

Technical Criteria for Certifying Re-packers of Organic Plant Products, Organic Feeds,
Organic Livestock Products, and Organic Processed Foods
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1 Scope

This standard specifies the technical criteria for Certifying Re-packers and Overseas Re-packers (Hereinafter referred to as “Re-packers”) of Organic Plant Products, Organic Feeds, Organic Livestock Products and Organic Processed Foods, based on which accredited certification bodies and accredited overseas certification bodies (Hereinafter referred to as “certification bodies”.) conduct such certification assessment in accordance with Article 11-1) and Article 31-1) of Act on Japanese Agricultural Standards (Act No.175 of 1950. Hereinafter referred to as “Act”).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this Japanese Agricultural Standard. For undated references, the latest edition of the referred document applies.

JAS 1605 Organic Products of Plant Origin

JAS 1606 Organic Processed Foods

JAS 1607 Organic Feed

JAS 1608 Organic Livestock Products

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this criteria, the terms and definitions specified in JAS 1605, JAS 1606, JAS 1607, and JAS 1608 apply.

4 Re-packing and Grade-labeling Facilities

4.1 Production Facilities

Such re-packing facilities must comply with 5.13 of JAS 1605 for organic plant products, 5.3 of JAS 1607 for Organic Feed, 5.7 of JAS 1608 for Organic Livestock products, and 5.3 of JAS 1606 for Organic Processed Foods, must be adequate for the management activities, with regard to space, lighting and structure, and must be properly cleaned.

4.2 Grade-labeling Facilities

Such facilities must be provided for the purpose of grade-labeling management.

5 Implementation Methods for Re-packing

5.1 Re-packing managers specified in 6.2 are obliged to perform the following duties.

- a)** Planning and promotion with regard to re-packing
- b)** Measures and recommendations for abnormalities occurred in the re-packing processes

5.2 Internal rules on the following matters must be prepared concretely and systematically.

- a)** Matters related to receiving & storing of organic plant products, organic feeds, organic livestock products, organic processed foods, (hereinafter referred to as “organic foods etc.”)
- b)** Matters concerning the confirmation of grade labeling of organic foods etc. before re-packing
- c)** Matters concerning the re-packing methods
- d)** Matters concerning the machinery and equipment used in the re-packing process
- e)** Matters concerning the creation of records related to “the re-packing management” as well as the retention period of the relevant records including the supporting documents for such records
- f)** Matters concerning the complaints handling
- g)** Matters required for the appropriate business activities, such as implementation status confirmation of re-packing by the certification bodies

5.3 Any business activities related to re-packing, must be properly carried out in accordance with the internal rules.

5.4 The internal rules must be reviewed properly on a regular basis, and fully disseminated to the employees.

6 Qualification requirements, and a set number of persons in charge of Re-packing

6.1 Re-packing staff

One or more persons, who satisfy any of the following requirements, must be assigned as a person(s) in charge of re-packing (hereinafter referred to as “re-packing staff”):

- a)** Those who graduated from a high school or a secondary education school under the School Education Law (Law No.26 of 1947) or those who hold an equivalent or higher level of qualification, having more than two years of experience in the food distribution practices.
- b)** Those who have 3 or more years of experience in the food distribution practices.

6.2 Re-packing Manager

The following must be satisfied.

- a)** In the cases where one person is assigned as re-packing staff, the same person, as a re-packing manager, must have completed the training course on the re-packing processes, which is designated by a certifying body (hereinafter referred to as “training course”).
- b)** In the cases where two or more persons are assigned as re-packing staff, one of them who have completed the training course on the re-packing processes, must be appointed as a re-packing manager.

7 Organizational structure and implementation methods of attaching grade labels

7.1 Organizational structure through which grade labeling is carried out

The grade-labeling department must be independent from the operational units substantially, having independent authority.

7.2 Grade-labeling Methods

7.2.1 Grade-labeling rules on the following matters (hereinafter referred to as “grade-labeling rules”) must be prepared concretely and systematically.

- a)** Matters concerning the grade-labeling
- b)** Matters concerning the shipment or disposal of the lot after grade-labeling
- c)** Matters concerning the handling of those lots found to be in conformity with JAS 1605, JAS 1607, JAS 1608, and JAS 1606, after shipment
- d)** Matters concerning the creation and storage of records related to the grading
- e)** Matters required for the appropriate business activities, such as implementation status confirmation (by the certification bodies) of the grading activities.

7.2.2 It must be recognized that the labeling of the names of the products shall be carried out properly in accordance with the grade-labeling rules without fail.

7.2.3 It must be recognized that the labeling of the product names shall be carried out properly in accordance with Clause 6 of JAS 1605 (for organic plant products), Clause 6 of JAS 1607 (for organic feeds), and Clause 6 of JAS 1608 (for organic livestock products) respectively, and that the labeling of the products & ingredients names shall be carried out properly in accordance with Clause 6 of JAS 1606 (for organic processed foods) without fail.

8 Qualification and Number of Persons in Charge of Grade-labeling

One or more persons, who have completed the training course on the grade-labeling must be assigned

as a person(s) in charge of grade-labeling (“grade-labeling staff”).