



**AVA SUSPENDS IMPORT OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FROM KANTO REGION IN JAPAN**

**Detection of radioactive contaminants in another two samples of vegetables from Japan**

Radioactive contaminants have been detected in another two samples of vegetables from Japan. The contaminated samples were imported from the prefectures of Kanagawa and Tokyo. In addition, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare had reported the detection of high radioactivity levels in some vegetables from Saitama.

2. In view of the latest developments, the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) will extend its suspension on the import of fruits and vegetables to include the prefectures of Kanagawa, Tokyo and Saitama. This means the entire Kanto Region of Japan is now suspended from exporting fruits and vegetables to Singapore as AVA had earlier suspended the Kanto prefectures of Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma and Chiba.

**Status of suspension of Japan food imports**

3. The status of our suspension of food imports from Japan as at 26 Mar 2011 is as follows:

<b>Source</b>	<b>Item</b>
Fukushima, Ibaraki*, Tochigi* and Gunma*	Milk, milk products, seafood, meat, fruits and vegetables
Ehime, Chiba*, Kanagawa*, Tokyo* and Saitama*	Fruits and vegetables

*\* Prefectures in the Kanto Region*

**Food imports from Japan subjected to “hold-and-test”**

4. Since 25 Mar 2011, all consignments of fruits and vegetables, seafood, meat, milk and milk products imported from Japan have been subjected to hold-and-test. This means that the products will only be released for sale when test results show that there is no radioactive contamination. If radioactive contaminants are detected in any sample, the affected shipment will be disposed.

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## Updates on test results

5. To date, 287 samples of fruits and vegetables, seafood, meat, milk and milk products have been tested. The latest results of samples collected from shipments imported on 25 and 26 Mar 2011 showed that radioactive contaminants were found in the following two samples of vegetables :

Item (Source)	Detection levels		
	Iodine-131	Cesium-134	Cesium-137
Cabbage (Kanagawa)	936bq/kg	242bq/kg	474bq/kg
Leek (Tokyo)	226bq/kg	-	-

\* Becquerel (Bq) is a measurement of radioactivity levels. *The Codex guidelines for radionuclides in food (other than infant food) for Iodine 131 is 100 Bq/kg, Cesium 134 is 1000 Bq/kg and Cesium 137 is 1000 Bq/kg.*

\*\* *Test results are provided by the Health Sciences Authority's Applied Sciences Group*

## No cause for alarm for consumers

6. Food imported from Japan that is available in the market is safe for consumption. There is no cause for concern for consumers as the affected consignments have not been released for sale under our "hold-and-test" surveillance programme.

7. AVA will continue to closely monitor and test food imports from Japan.

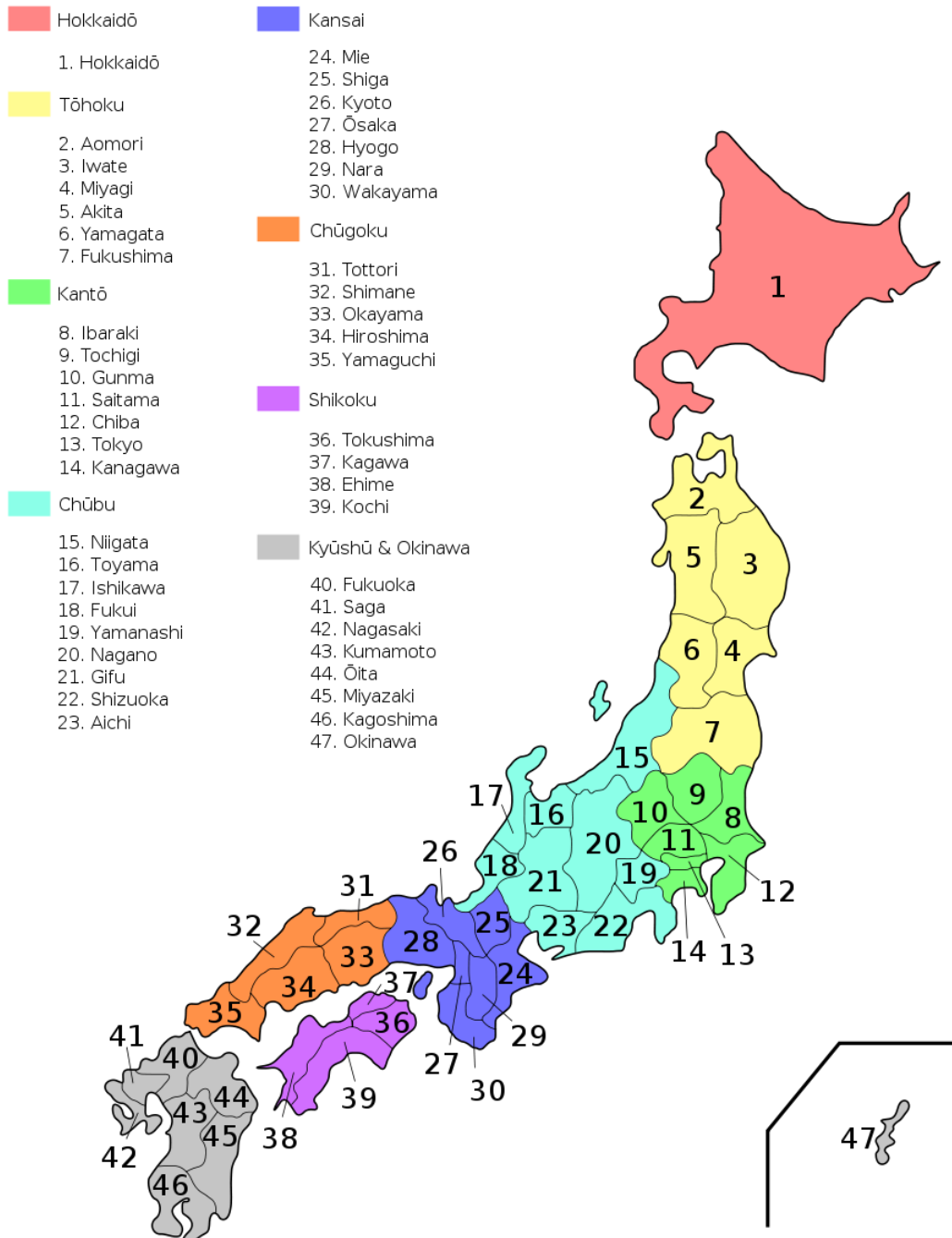
8. The public could visit the Japan Earthquake microsite at [www.gov.sg](http://www.gov.sg) ([www.gov.sg/japanquake](http://www.gov.sg/japanquake)) for latest updates and information from the authorities. They could also visit AVA site at [www.ava.gov.sg](http://www.ava.gov.sg).

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# Regions and Prefectures of Japan



Source : <http://mapsof.net/japan/static-maps/png/regions-and-prefectures-of-japan>

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