

Proposed designation of organisms that need notification prior to its importation in Japan

Overview

The Article 16 of the Act on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity through Regulations on the Use of Living Modified Organisms (Act No. 97 of 2003) prescribed that “When there is a high likelihood that living modified organisms that could not be considered not to give rise to Adverse Effect on Biological Diversity are imported without knowledge of that fact, in view of the situation of the producing area or other circumstances, or when corresponding to other similar cases, that have been designated by the competent minister, a person who wishes to make imports pertaining to the designation must notify the competent minister to that effect on each occasion, as stipulated in the ordinance of the competent ministries.” The notification should be made by the date which the competent minister sets separately, based on the Article 17 of the ordinance (※).

We are planning to designate the plant species from certain producing area that need notification prior to each planned importation, taking into account the results of inspection on plant seed and/or seedling imported for cultivation conducted in accordance with the Article 31 of the Act - the results indicates that unauthorized genetically modified traits have been detected repeatedly in shipments imported from specific producing area. We also specified the date for the notification.

※ the Regulations related to the Enforcement of the Law concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity through Regulations on the Use of Living Modified Organisms (Ordinance of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Environment, No. 1 of November 21, 2003)

Subject

1. The notification will be requested when a person is planning to import the plant seed and/or seedling for cultivation listed in the following table.

Plant Species	Producing Area	Intended Use
Papaya Seed and Seedling	Kingdom of Thailand	Cultivation

2. The notification should be made by the 10 working days prior to the planned importation on each occasion.