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This table summarises the general requirements and standards for food and agricultural imports into Korea.

Certification/ Requirements	Remarks
Regulatory/ Enforcement Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Korea Food & Drug Administration (KFDA - www.kfda.go.kr)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- regulates non-food-related products, including cosmetics, vaccines, blood products, medical devices and radiation-emitting products- inspects imported products under provisions provided in the "Inspection Guidelines for Imported Food, etc."- publishes its food-related regulations, including the Food Code, Food Additive Code, Labeling Standards for Food, Labeling Standards for Recombinant Food, Guidelines for Safety Assessment for Recombinant Food, functional food regulations, etc., on its website• Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF - http://www.mifaff.go.kr)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- establishes regulations and standards related to agricultural products, including livestock and dairy products- oversees fishery products and organic processed food products- Several agencies within MIFAFF are responsible for issuing and enforcing regulations.<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ National Veterinary Research & Quarantine Service (NVRQS - http://www.nvrqs.go.kr): responsible for implementing regulations pertaining to both domestic and imported animals and livestock products◆ National Plant Quarantine Service (NPQS - http://www.npqqs.go.kr): responsible for implementing regulations pertaining to plants.◆ National Agricultural Product Quality Management Service (NAQS - http://www.naqs.go.kr): responsible for setting quality standards and grades for agricultural products, such as organic standards for agricultural produce, and enforcing country of origin marks and GMO labeling of bulk commodities; official inspection agency for testing of GMO products.◆ Rural Development Administration (RDA): research and development of new agricultural technologies and extension work including biotechnology; technical advisor on MIFAFF policy regarding GMO products◆ Animal Health Division (AHD) makes regulations of live animals and animal products and NVRQS enforces them.• The Ministry for Health, Welfare, and Family Affairs (MHWF) holds authority to legislate changes to the

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Food Sanitation Act- Functional Food Act- Special Act on Children's Dietary Life Safety Managementtheir implementing Presidential Decree and Ministerial Ordinance.
Food Codes/Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Food Code (2009)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- stipulates standards and specifications for manufacturing, processing, usage, cooking, storage of food and equipment, containers and packaging for food products.- specifies the standards for maximum residue levels of agricultural chemicals, antibiotics, synthetic antibiotics, hormones, radioactive ray standards, testing methods, etc.- contains general standards and specifications governing food products and individual standards and specifications- Available on KFDA website - http://eng.kfda.go.kr/index.php• Food Additive Code (http://fa.kfda.go.kr/foodadditivescode.html)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- defines standard specifications for individual food additives and usage standards.• Labeling Standards for Food• Labeling Standards for Recombinant Food• Functional Food Code
Acts, Regulations, Guidelines, etc., Governed by MIFAFF or its Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Korean language texts are available on the MIFAFF's website: http://www.mifaff.go.kr.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Livestock Processing Control Act- Livestock Code- Import Health Requirements for Various Animals- Labeling Standards for Livestock Products- Plant Protection Act- Import Plant Inspection Guideline- Agricultural Products Quality Control Act<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The Act, passed by the National Assembly in December 1998, includes provisions governing agricultural GMO products and labeling, country of origin marks, geographical indication (GI), trace-back, etc.- Guideline for Labeling of Genetically Modified Agricultural Products- Sustainable Agriculture Promotion Act- Guideline for Country of Origin (COO) for Agricultural Products- Seed Industry Act

