

Outline of the Act Partially Amending the Fertilizer Control Act

Background and Purpose

Amid concerns about the decline in soil fertility and deterioration of the soil's nutritional balance in Japan's farmland, it is necessary to promote [the quality control of fertilizers so that compost and fertilizers derived from industrial by-products](#), which are inexpensive domestic resources and also useful for soil improvement, [can be used with peace of mind](#), and the legal system needs to be revised to promote [fertilizer production, etc. that flexibly responds to the needs of farmers](#).

[Specific issues]

(1) Effective use of industrial by-product resources

In order to further expand the use of industrial by-products as fertilizers, it is necessary to [strengthen raw material management](#) and [take measures against false labeling etc.](#), so that farmers can use them with greater peace of mind.

(2) Production and use of new fertilizers based on farmers' needs

To meet farmers' needs, it is necessary to [revise regulations concerning fertilizer formulations](#), which will lead to soil improvement and labor and cost reduction, through measures such as permitting the combination of compost and chemical fertilizers, which has been prohibited up until now, allowed and to [enhance quality labeling](#), which will lead to improved fertilization efficiency, including the timing of the onset of effects (slow-release properties), etc.

Summary of the Act

1 Introduction of a system for the management of raw materials for fertilizers

- (1) The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [is to set standards for the range of raw materials that can be used](#) in fertilizers.
- (2) Fertilizer producers and importers [are required to maintain raw material records](#).
- (3) [Prohibit false advertising regarding](#) fertilizer [raw materials](#) (Article 3, Article 26, Article 27)

2 Review of regulations regarding fertilizer blending

- (1) A new system will be established that will allow the production of [fertilizers that combine ordinary fertilizers \(such as chemical fertilizers\) with special fertilizers \(such as compost\)](#), as well as [fertilizers that combine fertilizers with soil improvement materials, by submitting a notification](#).
- (2) [In addition to blending registered fertilizers, fertilizers that have undergone certain processing \(granulation, etc.\)](#) will also be able to be [produced by submitting a notification](#).

(Article 4 and Article 16-2)

3 Establishment of fertilizer labeling standards

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is to establish [standards for labeling related to fertilizer quality and its effectiveness such as the time when the effects of the fertilizers appear \(slow-release\)](#), in addition to quality labeling that includes ingredient amounts, etc. and may issue instructions, announcements and orders as necessary.

(Article 21, Article 22-2, and Article 22-3)

➡ Due to the requirement for fertilizer manufacturers to manage raw materials themselves and the expansion of notified fertilizers, the title of the Act was changed from Fertilizer Control Act to [Act on the Quality Control of Fertilizer](#).

肥料取締法の一部を改正する法律の概要

背景及び趣旨

我が国の農地における地力低下や土壌の栄養バランスの悪化が懸念される中で、国内の低廉な資源であり、土づくりにも役立つ[堆肥や産業副産物由来肥料を安心して活用できるよう](#)、[肥料の品質確保を進めるとともに](#)、[農業者のニーズに柔軟に対応した肥料生産等が進むよう](#)、法制度を見直す必要。

【具体的課題】

(1) 産業副産物資源の有効活用

産業副産物の肥料利用の一層の拡大に向けて、農家がより安心して利用できるようにするためには、[原料管理の強化](#)や[虚偽表示などへの対応](#)が必要。

(2) 農家ニーズに応じた新たな肥料の生産・利用

農家ニーズに対応するため、これまでできなかった堆肥と化学肥料の配合等、土づくりや労力・コストの低減につながる[肥料配合に関する規制の見直し](#)や、効果の発現時期（緩効性）等、施肥の効率化につながる[品質表示の充実](#)が必要。

法律の概要

1 肥料の原料管理制度の導入

- ① 農林水産大臣は、肥料に使える[原料の範囲の規格を設定](#)
- ② 肥料の生産業者及び輸入業者に、[原料帳簿の備付けを義務付け](#)
- ③ 肥料の[原料の虚偽宣伝を禁止](#)

（第3条、第26条、第27条）

2 肥料の配合に関する規制の見直し

- ① [普通肥料（化学肥料等）と特殊肥料（堆肥等）を配合した肥料や、肥料と土壌改良資材を配合した肥料を、届出で生産できる制度を新設する。](#)
- ② [登録済みの肥料同士の配合に加え、一定の加工（造粒等）を行った肥料についても、届出で生産できることとする。](#)

（第4条、第16条の2）

3 肥料の表示基準の整備

農林水産大臣は、成分量等の品質表示に加え、[肥料の効果の発現時期（緩効性）等の肥料の品質や効果に関する表示についても基準を定め](#)、必要に応じて指示・公表・命令ができることとする。

（第21条、第22条の2、第22条の3）

➡ 肥料業者自身による原料管理の義務付けや、届出肥料の拡大に伴い、法律の題名を「肥料取締法」から「[肥料の品質の確保等に関する法律](#)」に改正。