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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 12
Series of 2011

TO : ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : AMENDMENT TO DA MEMORANDUM ORDER NO.8 SERIES OF 2011, "TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF THE IMPORTATION OF PLANTS, PLANTING MATERIALS AND PLANT PRODUCTS FROM AFFECTED AREAS OF JAPAN AND MONITORING OF THE SAME USING RADIATION DETECTION INSTRUMENTS"

In view of the recent updates on the serious nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daichi Nuclear Power Plant which may have affected the radionuclide levels of food, water and the atmosphere, the following plant quarantine measures will be strictly implemented:

1. Importation of plants, planting materials and plant products (fruits, vegetables, etc.) from ALL prefectures of Japan, is now allowed provided they have complete Plant Quarantine documents and in accordance with pertinent provisions of P.D. 1433 known as the Philippine Plant Quarantine Law of 1978 and Department of Agriculture Order No. 18, Series of 2000.
2. Importation of such commodities from the prefectures of Fukushima and Ibaraki should have an additional certificate of radiation analysis issued by the competent authority/laboratory at or near the final port of loading in Japan.
3. Importation from other areas in Japan is required to have a certificate of origin.
4. Monitoring of plants, planting materials and plant products from Japan shall be carried out by means of conducting random inspection, examination and detection of hand carried and checked in baggage of arriving passengers both at the International airports and seaports using radiation detection instruments. Initial radiation screening should not exceed 3 times (3x) the background level at the place of monitoring.
5. Commodities with radiation levels above the threshold will be forwarded to the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) for analysis. Radiation levels should fall within the standards set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC/GL 5-1989) "*Guideline Levels for Radionuclides in Foods Following Accidental Nuclear Contamination for Use in International Trade.*"



Foods Destined for General Consumption

Dose per unit intake factor (Sv/Bq)	Representative radionuclides	Level (Bq/kg)
10^{-6}	^{241}Am , ^{239}Pu	10
10^{-7}	^{90}Sr	100
10^{-8}	^{131}I , ^{134}Cs , ^{137}Cs	1000

6. PNRI has the authority to make decision on what actions to take (distribution, disposal, etc.) when the guidance levels are exceeded.
7. All expenses relative to the laboratory analysis, storage and transport during disposal of confiscated and contaminated commodities shall be charged to the importer.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced until revoked.

For strict compliance.


PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary 

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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