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Food Industry Promotion Act- Guideline for Designating and Operating "Fine Food" Certification Agencies- Operational Guidelines for the Organic Processed Food Certification Program- Quality Control of Fishery Products Act
General Import procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KFDA Standards and specifications apply both to domestic products as well as imported food products.• Guidelines for Imported Food, etc are available on its website www.kfda.go.kr• No registration is required however all imported products are subjected to mandatory lab testing by relevant inspection agency.• Steps for importation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Submit "Import Declaration for Food, etc"- Types of inspection to be conducted according to the guidelines of inspection of imported food (document inspection, organoleptic inspection, lab testing and random sampling examination)- Field examination or conformity assessment will be performed to determine types of inspection- For plant products (include fresh vegetable, fruit and grains) and meat or dairy and egg products, they are subjected to quarantine inspection by NPQS (in addition to KFDA) and by NVRQS respectively.• For perishable agricultural products, such as fresh vegetable, fruits, etc., an importer can clear the products prior to completion of the laboratory test with a pre-certification authorization from KFDA. In this case, however, the importer needs to be able to track distribution of the given product so the products can be recalled should the laboratory test indicate a violation.
Sanitary and phytosanitary certificates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Required for live animals, plants and meat products, such as beef, pork and poultry (even for sample) in accordance with the Livestock Epidemics Prevention & Control Act, the Plant Protection Act, and the Livestock Processing Control Act• Issued by the exporting country' s inspection authority• The "issuance date" of both health and phytosanitary certificates shall be prior to the "on-board date" listed on the Bill of Lading.• The "inspection date" on a certificate must be prior to the departure date. To prevent unnecessary delay at the port of entry, the certificate "issuance date" should be prior to the departure date of shipments.

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Pre-approval of facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior to exporting product to Korean market, for slaughter plants, processors and warehouses
Animal Quarantine Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meat, dairy and egg products are subject to quarantine inspection• Quarantine certificate issued by NVRQS is required for product clearance• NVRQS quarantine inspection procedures are listed on http://www.nvrqs.go.kr/eng/rese_quarantine.asp?pageNumber=3-0
Plant Quarantine Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant products, including fresh vegetable and fruit and grains are subject to plant quarantine inspection, in addition to food inspection by KFDA• The plant quarantine certificate issued by the NPQS and the KFDA certificate are required for product clearance• NPQS quarantine inspection procedures are found on the below website: http://www.npqqs.go.kr/homepage/english/import/import1.asp• Guideline for Inspection of Imported Food Products lists agriculture and food products that are exempt from mandatory laboratory testing on the grounds that the listed products have not had any violations for the past five years.
Import application for organic food products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be presented to regional offices of the KFDA for organic food products for import clearance:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A copy of an organic certificate issued by the USDA-accredited certifying agent (Go to http://www.ams.usda.gov/ National Organic Program). The certificate must include the following information:<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) Name, address, and phone number of the certifying agent(b) A list of the types of organic food the operation is certified by the certifying agent to produce or process(c) The company name, address, and effective date (or renewal date) of the certification2. An original ingredient statement (a list of all ingredient names) issued by the manufacturer (only required for organic food products made of mixed ingredients) that includes the office/department/division name, name and signature of the issuer.• For organic labeling for processed food products, MIFAFF introduced a mandatory organic certification program for processed food products, which will require all domestic and imported organic processed products to be certified by a MIFAFF accredited certifying body.• For additional details, please refer to this ebook at http://ebook.mifaff.go.kr/src/viewer/main.php?host=main&site=20090518_180746&cat

