

# **Government structure on Food safety and Animal health system in Japan**

Japan-EU EPA Negotiation Round 4 – SPS group meeting  
28-29 January, 2014

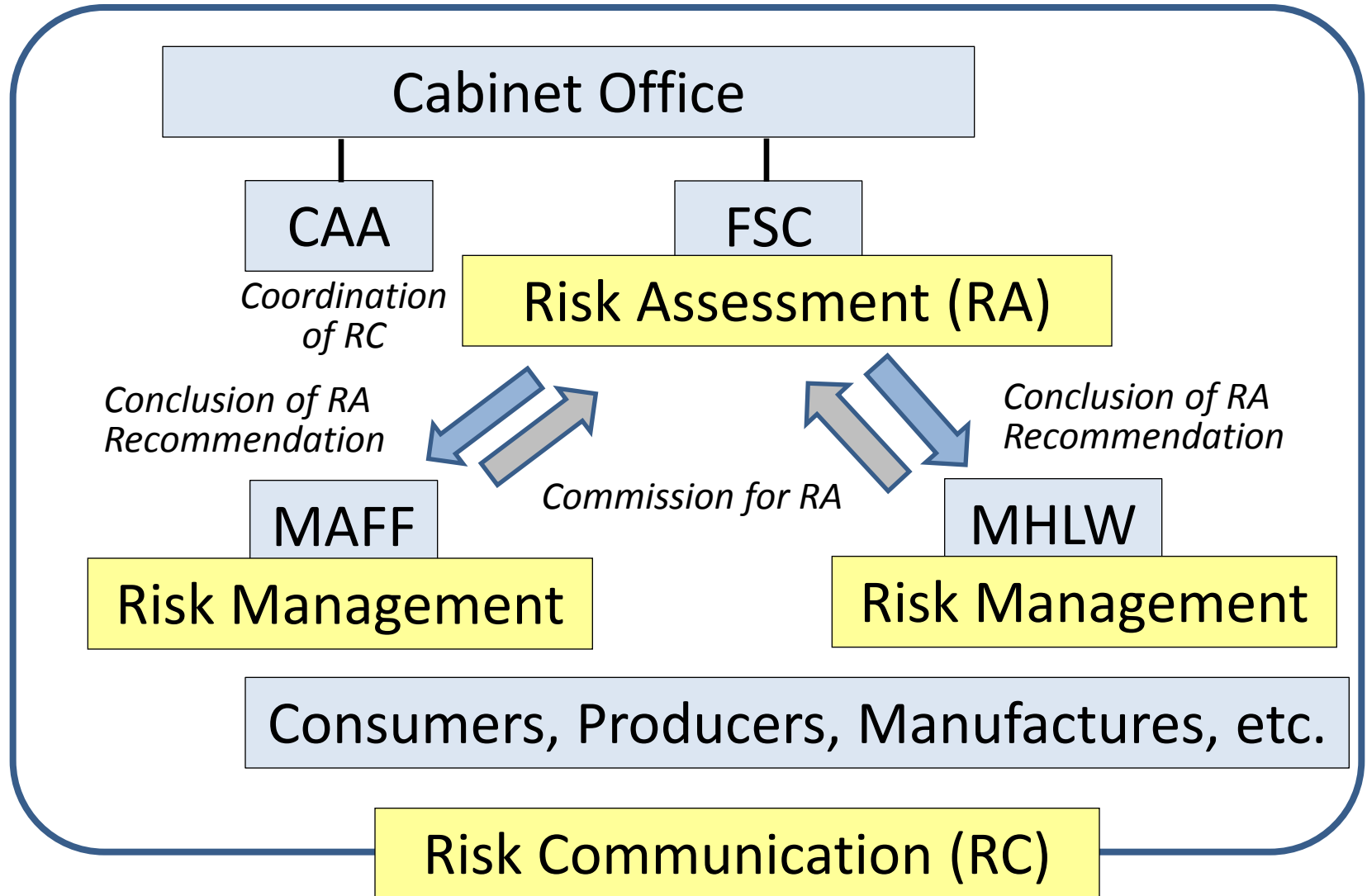
Food Safety & Consumer Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries(MAFF)  
JAPAN

