJ conclusion: The use of florfenicol in cattle and pigs could cause the selection of bacteria with a resistance to florfenicol and a cross resistance to chloramphenicol. However, the resistant bacteria would not pose human health hazards via food consumption, because chloramphenicol is not used in human medicines for an infection that can be spread through food consumption. Thus, FSCJ concludes that the risk to human health via food consumption arisen from the

<sup>4</sup> The case designated under item (ii) of paragraph (1) of article 11 of the Food Safety Basic Act.

<sup>5</sup> “Stance on Safety Assessments of Amino Acids and Other End Products that are highly purified non-protein additives among additives produced using genetically modified microorganisms (Decision of the Commission dated 28 April 2005)”

	antimicrobial-resistant bacteria selected through the use of florfenicol in livestock animals is negligible.
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