

# Organic Foods in Japan

- Regulations of organic foods in Japan
  - Organic Standard
  - Criteria of Organic Operator
  - Certification Body
- How to export to Japan
  - Equivalency of the State Law for organic products
  - Who puts JAS organic mark on organic products

# Scope of JAS certified organic foods

- Organic products with organic JAS mark
  - Agricultural products
  - Those processed foods
- Organic products not regulated by MAFF  
(organic JAS mark not allowed to use)
  - Mushrooms grown of wood, Alcohol Beverage
  - Live Stock & Aquaculture

# Organic operators

1. Production Process Management Director
  - farmer
  - farmers group, cooperative, corporation
2. Processor
3. Sub-divider (packer)
4. Importer

# Criteria for operator

- Organization and Field /Facility
- Internal regulation for quality control  
(how to manage organic quality)
- Grading regulation  
(how to audit quality management & to control organic labeling)
- Internal auditing & education

# Who can put organic JAS label

- Farmer/Processor who is certified by a certification body registered at MAFF (Japanese or foreign certification body)
- Certified Importer
  - to evaluate equivalency of imported organic product without organic JAS mark
  - with certificate issued by the relevant Government
  - If compliant with JAS regulation, importer has to put organic JAS mark before shipment

# Certified Organic Operator

as of 31.July, 2003

	Production Director	processor	Sub- divider	importer	Total
Japan (farmers)	1750 (4330)	814	533	101	3198
Foreign countries	258 (3746)	269	54	0	581
Total (farmers)	2008 (8076)	1083	587	101	3779

有機JASマーク



J O N A

日本農林規格登録認定機関

- **Grading regulations**
- Grading manager must have authority independent from the
- production and sales division.
- \*To evaluate conformity of its operation with Internal regulations and/or Organic JAS by checking the operation records.
- \* To approve grading as organic on the products after evaluation
- \* To deal with unapproved products after production and before
- shipment
- \* To make sure labeling is made in accordance with Organic
- JAS.
- \* To store and ship approved organic products
- \* To control organic JAS mark and make records of its use/and disposal of disapproved products.
- \* To undergo inspection and auditing by the certification
- organization



- **Labeling (Grading) of JAS Organic**
- **[1] Consumer packaged organic products:**
- Labeling of JAS Organic can be printed on the package beforehand or can be affixed on the package with a labeling sticker or piece of paper or cloth etc.
- For agricultural product such as rice, ingredients must be written in
  - either way of “organic product rice” or “organic rice” or similar word in Japanese.
  - 2) For processed food such as soy sauce, a) “organic soy sauce” b) name of ingredients such as organic soy bean, organic rice, salt, and so on.
  - c) in addition to the specially required for organic products, the general rule of labeling for processed food must be observed.
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- **[2] Bulk organic products:**
- For bulk shipment for trading, Method 1. or 2. must be used.
- Method 1.
- Affix the label of JAS Organic on the bulk products and also write “JAS
- Organic” on the invoice and shipping documents / slips.
- Method 2.
- Affix the Label of JAS Organic (JAS organic mark with the certification body name (and the operator’s number) on the invoice and write “JAS Organic” on the invoice and shipping documents / slips.

- **[3] Note**
- 1). The lot number should be written on the products and the invoice / shipping slips.
- 2). The grading manager is responsible for printing and affixing the label of JAS Organic before shipment.
- 3 ). JONA's requirement:
- Labeling review is required by JONA requests submission of draft of labeling before making final packaging materials in order to check the
- compliance with the JAS system. For the final printing of the JAS Organic label, you need to use the clear proof of the JAS –JONA mark.
- (Please read carefully Article 5, in the JAS Organic Standards and the Labeling Standard for processed food, fresh produce and rice/ milled rice)

- **Internal regulations for production process management**
- ---Procedures to carry out organic quality management.
- \* Annual production plan
- \* Cultivation plan --- seed, fertilization, pest and weed control,
- crop rotation
- \* Maintenance, cleaning and washing of machinery, equipment
- and tools
- \* Lot control from harvest to shipment
- \* Processing on the farm---washing, drying, cutting, selecting,
- storing, packing
- \* Record keeping---farming, harvest, shipment, loss
- \* To report to the certification body and undergo inspection and
- auditing by the certification organization.
- \* To check and improve internal regulations periodically
- --internal auditing
- \* Claim policy and manual
- \* Education and training of staff and workers.