# Overview of agenda

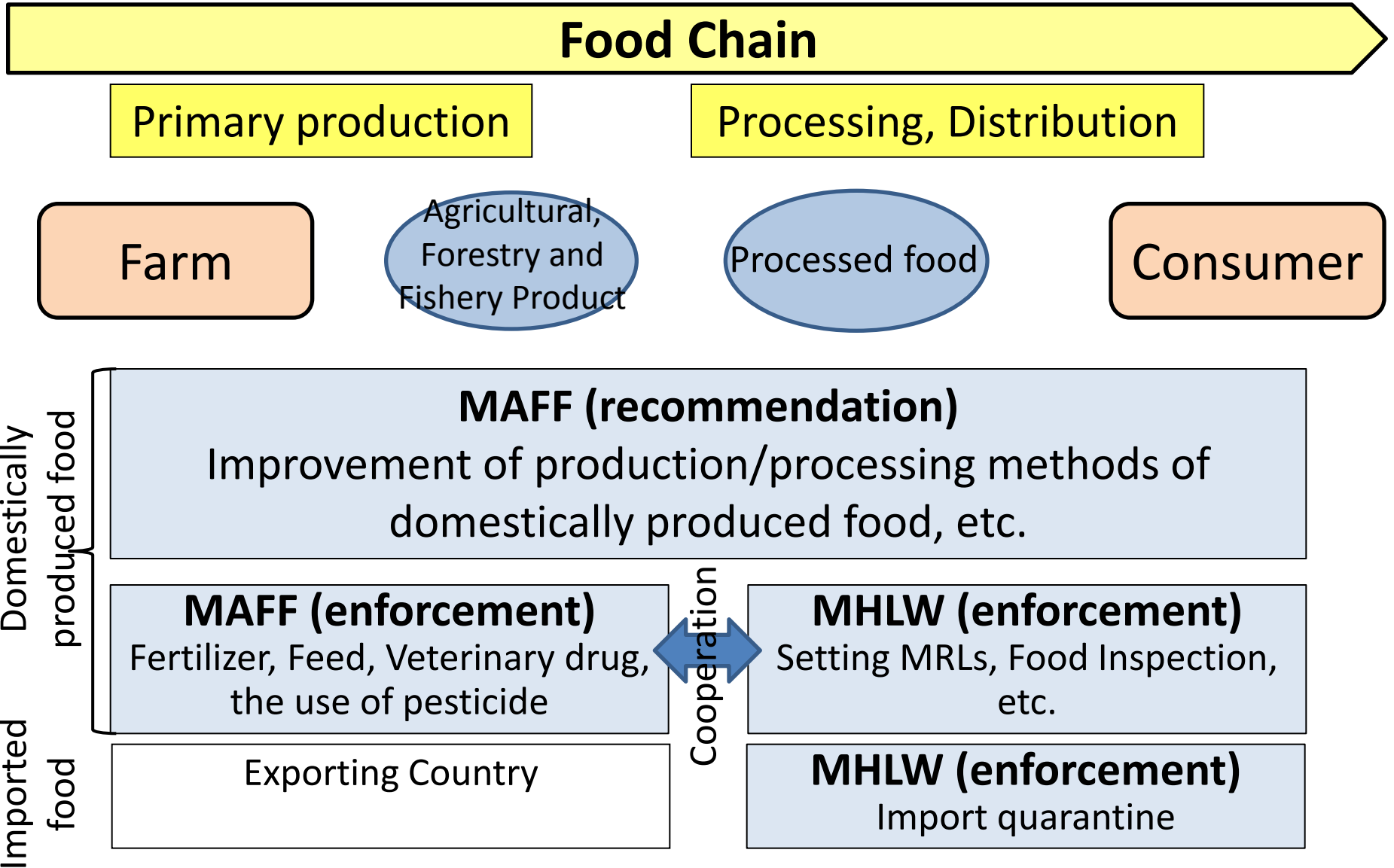
- Government structure
- Animal health system
- Legal backgrounds
- Audit and inspection
- Import requirements

