

Status of the guide

This guide has been developed by the Australia New Zealand Food Authority in accordance with section 7(c) of the *Australia New Zealand Food Authority Act 1991*. The guidance provided in this document is not legally binding.

The guide has been prepared to assist with the interpretation of three of the food safety standards in Chapter 3 of the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*. These standards apply only in Australia. They are:

3.1.1 *Interpretation and Application*

3.2.2 *Food Safety Practices and General Requirements*

3.2.3 *Food Premises and Equipment*

A copy of each of these three standards has been included in the relevant section of this guide.

The voluntary standard, Standard 3.2.1 *Food Safety Programs*, is not included in this guide. A guide to the interpretation of Standard 3.2.1 will be developed separately.

This guide is intended primarily for use by government agencies responsible for the enforcement of the food safety standards. If there is uncertainty about what is meant by a requirement within the food safety standards, reference can be made to the explanation in this guide for clarification.

This guide will be reviewed and amended as necessary. Readers are invited to provide feedback to the Food Safety Program of ANZFA if they have suggestions that would improve the guide or believe additional explanation should be included in the guide.

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The Authority disclaims any liability for any loss or injury directly or indirectly sustained by any person as a result of reliance upon this guide. Food businesses should seek independent legal advice in relation to any queries they may have regarding the legal obligations imposed upon them under the food safety standards.