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Labeling	
Standard Declaration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product name • Product type (for specially designated products) • Importer's name and address and address where products can be exchanged or returned in case of defects • Manufacture date (month, year) for specially designated products • Shelf life • Contents (Calories) • Ingredient names and content • Nutrients (only designated products that are subject to) • Other items if any (such as cautions and standards for use or preservation) • Country of origin
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean, except for the 102 meat, eggs and dairy products, which are regulated by the MIFFAF. • Stickers that do not cover original labeling are permitted for food products, except for functional food items
Product name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be identical to the product name declared to the licensing/ inspection authority • For original equipment manufacturing (OEM) products, the country of origin an 'OEM' mark should be indicated surrounding the product name
Product Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory for specially designated products, such as teas, health supplementary foods, etc.
Manufacture date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory for specially designated products, such as boxed lunches, sugar, liquor, and salts, frozen dessert (manufacturing month and year for frozen dessert). • For liquors, a manufacture number (lot number) or bottling date can substitute for the manufacture date.
Shelf life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If various kinds of products are packaged together, the shelf life expiration date of the product with the shortest life should be noted on the label. • "Best before date" required for certain food products for which the quality can be maintained as long as products are stored in a proper way. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Products include jams, saccharide products (e.g. dextrin, oligosaccharide, fructose), teas, sterilized beverages, sterilized curry products, starch, honey, wheat flour, canned and retort packaged products.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Those products can choose either a best before date or a shelf life on the product label.
Contents (Calories)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weight, volume or number of pieces should be indicated.• If the number of pieces is shown, the weight or volume must be indicated in parentheses• Calories are only required for food products subject to nutritional labeling
Ingredients names and content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ingredients must be listed in descending order of predominance by weight• Artificially added purified water and names of ingredients used to make a composite raw ingredient amounting to less than five percent of the product in weight will be excluded from the ingredient list.• In case of a composite raw ingredient amounting to<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <5% product by weight: list only the name of the composite raw ingredient- <5% of the product by weight: list the names of all ingredients contained in the composite raw ingredient• Food additives must also be listed by full name, abbreviated name, or purpose on the label (e.g. Ferric Citrate, FECitrate, or nutrient fortified substance).• Food items known to be food allergens must be indicated on the label even if they are added as part of a mix at minimal levels:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eggs, milk, buckwheat, peanuts, soybeans, wheat, mackerel, crab, shrimp, pork, peaches and tomatoes.
Nutritional Labelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Optional for most food products. Required for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Special purpose food products- In the event that specific nutrients are emphasized (e.g., if a product is labeled as "calcium enriched yogurt," the content of the calcium must be labeled).- If nutritional labeling written in Korean is voluntarily included on a product, the label must comply with Korean nutritional labeling requirements.- Bread (cake, doughnuts, bread loaf, other bakery goods), noodles, retort foods, edible oil and fats and dumplings- Candy, chocolate, confectionary goods such as cookies, biscuits, snacks, jam, beverages- Frozen dessert (ice candies), fish sausages, rice roll, hamburgers, and sandwiches• Must use Korean nutrient reference values• Products subject to nutritional labeling must indicate the content of trans fatty acids

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Other items designated by labeling standard of food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes cautions and standards for use or preservation (eg. drained weight for canned products, radiation-processed products, etc)
Categories exempted from labeling requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural products such as grains; fishery items, such as whole frozen fish; and fruits, that are not contained in a container or package, etc. Foods to be used for manufacturing for a company's own use. (Documents that show such intent need to be provided.) In this case, the name of the product, the name of the manufacturer, and manufacture date or shelf life or best before date shall be indicated on the original package either in English or in a language of an exporting country. Products imported for the purpose of acquisition of foreign currency, under the provisions of Article 34 of the Ministerial Ordinance to the Foreign Trade Act.
"High caffeine content" declaration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the main display panel Required for products with artificially added caffeine and liquid products made from raw material containing caffeine, where the level of caffeine in the liquid product exceeds 0.15mg/ml Exception: product with "tea" or "coffee" as part of the name
Country of Origin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administered by MIFAFF Required for many agricultural products, including most imported products Required on inner package of meat products Detailed labeling information is provided in the COOL guidelines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforced by NAQS in the marketplace. Enforced by the Korea Customs Service (KCS) on imported products prior to Customs clearance. Individual label is exempt when the possibility of misunderstanding the country of origin based on the external appearance of the commodity is small.
Other labeling requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory labeling of OEM products A restriction of the use of photo or picture of fruit and ingredients for products that contain synthetic flavors Imported beef is required to be traceable via a bill of lading number up to the retail store level. Indication of the bill of lading number on the retail package label will be required for imported beef from December
Inner Package Labelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory for double packaged products whose area of the largest side of the inner package is over 30cm² Required information: the product name, the net content with calories corresponding to

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	<p>the net content, the shelf life or the best before date, and the nutrients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see GAIN Report KS9025 and KS9032 for details (available at www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp)
Other categories	
Functional Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to those required for general food products, it should have the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - functional food to be indicated - information on the efficacy claim - intake directions and cautions - statement that product is not pharmaceutical product that prevents or heals disease - other points as required in the detailed labeling guidelines for functional foods
Liquor products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification of usage to be indicated on main label or supplementary label for imported liquor and only on the main label for domestic products • For home consumption and discount store sale to be marked "for home use" or "for discount stores" in white against green or dark blue background. Writings to be in contrast color with label's main background color. Should also have statement "Not allowed to be sold in restaurants and bars" on the main or supplementary label. • As noted in the section on KFDA's labelling standards, the use of a photo or a picture of fruit or ingredients on the product label for products that contain only synthetic flavours are restricted (applies to liquor products as well).
Organic Food labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulated by the Sustainable Agriculture Promotion Act (Administered by MIFAFF) • The MIFAFF Environment Friendly Agriculture Division establishes the regulations for organic products, which is enforced by the NAQS • For organic labeling for processed food products, MIFAFF introduced a mandatory organic certification program for processed organic food products in June 2008. • Organic produce is classified into three categories for agricultural produce: organic produce, no-pesticide produce, and low-pesticide produce, and can be labeled accordingly. • For livestock products, two categories of certification are available; organic livestock and no antibiotic livestock. • For imported organic agricultural produce, the product is required to get certification from an official certification agency recognized by MIFAFF. • To date, MIFAFF has officially designated 54 Korean certification agencies. No foreign

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	<p>entities have been designated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Labeling may be done in the following manner depending on the content of organic agricultural ingredients in a food product:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 100%: when the finished food product does not contain any other food or food additive except for organic agricultural ingredients, the label "100% organic agricultural product" or similar labels may be used.2. Not less than 95%: when not less than 95 percent of the raw materials contained in the finished food product are organic agricultural ingredients, the term "organic" or similar terms may be used as a part of the product name and stated on the main labeling panel of the container or package; and the name, seal and logo of the organization that certified the organic agricultural produce used in the product, as well as other certification information, may be stated. In this case, the content of the organic agricultural ingredients must be stated in percentage terms on the raw material section of the label.3. Less than 95% but more than 70%: when 70 percent or more but less than 95 percent of raw materials contained in the finished food product are organic agricultural ingredients, the term "organic" or similar terms may be stated on a labeling surface of the container or package other than the main labeling panel. In this case, the content of the organic agricultural ingredients must be stated in percentage terms on the raw materials section of the label.4. Others: when a food not included in (1) through (3) above includes organic agricultural products, the term "organic" or similar terms may be used as a part of the names of such ingredients on the raw materials section of the label. In this case, the content of individual organic agricultural ingredients must be stated in percentage terms on the raw materials section of the label.
Livestock Products labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Required for livestock products including meat, dairy and egg products• Similar to KFSA's labeling guidelines - According to Article 3 of the Labeling Standards for Livestock Products, the relevant information to be included on the label is:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Product name- Type of livestock product (all meats must be labeled according to MIFAFF's cutting specifications)- Name and address of company- Manufacture date- month and year (only designated products are required)- Shelf life

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Content- Ingredients or raw materials and the percentage content by weight of any ingredients used in the product name or as a part of the product name- Nutritional data, required for certain designated products<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ E.g. milk, fermented milk, processed milk, ice cream, milk formula, milk powder and sausages- Other items specified in Article 7 of the Labeling Standards for Livestock Products, according to the "Detailed Labeling Standards for Livestock Product et al."• Labels should be in Korean language as general requirements except carcasses, large packaged products (bulk type, for re-packaged to sale), raw materials for manufacturing processed livestock products, and permitted to be imported for the purpose of earning foreign currency per Regulations• The June 2009 revision of the livestock labeling requirements<ul style="list-style-type: none">- restricts the use of a photo or a picture of an ingredient and the term 'taste' for products that do not contain that ingredient (synthetic flavors that mimic the taste of the natural ingredient will not count)- requires an indication of the conversion date, shelf life and storage temperature applicable to a frozen product in the case that a fresh product is converted into a frozen product. It must carry a claim "This product is a frozen product made by freezing a fresh product" and it should not cover the original label and the original label shall not be removed.
GMO labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "GM Food" label mandatory for unprocessed biotech crops that have been approved by KFDA for human consumption• Raw GMO agricultural commodities must be labeled as "Genetically Modified XX (insert the name of the agricultural product)."• Agricultural commodities containing a GMO component must be labeled as "Containing Genetically Modified XX (insert the name of the agricultural product)."• Agricultural commodities that possibly may contain a GMO agricultural component (but the importer is not certain) must be labeled as "May contain Genetically Modified XX (insert the name of the agricultural product)."• "Non-GMO" or "GMO Free" label permitted for raw unprocessed agricultural commodities that are 100-percent GMO free, and under the purview of MIFAFF (not KFDA)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The three percent maximum threshold allowance does not apply to such