# **1. Government structure**

# Current government structure to deal with food safety in Japan



# Roles of MAFF and MHLW on food safety



## **2. Animal health system**

# Animal Health System in Japan



International organizations  
(ex. OIE)



## Producers

[Livestock production in Japan]

Beef cattle: 65,000 farms  
(2.72 M head)

Dairy cattle: 20,000 farms  
(1.45M head)

Pigs: 5,800 farms  
(9.74 M head)

Layers: 2,800 farms  
(140 M head)

(as of Feb. 1, 2012)

Broilers: 2,400 farms  
(100 M head)

(as of Feb. 1, 2009)

## Prefectural Gov't Livestock Hygiene Service Centers

171 centers  
(including facilities for  
disease diagnosis)  
2,081 veterinarians  
(as of Mar. 31, 2013)

(MHLW)  
112 Meat Inspection  
Centers  
2,392 veterinarians

## MAFF Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau



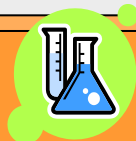
## MAFF Animal Quarantine Service

Head office,  
7 branches,  
16 sub-branches,  
373 animal  
quarantine  
officers  
(as of Apr. 2013)



Voluntary disease  
control groups

National Veterinary Assay  
Laboratory  
National Institute of Animal Health



# Organization of the Animal Health Division

Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau

## **Animal health division**

- General affairs unit
- Animal hygiene and health unit

### **Domestic Animal Health Affairs Office**

- Epidemic control planning unit
- Epidemic control affairs unit
- Pathogen control unit

### **International Animal Health Affairs Office**

- Quarantine planning unit
- Quarantine affairs unit
- Global animal health planning unit
- OIE affairs unit
- Risk analysis unit
- Inspection coordination unit



# Animal health system in Japan

## (1) MAFF

- provides basic policy and guidance on animal disease control measures in cooperation with
  - Prefectural government,
  - the National Institute of Animal Health; and
  - other relevant organizations.
- The Animal Quarantine Service (established under MAFF) conducts import/export quarantine

# **Animal health system in Japan**

## **(2) Prefectural Government**

- establish local veterinary service centers (“Livestock Hygiene Service Centers”) as the front-line organizations to implement animal disease control measures
- MAFF
  - supports the activities of Livestock Hygiene Service Centers; and
  - organizes trainings for their veterinary staff

# **Animal health system in Japan**

## **(3) National and local voluntary groups for Animal disease control**

- encourage producers to take voluntary actions (ex. vaccinations, disinfection)

## Animal quarantine services: Objectives

- Preventing animal infectious diseases from entering the country
- Preventing animal and human infectious diseases such as rabies from entering the country
- Preventing fish infectious diseases such as koi herpesvirus disease from entering the country

# Number of Animal quarantine officers and number of agencies

FY	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Animal quarantine officers	319	326	337	345	356	369	372	373
Agencies	24							

Note: The number of officers is the number at the end of each fiscal year.

