

provisional translation

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〔 Via: Embassy of Ukraine in Japan 〕

Subject: The revision of Japan's plant quarantine measures on Phytosanitary Certificate

We appreciate your understanding and kind cooperation for our plant quarantine services.

As you already know, we've announced about the changes in Japan's import plant quarantine measures related to Phytosanitary Certificates through the WTO/SPS notification (G/SPS/N/JPN/684/Add.1) dated 6th August 2020.

http://www.maff.go.jp/pps/j/introduction/import/ipcfuyou/attach/pdf/sps_684_add.pdf

As described in the WTO/SPS notification, Japan has been exceptionally accepting the importation of some plants such as grain and wood imported as cargo even without a Phytosanitary Certificate unless quarantine pests are detected at the import inspection. After a three-year transition period, from 5th August 2023, we will strictly require the attachment of a phytosanitary certificate for these plants, such as grain and wood etc., imported by cargo.

The start of this measure is coming, therefore Japanese importers are just making preparation to attach Phytosanitary Certificates, including coordination with exporters in your country. And the importers are becoming increasingly concerned about whether your country will smoothly issue such Phytosanitary Certificates for the plants that were previously allowed to be imported without such certificates.

In line with the interests of Japanese importers and to contribute to smooth bilateral trade in agricultural and forest products after 5th August 2023, we would like to know the status of your

country's preparation for the issuance of Phytosanitary Certificates for these plants. Specifically, we would like to know (1) the status of your country's system for issuing Phytosanitary Certificates for these plants, (2) when issuing the Phytosanitary Certificates will start, and (3) the inquiry window in your country regarding the issuance of Phytosanitary Certificates. Please complete the attached form and respond to items (1) through (3) above by 10th March 2023.

We are sure you know, but we would like to remind you that Article IV-1 and Article IV-2 a) of the International Plant Protection Convention require that "Each contracting party shall make provision, to the best of its ability, for an official NPPO with the main responsibilities set out in this Article" and "the issuance of certificates relating to the phytosanitary regulations of the importing contracting party for consignments of plants, plant products and other regulated articles".

In addition, we would like to inform you for your reference that among the plants strictly required to be accompanied by Phytosanitary Certificate after 5th August 2023, the main items that have been imported from your country to Japan are as shown in the Annex table.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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