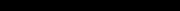



## **Attachment 1 – Letters of Support**

Application to amend the Food Standards Code, Standard 1.5.3

Attention:

  
Director Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
NSW Department of Primary Industries, Biosecurity NSW  
  
Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
Gosford N.S.W. 2250


8 February, 2014

  
**RE: FSANZ APPLICATION TO AMEND FOOD STANDARDS CODE 1.5.3 TO INCLUDE  
BLUEBERRY and RASPBERRY ON THE APPROVAL LIST FOR USE OF IRRADIATION**

I advise that I support the application submitted by N.S.W. Department of Primary Industries for the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to include Blueberries and Raspberries on the approvals list for the use of irradiation as a pest disinfection for phytosanitary purposes.

Yours faithfully,



  
Mount Nimmel Blueberry Farm

Bundaberg  
Fruit & Vegetable  
Growers



13/2 Tantitha Street  
(PO Box 45)  
Bundaberg QLD 4670

P: (07) 4153 3007  
F: (07) 4153 1322  
E: [bvfg.info@bvfg.com.au](mailto:bvfg.info@bvfg.com.au)



Bundaberg Fruit & Vegetable  
Growers Cooperative Ltd

Director – Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
NSW Department of Primary Industries and Biosecurity NSW

Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
GOSFORD NSW 2250

7<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

Dear

**RE: APPLICATION TO FSANZ TO AMEND THE FOOD STANDARDS CODE 1.5.3 TO INCLUDE BLUEBERRY AND RASPBERRY ON THE APPROVAL LIST FOR USE OF IRRADIATION**

I am writing to advise the support of Bundaberg Fruit and Vegetable Growers Cooperative Ltd (BFVG) to the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) application for amendments to Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to include Blueberries and Raspberries onto the approvals list for use of irradiation as a pest disinfection treatment for a phytosanitary purpose.

BFVG was established in 1948 as a not-for-profit membership based organisation, becoming a non-trading Cooperative in 1997. Representing and advocating our members' interests at all levels of Industry and Government, BFVG has grown to become the central contact point for Horticulture in the Wide Bay Burnett. The organisation represents the whole supply chain for the Production Horticulture Industry of the Wide Bay Burnett region – particularly for our grower and industry support members in the Bundaberg, North Burnett and Gympie Regional Council areas. The Wide Bay Burnett produces well over 30 different major horticultural commodities, several minor commodity lines and supports award-winning, innovative and progressive value-add businesses. The industry of the Bundaberg Region alone employs over 5,000 people and has an estimated farm gate value over \$500 million, injecting over a billion dollars into the economy.

Businesses in the Wide Bay Burnett supply quality fresh and value-add products to the domestic and export markets with the Wide Bay Burnett now recognised as one of the largest, most diverse food producing regions in Australia. In recent years the region has seen several new commodity lines come into commercial production, commodity lines previously viewed as impossible to grow in our climate - Blueberries is one such commodity. This highlights the innovation and significant investment of many companies to diversify their product lines, optimise the potential for year-round supply to consumers, and improve profit margins. However Biosecurity constraints remain an impediment to these goals. Irradiation for phytosanitary purpose as an effective means to overcome these constraints, providing a measure of Biosecurity surety to the destination market.

Therefore I welcome the opportunity to have Food Standards Code 1.5.3 amended as outlined, as this will allow producers and exporters of these commodities less constrictive access to Australian domestic markets under ICA-55 and to Export markets. This is another tool for these businesses to maintain market integrity, competitiveness and profitability for their quality safe products.

I trust the NSW DPI application will be viewed favourably and assessed on the strong evidence provided which demonstrates irradiation as a safe, effective method for phytosanitary purposes.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Hockings  
Executive Officer

CC:

CLEAN • FRESH • QUALITY

This document (including attachments) is confidential and intended solely for the addressee. Unless you are the intended recipient the use, reading, printing, copying, storing or re-distribution of any part of this document is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient of this document, please contact BFVG immediately.



4 February 2014

[REDACTED]  
Director Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
Biosecurity NSW  
NSW Department of Primary Industries  
[REDACTED]  
Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
Gosford NSW 2250

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: FSANZ application to amend Food Standards Code 1.5.3. to include blueberry and raspberry on the approval list for use of irradiation.**

I wish to advise you that Raspberries & Blackberries Australia support the application submitted by NSW Department of Primary Industries for the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to include raspberries on the approvals list for the use of irradiation as a pest disinfection for phytosanitary purposes.

Please feel free to contact me should you require further information.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

**Jonathan Eccles**  
Executive Officer/Industry Development Manager

Raspberries & Blackberries Australia Inc.  
ABN 42 861 675 811

Address: PO Box 221  
Ourimbah NSW 2258  
Australia

Telephone: [REDACTED]  
International: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]



Thursday, 6 February 2014

Attention:

[REDACTED]  
Director Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
NSW Department of Primary Industries, Biosecurity NSW  
[REDACTED] Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
GOSFORD NSW 2250

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: FSANZ APPLICATION TO AMEND FOOD STANDARDS CODE 1.5.3. TO INCLUDE  
BLUEBERRY and RASPBERRY ON THE APPROVAL LIST FOR USE OF IRRADIATION**

We are writing to you to advise that we support the application submitted by N.S.W.  
Department of Primary Industries for the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to  
include Blueberries and Raspberries on the approvals list for the use of irradiation as pest  
disinfestation for phytosanitary purposes.

If you have any queries or require further information please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Farm Manager - Berry Category

Application to amend the Food Standards Code, Standard 1.5.3

Attention :

[REDACTED]  
Director Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
NSW Department of Primary Industries, Biosecurity NSW

[REDACTED]  
Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
Gosford N.S.W. 2250

20<sup>th</sup> January 2014

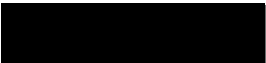
[REDACTED]  
RE: FSANZ APPLICATION TO AMEND FOOD STANDARDS CODE 1.5.3. TO INCLUDE BLUEBERRY and  
RASPBERRY ON THE APPROVAL LIST FOR USE OF IRRADIATION

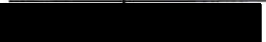
We are writing to you to advise that we support the application submitted by N.S.W. Department of Primary Industries for the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to Include Blueberries and Raspberries on the approvals list for the use of irradiation as a pest disinfection for phytosanitary purposes.

If you have any queries or require further information please don't hesitate to contact us.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Perfection Agri Fresh

Attention :

  
Director Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity  
NSW Department of Primary Industries , Biosecurity NSW

  
Central Coast Primary Industries Centre  
Locked Bag 26  
Gosford N.S.W. 2250

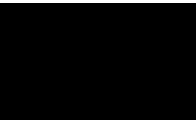

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014

  
**RE: FSANZ APPLICATION TO AMEND FOOD STANDARDS CODE 1.5.3.**  
**TO INCLUDE BLUEBERRY and RASPBERRY ON THE APPROVAL LIST**  
**FOR USE OF IRRADIATION**

We are writing to you to advise that we support the application submitted by N.S.W. Department of Primary Industries for the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to include Blueberries and Raspberries on the approvals list for the use of irradiation as a pest disinfection for phytosanitary purposes.

If you have any queries or require further information please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

  
  
Industry Development Officer  
Australian Blueberry growers Association