Contribution ID : **114** Type : **Oral Presentation**

Screening test for radioactivity on self consumption products in Fukushima after the Fukushima dai-ichi NPP accident in Japan

Tuesday, 27 September 2016 14:20 (0:20)

Content

After the Fukushima dai-ichi NPP accident, the radioactivity monitoring for legal inspection of foods and foodstuffs has been reinforced to ensure sufficient supply of safe foods. These legal activities are intended to the inspection of radioactivity in foods and foodstuffs distributed through the commercial markets and also to monitoring the radioactivity level of agricultural products grown in the areas where the distribution is restricted by the Japanese government. Furthermore Fukushima and other neighboring prefectural governments have promoted voluntary radioactivity inspections on foods and foodstuffs produced in each prefecture before shipment under the responsibility of producers in order to ensure safety and reliability of their products. However there was no sufficient inspection system for home grown products or wild plants collected by individual consumers for self-consumption. In order to meet such a situation, Consumer Affairs Agency, Fukushima prefectural government and National consumer affairs center of Japan have provided a plenty of NaI(Tl) scintillation spectrometers in public halls or meeting places of the municipalities for screening measurements of radioactivity in wild plants, mushrooms and other products cultivated in private vegetable gardens. In Fukushima prefecture around 500 sets of equipment were installed in about 300 municipal temporary testing laboratories. The tests are carried out in accordance with a specific technical guideline for screening of radio-cesium in foods/foodstuffs by use of a NaI(Tl) gamma-ray spectrometer issued by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. In 2012fy about 200,000 samples were tested in these laboratories. In 2014fy about 100,000 samples were still screened in these laboratories and above 90 % specimens were passed the test. Since many well-trained staffs should be needed for the adequate use of the instruments and sample preparation, 30 lecture courses on the fundamental knowledge of ionizing radiation and the practice of radioactivity analysis were also provided for total roughly 2,000 staffs engaging for the inspection test. In addition each laboratory can be supported and checked by specialists periodically to maintain and to manage quality of the test. In the present opportunity we will show the inspection system employed for the municipal radioactivity test on home grown products or wild plants collected by consumers for self-consumption in Fukushima. In connection of these experience, applicability and usefulness of the screening method using a NaI(Tl) spectrometer is also represented with results of the tests.

About the Presenter

Primary author

Primary author(s) : Dr. YAMADA, Takahiro (Japan Radioisotope Association)

Co-author(s) : Ms. KIKUCHI, Mihoko (Fukushima environmental measurements and radioactivity monitoring association); Mr. YAGIHASHI, Daisuke (Fukushima prefectural government); Mr. YAMAKAWA, Shinya (National consumer affairs center of Japan); Mr. ISHIZU, Hidetake (Japan Radioisotope Association); Mr. SHIINA, Takuya (Japan Radioisotope Association)

Presenter(s) : Dr. YAMADA, Takahiro (Japan Radioisotope Association)

Session Classification : Applications

Track Classification : Applications