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GreenPla & BiomassPla Identification System

Operating Regulations

April 1, 2000 **(1st Edition)**

June 2008 **(Revised)**

Japan BioPlastics Association

These regulations have been compiled as operating regulations relating to the following:

GreenPla & BiomassPla Identification Systems

- Supplementary materials Form X

Positive List (PL) Formulation Standards

- Supplementary materials Forms I – III
- Ancillary materials Concerning Testing Methods Required for Listing on the PL
- Other materials

Research Report Commissioned by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry:
Research into the Safety of Biodegradable Plastics
(Japan Bioindustry Association)

1. System

- (1) The GreenPla and BiomassPla Identification System shall be operated by the Identification Committee established under the auspices of the Japan BioPlastics Association (hereafter referred to as the JBPA).
- (2) The Identification Committee shall consist of a Chairman, an Inspection Subcommittee consisting of at least 5 persons, a Logo Management Subcommittee consisting of at least 3 persons, and a Standards Deliberation Subcommittee consisting of at least 5 persons; meetings of the Committee and each Subcommittee shall be considered quorate where at least two-thirds of the members of each are present.
- (3) The Identification Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the JBPA.
- (4) The members of the Inspection Subcommittee, Logo Management Subcommittee and Standards Deliberation Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Identification Committee Chairman from among the members of the JBPA.
- (5) The term of Inspection Subcommittee member shall, as a general rule, be one year, with members being eligible to serve for a maximum of two successive terms.
- (6) Half of the members of Inspection Subcommittee shall, as a general rule, be replaced at the end of each term of office.
- (7) Expenses arising from the activities of the Identification Committee shall primarily be sourced from the enrolment fees and annual membership fees paid by Symbol Members, and from inspection fees.
- (8) The JBPA Secretariat shall serve as the Administrative Section.

2. Mark Members

- (1) In addition to Regular Members and Supporting Members, the JBPA shall establish a new category of membership known as Mark Members (including Time-limited Mark Members); the rights and obligations of Mark Members (including Time-limited Mark Members) shall be limited to those relating to the operation of the GreenPla Identification System and BiomassPla Identification System.
- (2) The enrolment fees and annual membership fees paid by Symbol Members (including Time-limited Symbol Members) shall be stipulated separately in the JBPA regulations.

3. Applications

- (1) Applications for registration on the Positive List of materials (hereafter referred to as the PL) shall, as a general rule, be limited to JBPA members (Regular Members, Supporting Members and Mark Members).
Of these, application for registration on the PL key materials of biodegradable plastics and biomass plastics (Category A) shall, as a general rule, only be made by Regular Members and Supporting Members.
Meanwhile, applications concerning additives (Category B) may be accepted from non-members.
- (2) Applications for accreditation of products and approval for use of the symbol shall be limited to JBPA members (Regular Members, Supporting Members and Mark Members).
- (3) Applicants shall submit an application form that complies with the GreenPla and BiomassPla Identification System Regulations.
- (4) Applications for registration on the PL shall be made using the Application Form for New Listings, Addition of Supplementary Information and Revision of Existing Information on the Positive List (PL) (Forms I – III) (for further details, please refer to the Positive List (PL) Formulation Standards).
- (5) The materials required for applications for GreenPla and BiomassPla accreditation and approval for use of the symbol shall be Application Form X and a product sample specifying the main applications of the product.
If it is difficult to submit a product sample at the time of application, applicants shall submit a sample immediately after being granted permission to use the symbol; if a sample is not submitted, approval may be withdrawn.
- (6) The Secretariat will check that all the necessary materials have been submitted and put them to the Inspection Subcommittee for inspection.
- (7) Application materials shall be available only to members of the Identification Committee and shall not be used for any other purpose; they will be strictly controlled and not disclosed externally.

4. Inspection

- (1) The Inspection Subcommittee shall inspect the materials submitted by the applicant on the basis of the GreenPla and BiomassPla Identification System Regulations.
- (2) If there are questions or concerns regarding the application documents, the Inspection Subcommittee shall request that the applicant provide additional or supplementary materials.
- (3) Decisions by the Inspection Subcommittee shall be based on the majority opinion of at least two-thirds of Inspection Subcommittee members.
- (4) The results of inspections by the Inspection Subcommittee shall be reported to the Identification

Committee and be confirmed by the Committee Chairman.

5. Records

- (1) Materials that have been accepted for registration on the PL shall be listed on the PL, with applicants being notified of this fact.
- (2) Products that have been authorized to use the symbols certifying them as GreenPla or BiomassPla shall be given a registration number and registered on the list of accredited products, with applicants being notified of this fact.
- (3) With regard to products that have not been certified as GreenPla or BiomassPla and which are not authorized to use the symbols, applicants shall be notified of the reasons why the products have not been certified as such.
- (4) The materials PL and the list of accredited GreenPla and BiomassPla products shall be published regularly on the JBPA website and shall be updated whenever the list is added to or revised.

6. Symbol Management

- (1) The Symbol Management Subcommittee will conduct regular market surveys to check that the GreenPla and BiomassPla Identification System Regulations are being complied with correctly.
- (2) The results of these surveys shall be reported to the Identification Committee and be confirmed by the Committee Chairman.
- (3) With regard to products that contravene the conditions of symbol use, the symbol user shall be notified of the revoking of its permit to use the symbol and this fact shall also be published on the JBPA homepage.

7. Revision of Standards

- (1) The revision of standards shall be conducted by the Standards Deliberation Subcommittee. However, the Standards Deliberation Subcommittee can request that deliberations be conducted by another committee, such as the Technology Committee, or can establish a temporary committee to engage in the relevant deliberations.
- (2) The results of deliberations concerning revision shall be reported to the Identification Committee and be confirmed by the Committee Chairman.
- (3) In the event that the Inspection Subcommittee recognizes the necessity of revising the Identification Standards, it shall propose this to the Standards Deliberation Subcommittee.
- (4) The results of the revision of the standards shall be disclosed immediately to JBPA members and

be published on the JBPA website.

Ancillary Regulations

- (1) Charge for use of the symbol: First item is free, with the charge rising to ¥1,000 per item from the second item onwards.
- (2) Charge for renewal of the right to use the symbol: ¥1,000 per item (valid for three years).

April 1, 2000	Regulations formulated
June 25, 2001	Partially revised
December 1, 2004	Partially revised
June 2006	Partially revised
June 2007	Partially revised