

(Provisional translation)

Kochi Prefecture

Result of the inspection on radioactive materials in skipjack tuna caught offshore Tosa Bay

Updated on 16 November, 2011

Background

Skipjack tuna is the “fish of Kochi Prefecture,” as Kochi City is the top consumer of skipjack in Japan in terms of per household consumption.

Kochi Prefectural Government has began to conduct inspections on radioactive materials in skipjack tuna on a monthly basis since July, in response to the concern among the prefecture’s residents on safety of “Modori-gatsuo”, skipjack tuna that comes down from the north in autumn and migrates offshore Kochi prefecture, although the prefectural government recognizes that enough safety has already been ensured for the fishery products caught offshore Tosa Bay .

Result of the inspection conducted on 16 November

Neither radioactive iodine-131 nor cesium-134 and cesium-137 were detectable in the skipjack tuna sample obtained on 15 November.

List of inspection results

Unit: Becquerel/kg

Sample	Sampling site	Sampling date	Iodine-131	Cesium-134	Cesium-137	Total of Radioactive cesium
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Offshore Tosa Bay	14 July, 2011	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.63)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.73)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.93)	-
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Offshore Tosa Bay	8 August, 2011	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.76)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.68)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.75)	-
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Offshore Tosa Bay	13 September, 2011	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.76)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.73)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.69)	-
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Offshore Tosa Bay	12 October, 2011	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.68)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.72)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.64)	-

Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Offshore Tosa Bay	15 November, 2011	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.64)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.67)	Not detectable (Detection limit: 0.97)	-
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*Provisional Regulation Value for fish established by the Government of Japan: 2,000Becquerel/kg for radioactive iodine and 500 Becquerel/kg for radioactive cesium

* Detection limit is the minimum measurement value that is detectable in analysis. Detection limit defers each time because of the characteristics of the method of measurement.

Method of measurement

The Public Health Institute of Kochi Prefecture conducted the measurement by means of gamma-ray spectrometry with a germanium semiconductor detector in accordance with the “Manual for Measuring Radioactivity of Food in Case of Emergency,” published by the Inspection and Safety Division, Department of Food Safety, Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in March, 2002.