

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/143
12 November 2002

(02-6250)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <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): Processed foods in general
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Imported (as well as domestically produced) foods sold in Australia.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Initial Assessment for Application A446 – Food derived from Insect-Protected, Glufosinate-Ammonium Tolerant Corn (maize) Line 1507 (10 pages).
6.	Description of content: FSANZ has received an application to amend the <i>Food Standards Code</i> to approve food derived from a corn line 1507 genetically modified to produce a Bt protein (CRY1F) that confers protection against attack by certain lepidopteran insect pests, and a PAT protein for tolerance to glufosinate-ammonium herbicide.
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 Foods produced using gene technology are required to undergo a pre-market assessment of their safety, to ensure that they are as safe as their conventional counterparts. All applications to change the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> , 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.
8.	International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Australian <i>Food Standards Code</i> , New Zealand <i>Food Regulations 1984</i> (both in English), Standard 1.5.2.
10.	Proposed date of adoption: Recommendation to Government anticipated to be made mid-2003, adoption to follow pending Government approval.

11. Proposed date of entry into force: Not known, date of entry after Government approval (see 9. above).
12. Final date for comments: 20 December 2002 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:
13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Documents are available from the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website (www.foodstandards.gov.au). Copies available from: The Australian SPS Notification Point PO Box 858 Canberra City ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA Fax: (+61) 2 6272 3678 Email: sps.contact@affa.gov.au