

31 July 2025

Original: English

(25-4948) Page: 1/3

## **Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

## NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1. Notifying Member: JAPAN

If applicable, name of local government involved:

- **2. Agency responsible:** Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
- 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):
  - Seeds for planting of the following plants:sweet pepper (chili pepper, shishito pepper, bell pepper) (Capsicum annuum), tomato (including Lycopersicon esculentum (syn. Solanum lycopersicum), Solanum arcanum, Solanum cheesmaniae, Solanum chilense, Solanum galapagense, Solanum peruvianum, Solanum pimpinellifolium)
  - Live plants and plant parts for planting (excluding seeds and fruits) of the following plants:pea (Pisum sativum), Capsicum frutescens, sweet pepper (chili pepper, shishito pepper, bell pepper) (Capsicum annuum), tomato (including Lycopersicon esculentum (syn. Solanum lycopersicum), Solanum arcanum, Solanum cheesmaniae, Solanum chilense, Solanum galapagense, Solanum peruvianum, Solanum pimpinellifolium), eggplant (Solanum melongena)
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
  - [] All trading partners
  - [X] Specific regions or countries: India
- **Title of the notified document:** Emergency measures to mitigate the risk of introducing *Tomato mottle mosaic virus* from India. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:**
- **6. Description of content:** To prevent the introduction of *Tomato mottle mosaic virus* (ToMMV) into Japan, MAFF has taken emergency measures for the host plants of ToMMV from India. The measures are taken as follows:
  - (1) For seeds:

The plants must fulfill the following specific requirement AND the phytosanitary certificate or the certified copy of the phytosanitary certificate must include additional declaration.

## Either

The samples randomly taken from parent plants and ones with suspected symptoms are tested by an appropriate genetic method such as RT-PCR assay and found to be free from Tomato mottle mosaic virus;

or

The seeds are tested prior to export by an appropriate genetic method such as RT-PCR assay and found to be free from Tomato mottle mosaic virus; 4,600 seeds are randomly taken from a lot as samples in accordance with the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) procedures; or in case that the number of seeds of a lot is less than 46,000, 10% of the seeds are used for the testing; they are divided into at most 400 seeds for RT-PCR as sub-samples.

(2) For Live plants and plant parts for planting (excluding seeds and fruits):

The plants must fulfill the following specific requirement AND the phytosanitary certificate or the certified copy of the phytosanitary certificate must include additional declaration.

The plants randomly taken from a lot and plants with suspected symptoms are tested during the growing season or prior to export by an appropriate genetic method such as RT-PCR assay and found to be free from Tomato mottle mosaic virus.

In addition, National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) of India will be required to include an additional declaration stating that "Fulfills item 41 of the Annexed Table 2-2 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Plant Protection Act (MAF Ordinance No73/1950)."

- 7. Objective and rationale: [ ] food safety, [ ] animal health, [X] plant protection, [ ] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- **8. Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:** MAFF has stipulated ToMMV as one of the important quarantine pests for Japan. To prevent the entry of ToMMV into Japan, an additional declaration should be included in the phytosanitary certificate for the import of host plants of ToMMV originated in India. This is an urgent action taken prior to the revision of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Plant Protection Act, based on the newly confirmed information regarding the presence of ToMMV in India.
- 9. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
  - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):
  - [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):
  - [X] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): IPPC Article 7, ISPM 1 and ISPM 20
  - [] None

Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? [X] Yes [] No

If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:

- 10. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
  - CABI (2025) Tomato mottle mosaic virus. In: Crop Protection Compendium. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. (online), available from <a href="https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/10.1079/cabicompendium.121740">https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/10.1079/cabicompendium.121740</a>
  - EPPO (2025) Tobamovirus maculatessellati. EPPO Global Database. (online), available from <a href="https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOMMV0/distribution/IN">https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/TOMMV0/distribution/IN</a>
  - ICAR (2017) DARE-ICAR Annual Report 2016-17
  - Mazumder, P., F. Mondal, M. Sarkar, A. Majumdar, K. K. Biswas, S. K. Sharma, M. K. Lal, R. K. Tiwari, R. Kumar and A. Roy (2024) Biological and Molecular Characterization of a New Isolate of Tomato Mottle Mosaic Virus Causing Severe Shoestring and Fruit Deformities in Tomato Plants in India. Plants 13(19): 2811. (online), available from <a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2223-7747/13/19/2811">https://www.mdpi.com/2223-7747/13/19/2811</a>
  - List of the import prohibited plants (excluding the plants that meet the requirements) (Annexed Table 2-2 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Plant Protection Act) and the details of the requirements for each of the quarantine pests. (online), available from <a href="https://www.maff.go.jp/pps/j/law/houki/shorei/E">https://www.maff.go.jp/pps/j/law/houki/shorei/E</a> Annexed Table2-2.html
- 11. Date of entry into force (dd/mm/yy)/period of application (as applicable): 24 August 2025
  - [] Trade facilitating measure

12. Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [ ] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

Standards Information Service International Trade Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919, Japan

Tel: +(81 3) 5501 8344 Fax: +(81 3) 5501 8343 E-mail: enquiry@mofa.go.jp

13. Text(s) available from: [ ] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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