

## **Start of Initiative to Convert Best-Before Date Labeling to Year-Month Format**

**Products include *Ottotto*, *Wheat Germ Crackers*, *Angel Pie*, and *Delicious Collagen Drink***

### **Sequential Changeover to Year-Month Format to Reduce Food Loss**

Morinaga & Co., Ltd. (TYO 2201) today announced that it will change its best-before date labeling from a year-month-day format to a year-month format for some of its products, including *Ottotto*, *Wheat Germ Crackers*, and *Angel Pie* (including *Mini Angel Pie*).

Food loss (when food that can still be eaten is thrown away) amounts to 6.43 million tons per year in Japan (source: “FY2016 Estimate”: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Ministry of the Environment). The Act on Promoting Food Loss Reduction (Food Loss Act) went into effect on October 1, and further food loss reduction is becoming a social imperative. Reduction of food loss is said to help not only to reduce waste, but also to reduce greenhouse gasses emitted during the series of processes from foodstuff production to transportation and consumption as a result of more appropriate production practices.

The Company has long endeavored to improve quality retention by focusing on a wide range of factors, including raw materials, packaging specifications, and manufacturing technologies. Now, by switching from the year-month-day format to a year-month format for best-before date labeling, the Company will promote reduction of food loss throughout the entire supply chain.

In accordance with the Morinaga Group vision “Delicious, Fun, and Healthy”, the Group aims to contribute to resolving societal issues and creating a sustainable society through food and engages in CSR activities in coordination and cooperation with stakeholders. Also, in accordance with the Morinaga Group Environmental Policy, the Group promotes the creation of a sustainable circular economy. The Morinaga Group will continue to review best-before date labeling and make efforts to further extend best-before periods in order to further reduce food loss.

■ Examples of products subject to the change to a year-month format

<p>Ottotto</p>		<p>Snacks</p>	<p>Fun-to-eat hollow baked crackers with a light crisp texture carefully shaped to look like a variety of different sea creatures.</p>
<p>Wheat Germ Crackers</p>		<p>Biscuit</p>	<p>Thin crackers with the wholesome goodness and distinctive flavor of wheat germ. A party favorite that's perfect for topping and dipping.</p>
<p>Angel Pie</p>		<p>Biscuit</p>	<p>Treats featuring a fluffy marshmallow filling sandwiched between soft biscuits all coated with chocolate.</p>
<p>Gateau Chocolat</p>		<p>Biscuit</p>	<p>Rich chocolate cake sandwiches that make it easy to enjoy the flavor and satisfying quality of cakes baked at patisseries.</p>
<p>Delicious Collagen Drink</p>		<p>Soft drinks</p>	<p>A collagen drink containing 10g of easily digested and absorbed low-molecular-weight collagen peptides. The product, which is now fat-free while retaining the great original taste, is only 65Kcal per 125ml pack.</p>

■ **Planned timing of the changeover to year-month format best before dates**

**(Note: Schedule is subject to change.)**

Product Name	Planned Changeover *Subject to change
<i>Gateau Chocolat</i>	April 2020
<i>Mini Angel Pie Vanilla</i>	March 2020
<i>Angel Pie TTP</i>	March 2020
<i>Wheat Germ Crackers</i>	April 2020
<i>Ottotto Lightly Salted</i>	April 2020
<i>Vegetable Ottotto Consomme</i>	April 2020
<i>Ottotto Yaba-Ton Pork Cutlet with Miso Sauce Flavor</i>	April 2020
<i>Ottotto Takoyaki Mayonnaise</i>	April 2020
<i>Delicious Collagen Drink Peach</i>	December 2019
<i>Delicious Collagen Drink Lemon</i>	December 2019
<i>Delicious Collagen Drink Premio</i>	December 2019
<i>Delicious Aojiru</i>	December 2019
<i>Passienol Drink</i>	February 2020