# Locations of Animal Quarantine Stations and Designated Ports

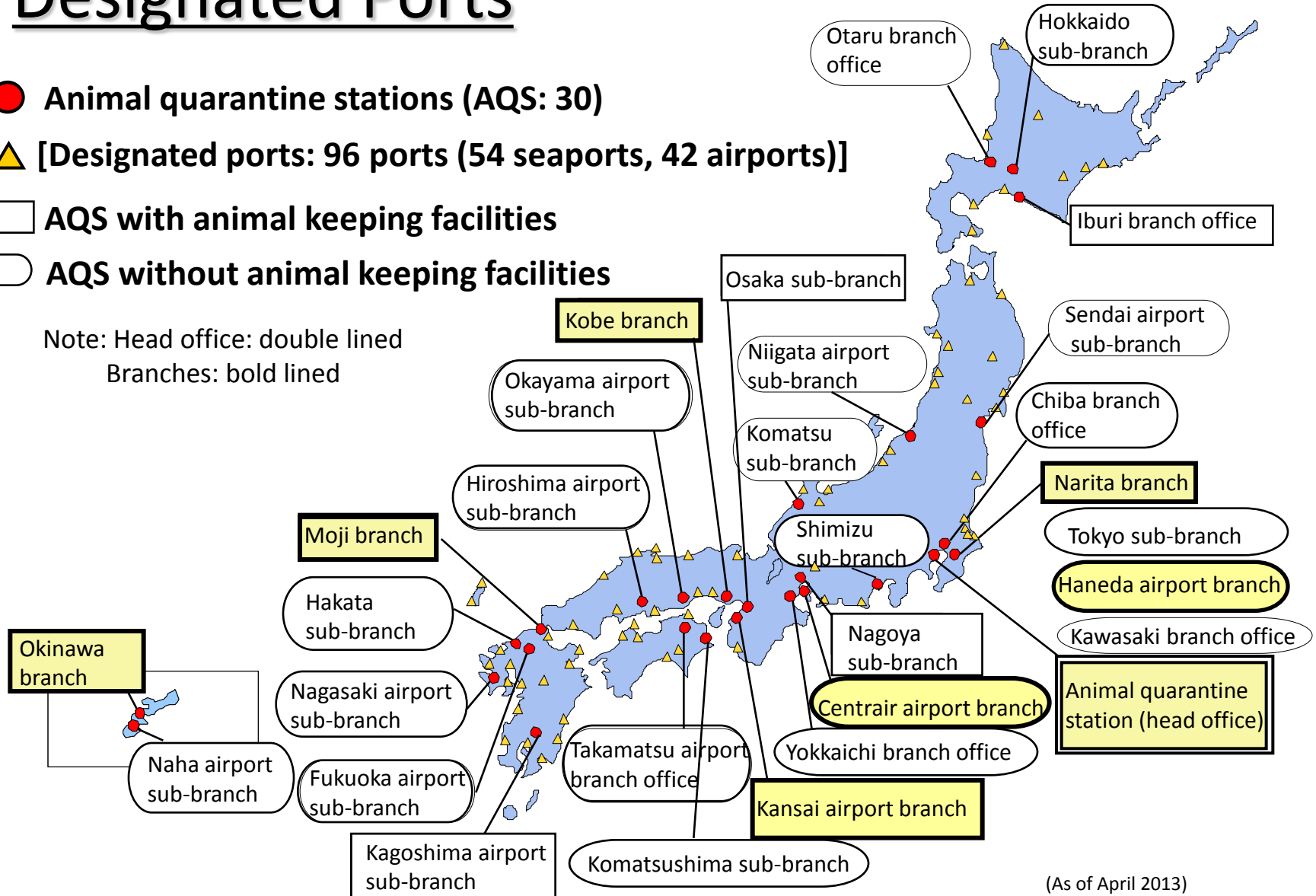
● Animal quarantine stations (AQS: 30)

▲ [Designated ports: 96 ports (54 seaports, 42 airports)]

□ AQS with animal keeping facilities

○ AQS without animal keeping facilities

Note: Head office: double lined  
Branches: bold lined



(As of April 2013)

## **3. Legal backgrounds**

# Laws related to the animal health division

- Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control
- Rabies Prevention Act
- Act on Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients Suffering Infectious Diseases (Infectious Diseases Act)
- Livestock Hygiene Service Centers Act
- Act on Special Measures concerning Measures against Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy



# Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control

- promotion of livestock industries through:
  - prevention of the outbreak of domestic animal infectious diseases;
  - containment of domestic animal infectious diseases; and
  - quarantine for imports and exports

# Rabies Prevention Act

- improvement of public hygiene and public welfare through:
  - prevention of the outbreak and spread of rabies; and
  - eradication of the disease

# Act on Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients Suffering from Infectious Diseases (Infectious Diseases Act)

- prevention of the outbreak and the spread of infectious diseases and thereby improving public hygiene through:
  - measures needed for the prevention of infectious diseases; and
  - medical care for those who suffer from infectious diseases

# Livestock Hygiene Service Centers Act

- Improvement of livestock hygiene in local areas and thereby contributing to development of livestock industries through:
  - providing administrative services for the testing and inspections needed
    - to prevent livestock infectious diseases; and
    - to ensure livestock hygiene

