

Principles for Approving Import MRLs and Exempted Substances

31 March 2011

Import MRL and Exempted Substances (1)

- ✿ A list of residue limits and exempted substances would be included in the proposed legislation
- ✿ To cater for the use of pesticides that may be acceptable from the public health perspective but not yet included in the above two lists, an application mechanism for import MRL and exempted substances will be established under the new legislation

Import MRL and Exempted Substances (2)

- ✿ With reference to trade facilitation measure in overseas jurisdictions, to suitably incorporate MRLs or pesticides that have been found to be acceptable from the public health perspective in order to facilitate import of food
 - ✿ e.g., Canada, EU, Japan and USA

How to apply

- ✿ A person may apply to the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (DFEH)
- ✿ Pre-requisite –
 - ✦ An MRL/exempted substance is available in Codex or in another jurisdiction
 - ✦ Necessary document is provided
- ✿ Application fee will be charged on full-cost recovery basis and is not refundable

Information required for application

- ✿ Documents showing that the concerned MRL or exempted substance is currently in force in another jurisdiction or adopted by Codex;
- ✿ Any other information that would be required for processing the application, e.g.,
 - ⊕ residue definition of the concerned pesticides
 - ⊕ appropriate laboratory method
 - ⊕ supervised field trial data
 - ⊕ results of food processing studies
 - ⊕ relevant toxicological data, etc.

Principles for approval

- ✿ The application is submitted in the form and manner specified by DFEH;
- ✿ The applicant has provided the specified information as required by DFEH;
- ✿ Food permitted under the import MRL/ exempted substance will not be dangerous or prejudicial to health.

Results after approval

- ✿ If adopted -
 - ✿ The concerned import MRL/exempted substance shall be applicable to the concerned food type from all sources (including both imported and locally produced food)

Thank You