



15 January 2016

(16-0308)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: AUSTRALIA If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Foods in general
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Proposal to Amend Schedule 20 of the revised Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (12 January 2016 - Proposed amendment (<i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Instrument No. 4 (MRL Standard) Amendment Instrument 2016 (No. 1)</i>)) Language(s): English Number of pages: 4
6. Description of content: This Proposal seeks to amend the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code to align certain maximum residue limits (MRLs) for various agricultural and veterinary chemicals so that they are consistent with other national regulations relating to the safe and effective use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text) – CAC/MRL 1 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides 2009 – CAC/MRL 2 Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs in Food 2009 – CAC/MRL 3 Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits (EMRLs) 2001 and subsequent variations to relevant standards as adopted or revoked by the Commission <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number) <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number) <input type="checkbox"/> None Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard: Certain proposed limits may differ from Codex limits.</p> <p>The scientific methodology used by Australia to establish MRLs is consistent with international best practice. Countries set MRLs according to the good agricultural practice (GAP) or good veterinary practice (GVP) applicable to their region. Agricultural and veterinary chemical use patterns differ between different production regions and countries as pests, diseases and environmental factors vary. This means that Australian MRLs for agricultural and veterinary chemicals in food may differ from Codex standards.</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Series/F2008B00619 (available in English)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): Adoption anticipated March 2016. Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): Publication anticipated March 2016.</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): Entry into force anticipated March 2016.</p> <p>[X] Trade facilitating measure The proposal will establish or increase Australian MRLs for certain commodity/chemical combinations which should assist in facilitation of trade for certain foods.</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: [] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 18 March 2016</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Food Standards Australia New Zealand PO Box 5423 KINGSTON ACT 2604 Australia Fax: +(61 2) 6271 2278 E-mail: standards.management@foodstandards.gov.au</p>
<p>13. Text(s) available from: [] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Documents are available from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority website: http://apvma.gov.au/sites/default/files/gazette/food-standards/gazette_12012016-page30-33.pdf</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Point GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678 E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>