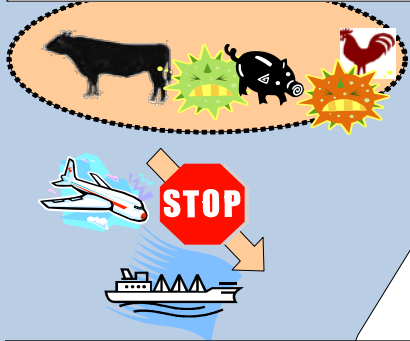
# Act on Special Measures concerning Measures against Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

- Establishment of stable supply systems for safe beef through special measures for preventing the outbreak and spread of BSE
- Protection of human health
- Contribution to the sound development of producers and related businesses

# Outline of the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control

## Measures for prevention

Countries and regions with outbreaks



MAFF

Development and review of disease control guidelines



Cooperation

Prefectural gov't  
(Livestock Hygiene Service Centers)

Strict control at points of entry by MAFF  
(Animal Quarantine Service)

- Quarantine for export/import of animals, livestock products, etc.
- Asking questions to people coming into, inspecting and disinfecting personal belongings

Strict biosecurity measures on farms

- Compliance with the biosecurity standards
- Installing disinfection equipment in barns
- Securing the land necessary for burial of infected animals, etc.
- Annual reporting of the biosecurity situation

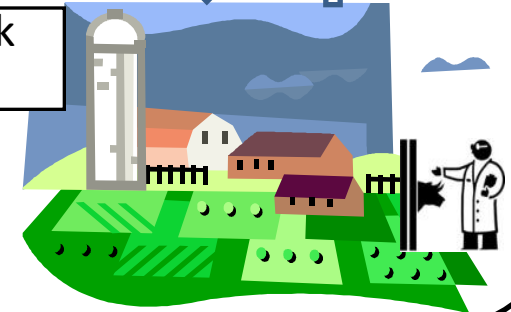
Preparedness for outbreaks

- Guidance, advice, recommendations and orders in order to ensure appropriate implementation of biosecurity standards at farms
- Preparing supplementary burial sites

Early detection of infected animals and reporting

- Reporting when infected and/or suspected animals are found
- For specific diseases (FMD, AI): Reporting when animals with specific symptoms are found

Livestock owners



# In the case of an outbreak....

## Measures for containment

Prefectural government  
(Livestock Hygiene Service Centers )

MAFF

Development and review of disease control guidelines (emergency guidelines, if necessary)

Financial support (cost for disinfection, culling, etc.)

Personnel support (sending experts and emergency support teams)

Municipalities

Cooperating with prefectural gov't in implementing measures based on the disease control guidelines

Affected farms

Financial support by MAFF

- Compensation for infected animals (80%), etc. and special compensation (only for FMD, HPAI, etc. (100%))
- Reducing the amount of compensation and special compensation for those who did not take the necessary measures
- Compensation for preventive culling (100%)
- Paying for the costs of incineration and burial of livestock corpses and contaminated goods
- Compensation for economic losses caused by movement restrictions established around affected farms

Measures to prevent the spread

- Disinfecting affected farms
- Culling infected animals, etc.
- Restricting/blocking access to areas around affected farms
- Restricting the movement of livestock, suspending operations at slaughterhouses, etc.
- Disinfecting vehicles which go through disinfection points
- Incinerating and/or burying infected animals' corpses and contaminated goods
- Preventive culling (only for FMD)

Personnel support (sending epidemiological study teams)

Financial support

# Domestic animal disease control in Japan (1)

- MAFF
  - provides basic policy and guidance on animal disease control measures; and
  - supports prefectural gov't to implement them.
- MAFF also
  - encourages livestock farmers to implement strict biosecurity measures;
  - monitors the disease situation (active/passive surveillance); and
  - provides guidance on vaccinations.



## Domestic animal disease control in Japan (2)

- In case of disease occurrence,
- Prefectural government
  - Implement the culling of infected animals; and
  - put in place necessary measures (movement restrictions, testing, etc.).

