

submissions

From: standards.management@foodstandards.gov.au
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To: standards management
Subject: FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission [SEC=INCONFIDENCE]



FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission

Tuesday, 16 July, 2013

1. **Assessment Report Number:** A1081
2. **Assessment Report Title:** Food Derived from Herbicide-tolerant Soybean Event SYHT0H2
3. **Organisation Name:** Daisy Robertson
4. **Organisation Type:** Individual
5. **Representing:** Community

8. **Contact Person:** Daisy Robertson

9. **Phone:** None

10. **Fax:** None

12. **Submission Text:** I am writing to express my concern about the introduction of foods containing GM soybean products into the Australian food supply. Genetically modified foods have never been properly proven to be safe for human consumption in any long-term study. This is a fact and not simply my opinion. The famous geneticist David Suzuki explains this very well here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mBF1OOPdTo> You'll notice that the author of the Safety Assessment document in the application has chosen their words very carefully. For example they have written: "Soybean derived products have a range of food and feed as well as industrial uses and have a long history of safe use for both humans and livestock" Notice they use the term "Soybean" NOT "GM Soybean" or "Soybean line SYHT0H2". Of course soybeans are safe to eat, but GM soybeans have never been proven to be safe, hence the author can't make that claim and instead refers to soybeans in general. The Safety Assessment document is very technical but does not even once mention any long term human testing. This is because there has been none. Although 'theoretically' safe, long-term effects of eating GM foods are still unknown, and exposing the Australian public to this potential health hazard would be reckless and unnecessary. Of particular relevance is FSANZ's own guidelines, which state 'Where possible, submissions should contain scientific evidence rather than conjecture to back up any assertions as FSANZ is required to use the best scientific evidence available in its decision-making processes'. We presume the applicants are also expected to provide the same level of scientific evidence rather than conjecture. I would also like to draw your

attention to the link below relating to the study led by Dr Judy Carmen, and published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. <http://www.organic-systems.org/journal/81/8106.pdf>
People have argued this evidence to be 'inconclusive', but at the very least it calls for more extensive research before being allowed into our foods. The same could also be said about the genetically modified organisms already present in our food supply. Please put the health of the Australian public first and do not allow GM soybean products to enter the Australian Food Supply without SUFFICIENT and CONCLUSIVE long-term studies.

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