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	<p>commodities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- See GAIN Report KS1004 for details.• Labeling can be exempted when full IP documentation or government certificate is present to prove the products in question are non-GMO.• The National Agricultural Product Quality Management Service (NAQS) is the designated official inspection agency for unprocessed GMO commodities.• Applies to animal feed on a retail package if biotech ingredients used.• Labeling, Quarantine and Inspection Division in MIFAFF is responsible for unprocessed GMO commodity labeling
Recombinant food labeling standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specified in the Labeling Standards for Recombinant Food (labeling standards for processed food products containing ingredients enhanced through biotechnology)• Required for processed food products and unprocessed agricultural food products for further processing that contain corn, soybean, cotton, canola and sugar beets ingredients enhanced through biotechnology.• Processed food products shall be labeled when:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The primary ingredients are soybeans, corn and bean sprouts- The GM ingredient is one of five major raw materials used in the product- Recombinant DNA or foreign proteins are present in the final product• An unprocessed agricultural commodity to be further processed into a food product must be labeled when the agricultural commodity is subject to MIFAFF biotech labeling requirements because it exceeds the threshold allowance for a GM component.• Labels must contain the following terminology:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- "Recombinant Food" or "Food Containing Recombinant XX" (e.g., "Food Containing Recombinant Corn") must be used for a food known to contain 100 percent biotech-enhanced ingredients. The text is to be indicated on the principle display panel in such a way that the consumer may easily recognize the label.- "Recombinant" or "Recombinant XX" (e.g., "Recombinant Corn") must be used for a food known to contain a biotech-enhanced ingredient. The text is to be indicated in parentheses beside the name of the GMO ingredient listed as a raw material of the food.- "May contain Recombinant XX" must be used for a product if an exporter or importer is not sure whether it contains a GMO ingredient or not.• Colors used to label the recombinant nature of the food shall be clearly distinguishable

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	<p>from the color of the container or package.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-detachable stickers may be used for imported foods or food additives.• The terminology "Non-GMO" and "GMO Free" is not encouraged for use on labels of processed foods.• No label shall be affixed to the product if the processed food is made using non-GMO ingredients or if one or more of top five major ingredients are non-GMO ingredients. In this case, either full IP documentation or a government issued certificate must be submitted to KFDA. For details about required documents, please refer to GAIN Report KS1046.• Test certificates: A test certificate issued by a domestic commercial laboratory, foreign government or foreign commercial laboratory is acceptable if it shows no presence of recombinant DNA or foreign protein in the final product. The original test certificate will be submitted to KFDA. Please refer to KS 6064 for details about official testing methods. KFDA has also developed a program for designating foreign or domestic laboratories for official GMO testing.• In October 2008, KFDA announced a draft revision of the Labeling Standards for Recombinant Food. Once the final version is available, an Attaché report (www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp) will be published with all of the updated information. Some proposed changes are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All ingredients regardless of the presence of detectable DNA or protein will be subject to mandatory labeling. This means that oil, syrup and processed food products will require biotech labeling.- Minor ingredients originating from a biotech source will require biotech labeling. This goes beyond the current requirement that only the top five ingredients need to be labeled.- Composite ingredients accounting for <2% of the final product on a weight basis will be exempted from mandatory biotech labeling.- KFDA will allow a GMO Free label if a product is made without biotech ingredients; however, documentation will be required.
Other information	
Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KFDA Food Safety Policy Division is responsible for establishing labeling standards for food products.• KFDA regional offices inspect labeling of imported food products upon arrival.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- When the quantity of the imported food is less than 100 kg, the imported food will be inspected by a KFDA-recognized inspection organization – other than the regional KFDA office or National Quarantine Services. Importers will be responsible for charges associated with import inspection.
Packaging and Container Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Standards & Specifications for Equipment and Container/Packaging” established by KFDA and printed in Chapter 7 of the Korean Food Code, includes general standards for equipment, container and packaging for food products and specifications for individual packaging materials.• Containers or packages that can be recycled must carry a “separation and discharge” sign, in accordance with the Act on the Promotion of Saving and Recycling of Resources and its Decree. The sign should indicate the type of material the package is composed of.• Printed or sticker label is acceptable
Food Additive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only food additives registered in the Korean Food Additive Code are allowed for use in food products, in accordance with the usage standards specified in the Food Additive Code (Codex is not applied). Please visit http://fa.kfda.go.kr/foodadditivescode.html• For registration of new additives to the Korean Food Additive Code, the “Guidelines for Designation of Food Additives” explains the detailed information that needs to be submitted to KFDA. KFDA’s review process usually takes a year or so.
Pesticide and Other Contaminants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All pesticides used in Korea should be registered with Rural Development Administration (RDA) under MIFAFF.• A list of all 1,292 registered agrochemical items (number of active ingredients by the end of 2008) can be obtained from the Korea Crop Protection Agency (KCPA: www.koreacpa.org). KCPA also has an English publication titled “Pesticide Handbook” that contains item names, trade names, and common names of registered agrochemicals. The registration process can take years.• KFDA is responsible for regulating pesticide residues in foodstuffs, in accordance with the maximum residue levels (MRLs) set in the Food Code. For details about regulations for MRLs, please refer to GAIN report KS 4040.• The MRLs are listed in Appendix 4 & 5 of the Korean Food Code, and can be downloaded from: http://eng.kfda.go.kr/file/PesticideMRLs.pdf• For agricultural chemicals where tolerance levels have not been established in the Korean Food Code:

