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Determination of Ochratoxin A, Patulin and Citrinin in Foods

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ABSTRACT

A survey on contents of ochratoxin A (OTA), patulin (PAT) and citrinin (CIT) in marketed foods was conducted by Food and Drug Administration in 2010. One hundred and twenty-three samples were collected from retailers by the local health officials from May to September in 2010. Samples were examined for OTA, PAT, and CIT by the methods promulgated by the Department of Health (DOH). CIT was found in 6 of 14 red yeast rice (RYR) samples with the levels ranging from 1.4 to 14.9 ppm, and 1 of 9 red yeast rice products at the level of 1.4 ppm. Four red yeast rice samples contained citrinin above 5 ppm which exceeded the maximum allowed level in Taiwan. Within 10 samples of apple juice, one sample was detected with PAT at the level of 15.0 ppb. One of 10 green coffee samples was contaminated with OTA at the level of 16.5 ppb. The result of this survey has been sent to the local government in order to enforce the penalties to the suppliers who provided the violative samples and to the public by media on September 21, 2010.

Key words: ochratoxin A, patulin, citrinin