# Specific measures taken in Japan

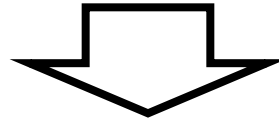
## Prevention

- Strict hygiene management at farms

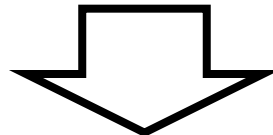


**Biosecurity Standards**

## Early response



- Monitoring the disease situation (active/passive surveillance)
- Early detection and reporting



## Containment

- Culling of infected animals
- Disinfection
- Movement restrictions
- Testing animals at farms around affected farms

**Guidelines for specific animal infectious disease control, etc.**

## **4. Audit and inspection**

# On-site inspections (1)

**Fresh (incl. frozen) meat exported from disease-free countries/regions which have been recognized by MAFF as free from FMD, ASF, CSF, etc.**

MAFF conducts an on-site visit to the countries/regions to evaluate the animal health status of the countries/regions and the animal health system.

## On-site inspections (2)

### Heat-processed meat exported from **disease-affected countries/regions**

MAFF conducts an on-site inspection of the facilities:

- to confirm whether they meet the designation standard;
- to check the effectiveness of the controls of the exporting country

# Facilities eligible to export meat and meat products to Japan (1)

The establishments (e.g. slaughterhouses, cutting plants, meat processing plant cold stores) located in **the disease-free countries/regions** are **designated by the exporting country** in accordance with the animal health requirements.

# Facilities eligible to export meat and meat products to Japan (2)

The facilities for heat-processed meat located in **the disease-affected countries /regions** are designated:

➤ **by MAFF; or**

➤ **by exporting country**, where MAFF has made a positive result of the on-site inspection to check the effectiveness of the controls of the exporting country

## **5. Import requirements**



# Import requirements

- Described in animal health requirements
- Based on the specific results of risk assessment
- Published steps to be followed

# Standard Procedure for Approval for Import of Designated Items into Japan to be Quarantined (1)

1. A country requests the Animal Health Authorities of Japan (AHA) to lift import ban on designated items.

2. The AHA develops and sends a questionnaire to the requesting country.

Requesting  
Country

Japan

3. The requesting country sends the fulfilled questionnaire and relevant information to the AHA. Then, the AHA examines the answers and sends additional questionnaires, if necessary.  
(step 2-3 may be repeated depending on the case)

# Standard Procedure for Approval for Import of Designated Items into Japan to be Quarantined (2)

4. The AHA confirms that the submittal of the requesting country is complete

5. The AHA accepts the fulfilled questionnaire and acknowledge its receipt to the requesting country

Requesting  
Country

Japan

6. Conduct on-site visit

7. The AHA (risk assessment team) prepares a draft risk assessment report

# Standard Procedure for Approval for Import of Designated Items into Japan to be Quarantined (3)

8. The AHA consults the Committee of Animal Health for risk assessment
9. The Committee of Animal Health reports the result of risk assessment to the AHA

Requesting  
Country

Japan

10. The AHA notify the result of risk assessment to the requesting country.

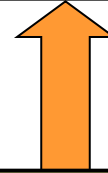
11. Establish Animal Health Requirements(AHR)

12. The AHA notify the AHR to the requesting country.

# Expert group of Animal Health

## Animal Health Division, MAFF

Seeks opinions



Submits recommendations  
Gives technical advice

## Animal Health Committee

- discusses and gives technical advice on animal health issues including risk assessment.
- is composed of 3 ordinary members and 15 ad hoc members (as of 13 Sep, 2013)

**Bovine and swine  
diseases sub-  
committee**

**Poultry disease  
sub-committee**

**Prion diseases  
sub-committee**

# **Bovine and swine diseases sub-committee**

- discusses and gives technical advice on particular issues related to bovine and swine diseases including risk assessment
- is composed of 3 ad hoc members and 6 specialized members (as of 13 Sep, 2013)

# Poultry disease sub-committee

- discusses and gives technical advice on particular issues related to poultry diseases including risk assessment
- is composed of 4 ad hoc members and 5 specialized members (as of 13 Sep, 2013)

# Prion diseases sub-committee

- discusses and gives technical advice on particular issues related to prion diseases including risk assessment
- is composed of 2 ad hoc members and 6 specialized members (as of 13 Sep, 2013)



Thank you for your attention

