

Establishment of indicators for *Listeria monocytogenes* for frozen vegetables and fruits

Background

Currently, *Listeria monocytogenes* (LM) is used as the indicator value at 100cfu/g in unheated processed meat products and natural cheeses (soft and semi-soft) to evaluate the compliance under the provision of Article 11 of the Food Sanitation Law.

In addition to existing regulation, in accordance with the trend in the international standard of LM, the MHLW has decided to set an LM indicator as follows, based on section 3, Article 6 of the Food Sanitation Law.

Proposed revision

The indicator value of LM in RTE (Ready-To-Eat) frozen vegetables and fruits will be 100 cfu/g, which will be used to apply section 3, Article 6 of the Food Sanitation Law.

Notes

The food and additives which are contaminated with pathogens or are suspected to be so, and involve a risk to human health shall not be sold or collected, produced, imported, processed, used, cooked, stored, or displayed for the purpose of marketing, based on section 3, Article 6 of the Food Sanitation Law.