

<p>Recently, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) changed many parts of the JAS law. Some of the major changes included the following: all quality and grading managers must take a JAS seminar prior to recertification, JAS certified operation must be recertified under the new law by 2009, and JAS certified clients' may change only limited parts of their current JAS certification prior to recertification.</p> <p>In order to allow current and future QAI clients the opportunity to participate in a required JAS seminar, QAI will be offering a seminar at Expo West titled "<b>An In-depth Look a Changes, Updates, and Requirements in the Japan Agriculture Standard (JAS)</b>". For further information about the JAS seminar and other seminars QAI will be offering at Expo West, please visit our website at <a href="http://www.qai-inc.com">www.qai-inc.com</a>.</p>	<p>In addition, JAS certified processors and repackers may maintain the current certification until <b>February 28, 2009</b>. However, with the current certification, you will not be able to add offsite processing faculties or repacking lines until you are recertified to the new JAS standard.</p> <p>If you are certified as a producer, you must adhere to the new standard by <b>November 25, 2006</b>. Furthermore, clients certified as a producer group will not be able to add new producers to their certification until they are recertified to the new standard.</p> <p>Copies of the revised standards are available at Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) website at <a href="http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hins hitu/e_label/index.htm">http://www.maff.go.jp/soshiki/syokuhin/hins hitu/e_label/index.htm</a>. Translated copies of the Technical Criteria are available at our Ecocert-QAI Japan website at <a href="http://www.qai.jp">www.qai.jp</a>.</p>
---	--

**Transition Period to New Standards**

