

FY2003 Market Monitoring Test Results

Sample purchase test related to the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law “Tableware and kitchen utensils made of Synthetic resin”

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

In FY2003, NITE conducted a sample purchase test of “Tableware and kitchen utensils made of synthetic resin” to confirm their compliance with the quality labeling regulations for plastic manufactured goods (hereinafter referred to as “labeling regulations”) under the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law.

NITE purchased 24 sample products available in the market; 2 sealable beverage containers, 2 dishes, 3 bowls, 3 glasses, 3 sealable food containers, 6 lunch boxes, 2 chopping boards and 3 cutlery items such as chopsticks.

These products are required to indicate the heat resistant temperature, material plastics and precautions in handling.

Following results, 3 samples were deemed noncompliant with the labeling regulations in handling precautions.

Details of the identified noncompliance items are as follows:

Noncompliant item	# of samples	
The product failed to include a warning required by polystyrene products, that it could be altered by the terpene contained in citrus such as lemon, or grease	(1)	3
Product labeling showed no indication of microwave suitability	(1)	
Product labeling failed to warn not to place near fire	(1)	

NITE presented the test results to noncompliant labelers and conducted hearings with them for their opinions and measures to be taken. The results of the hearings, together with the test results, were reported to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Based on the test results, METI has given administrative guidance to the relevant labelers.