



2 November 2020

(20-7718)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> 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): Fresh fruit and vegetables for sale in Australia/ New Zealand where irradiation has been used as a phytosanitary measure (both imported and domestically produced).
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: Call for Submissions for Application A1193 - Irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruit and vegetables. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 26
6. Description of content: FSANZ has received an application seeking a variation to Standard 1.5.3 Irradiation of Food of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code), to permit the irradiation of all fresh fruit and vegetables as a phytosanitary measure to ensure freedom from regulated pests. Currently, the Code permits the irradiation of 26 fruits and vegetables for this purpose. If approved, the permission will replace these existing permissions with a generic permission for all fresh fruits and vegetables. The minimum and maximum absorbed doses of 150 Gy and 1 kGy will remain the same as the existing permission. If permitted, this form of treatment can be used as a phytosanitary measure for fresh produce exported to another Australian state, territory or region, or to New Zealand. It can also be used for imports into both countries requiring a phytosanitary treatment and thus help provide protection against the introduction of quarantine pests, with proven effectiveness against fruit flies and most insects.
7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests. All applications to change the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, must be assessed in the context of the following objectives: (a) the protection of public health and safety; (b) the provision of adequate information relating to food to enable consumers to make informed choices; and (c) the prevention of misleading or deceptive conduct. For foods treated with ionising radiation, a pre-market safety assessment ensures that they are as safe as their conventional counterparts.

<p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): General standard for irradiated foods Codex Stan 106-1983, Rev 1-2003.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ISPM 18 - Guidelines for use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure - ISPM 28 - Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (English) https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/F2015L00468 (available in English)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2021</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2021</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2021</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure Standard 1.5.3 also specifies the labelling requirements that exist for food that has been irradiated, and for food that has as an ingredient or component a food that has been irradiated. These labelling requirements will remain unchanged. Note that the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure is voluntary and only one of several such measures, and producers/suppliers will only use irradiation where they believe a net benefit exists.</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 10 January 2021</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Email: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>
<p>13. Text(s) available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Email: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>