

Outline of the Draft Partial Amendment of the “Labelling Standard for Liquors Made from Organic Agricultural Products and Others”

1. Outline of the Standard

In Japan, indications referring to organic or genetically modified ingredients of liquors are subject to the “Labelling Standard for Liquors Made from Organic Agricultural Products and Others” (Notification No. 7 of National Tax Agency of December 26, 2000), which establishes requirements to allow indication of “organic” and obligation to indicate “genetic modification” on the containers or packages of liquors.

The standard is in conformity to the “Japanese Agricultural Standard for Organic Processed Foods” (Notification No.1606 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of October 27, 2005), hereinafter called “JAS for Organic Processed Foods” and the “Quality Labelling Standard for Genetically Modified Foods” (Notification No.517 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of March 31, 2000).

2. Background of the Amendment

The “Labelling Standard for Liquors Made from Organic Agricultural Products and Others” needs to be amended in order to conform to the amendments of “JAS for Organic Processed Foods” (amended on Oct.27, 2005 and Oct.27, 2006) and the “Quality Labelling Standard for Genetically Modified Foods” (amended on Oct.11, 2005, Nov.8, 2006 and Oct.1, 2007).

3. Main Points of the Amendment of the “Labelling Standard for Liquors Made from Organic Agricultural Products and Others”

(1) To add “organic livestock products” to usable ingredients for “organic agricultural product processed liquors” (the liquors allowed to indicate “organic” on their containers or packages), in conformity to the amendments of “JAS for Organic Processed Foods”.

(2) To amend the formula to calculate the use ratio of organic products to total ingredients (excluding processing aids in the process of the calculation), in conformity to the amendment of “JAS for Organic Processed Foods”.

(3) To amend the list of food additives which are allowed to be used for “organic agricultural product processed liquors” in conformity to the amendment of “JAS for Organic Processed Foods” and to the CODEX Alimentarius. (Add 21 items & delete 2 items.)

(4) To amend the list of agents which are allowed to be used for pest control, in conformity to the amendment of “JAS for Organic Processed Foods”.

(5) To amend the list of “designated agricultural products” (certain genetically modified agricultural products), in conformity to the amendment of the “Quality Labelling Standard for Genetically Modified Foods”. (Add 3 items.) (In principle, the liquors made of “designated agricultural products” shall bear indication as prescribed in the “Quality Labelling Standard for Genetically Modified Foods” on the containers or packages, hereby.)