

## **Revision of the Standards and Specifications for Foods and Food Additives under the Food Sanitation Act**

### **Background**

Any food or food additive for which compositional specifications or standards are established based on Article 11, Paragraph 1 of the Food Sanitation Act of Japan and published in the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Notification (Ministry of Health and Welfare Notification No. 370, 1959) shall not be used or marketed unless it meets the standards or specifications.

Non-alcoholic beverages are classified into four categories: 1) mineral waters (non-alcoholic beverages consisting only of water), 2) frozen fruit beverages, 3) fruit juices for ingredients, and 4) beverages other than those listed in 1) through 3). Compositional specifications and standards are established for individual categories.

In the existing standards, arsenic is not permitted to be detected in beverages listed in 2) through 4) as determined by either of Gutzeit method or silver diethyldithiocarbamate method.

### **Outline of revision**

Gutzeit method, which is regulated as a method to detect arsenic in non-alcoholic beverages except for mineral waters, will be deleted, because this method uses hazardous reagent Mercury (II) bromide.