

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 16 August 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** submissions  
**Subject:** International Rice Research Institute application A1138 for including GR2E rice in FSANZ code

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the International Rice Research Institute's (IRRI) application A1138 to include Vitamin A-biofortified rice (GR2E) in the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) code. Data was submitted with this application to show that both food animal feed derived from GR2E rice is as safe and nutritious (actually more nutritious) compared to food or feed derived from conventional varieties. A thorough safety assessment has also been performed, which included a dietary intake assessment, to show that there are no public health or safety concerns. In fact, GR2E rice offers a significant improvement to public health in the Philippines (and other Southern and Southeast Asia countries).

In many Southeast Asia countries, where two-thirds or more of per capita daily calories are obtained from rice, persistent vitamin A deficiency is the leading cause of childhood blindness and increases the risk of death from common childhood infections. Vitamin A deficiency is a serious public health concern in the Philippines, particularly among preschool age children. GR2E rice, with its Vitamin A fortification, has the potential to greatly improve this serious public health concern.

The IRRI application to include GR2E rice in the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) code would prevent any trade issues from arising should small amounts of the rice inadvertently end up in shipments of other rice imported into Australia. I am writing in support of the IRRI application.

Sincerely,  
Donald Stimson