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The CODEX standards shall apply.2. When there are no Codex standards applicable, the lowest of the residue limits of the agricultural chemical specified for similar agricultural products shall apply (a grouping of similar agricultural products is provided in the Chapter 3 of the Korean Food Code).3. If provisions in (1) and (2) are not applicable, the lowest of the residue limits of the agricultural chemical for any agricultural crop will apply to the detected agricultural chemical. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Food Code lists agricultural chemicals, antibiotics, and growth hormones approved for meat products in Appendix 6 & 7, and their tolerance levels
Functional Foods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anyone wishing to export a functional food that is not one of categories specified in the Functional Food Code can apply to KFDA for: 1) recognition of raw materials that have specific health effects (efficacy); and, 2) recognition as health functional food. Details about recognition procedures, required documents, etc., are provided on the KFDA website at www.kfda.go.kr in Korean.
GMOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Act on Transboundary Movement, Etc., of Living Modified Organisms (LMO Act)• The purpose of this Act is to implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and to ensure the safe development, production, importation, exportation, commercialization, etc., of living modified organisms. This Act provides guidance on import approval, mandatory risk assessment, labeling, etc., of living modified organisms (LMO) or GMO commodities.• See Attaché Report KS 1029 for an English translation of the Act.• For more details about Korea's regulations and situation pertinent to biotechnology, please refer to Attaché report KS 9031.
Organic Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The raw materials of imported food products must be equal or better than the quality standards specified in Article 16, Paragraph 2, of the Environmental Agricultural Promotion Act, and Article 7, Annex 1, of the Enforcement Regulations of the Act.• If organic raw materials of imported food products are not subject to the quality standards specified in the above Korean regulations, such products must meet the relevant quality standards of exporting country.• Organic and non-organic agricultural products cannot be used in a mixture as one raw material.• Raw materials not included on the list of raw materials permitted for use in the manufacture or processing of organic food products cannot be used.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Irradiated raw materials cannot be used• Genetically modified foods or food additives cannot be used or detected.• The container or package used for a food may be recycled or made of biodegradable material.• A certificate issued by an organization recognized by the authority of exporting country or international body (e.g. IFOAM) may need to be presented to prove products conform to the above-mentioned standards.
Food Samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally not subject to import requirements• The invoice should be marked as having no commercial value. If the volume or the market value is not considered a sample, it will be subject to import requirements.• A phytosanitary certificate and a meat export certificate are required for products subject to quarantine inspection even if they are shipped as samples.

Reference: <http://www.kfda.go.kr>
<http://www.nrvqs.go.kr>
<http://www.npqs.go.kr>
KFDA report and NVRQS guide
USDA FAS GAIN Report

DISCLAIMER:

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