

Project Officer Application A1199
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
Wellington 6036

9 July 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

A1199 – Food derived from Innate potato lines V11 & Z6:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) has the following comments to make.

We note that the application seeks approval for food derived from genetically modified potato lines which have reduced acrylamide potential, reduced browning (blackspot bruising) and disease resistance to foliar late blight.

We support FSANZ's safety assessment and that no public health and safety concerns have been identified. Based on the data provided and other information, food derived from potato lines V11 and Z6 are considered to be as safe for human consumption as food derived from conventional potato cultivars. The assessment concluded that the genetic modifications are expected to have little nutritional impact.

We note that the theoretical sequence of the protein VNT1 has been assessed, rather than the concentration and structure of the actual protein present in V11 and Z6, which is less than ideal. However, the 'as expected' expression of the phenotypic characteristics associated with the protein, the history of safe consumption of the wild type potato containing the protein, and the high sequence homology between VNT1 and resistance proteins present in commonly eaten foods, suggest that the presence of very low levels of VNT1 in potato products is unlikely to be a cause for concern.

Therefore, NZFS supports the draft variation to Schedule 26 of the Food Standards Code, to permit food derived from innate potato lines V11 and Z6 in accordance with Standard 1.5.2.



/ Manager Food Science

New Zealand Food Safety – Haumaru Kai Aotearoa
Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate