

Food standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 5423
Canberra.
ACT 2604.



Nick Pastalatzis

09/08/16

Dear Sir/Madam,

I want to make a submission on Application A1115 on the irradiation of Blueberries and Raspberries.

I am against the irradiation of blueberries and raspberries. I am asking you to reject Application A1115 for the irradiation of blueberries and raspberries, to ensure that the Application is not approved.

The New South Wales government has made an Application to Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) to irradiate blueberries and raspberries. ~~to irradiate~~ These berries are considered by many to be "Superfoods" and valued for their high antioxidant levels, anthocyanin, and Vitamin C content.

Irradiation would see these tiny berries

Typo

... exposed to ionising radiation, at doses ranging from 150 Gray (Gy) - 1 kGy. This is equivalent to exposing them to approximately 1.5 million - 10 million chest X rays (calculated at the low end of chest X rays exposure).

Ionising radiation changes the molecular structure of food, producing free-radicals, depleting antioxidants such as Vitamin C and nutrition, and creating chemical compounds unique to radiation exposure.

A number of scientific ~~studies~~ studies have shown potential health risks associated with irradiating food. In fact 2008-09 up to one hundred Australian cats developed

neurological disorders linked to the consumption of irradiated cat food. The risk to humans has not been ruled out.

Irradiation is not necessary for quarantine purposes of pest management..as both radiation-free and chemical-free options exist.

Once exposed to high levels of ionising radiation, these fruits prized for their natural goodness can no longer be considered "fresh" they will appear fresh, but in fact be "processed".

Will also effect growers if they grow ~~fruit~~ fruit organically, will they lose their organic status.

Finally I am not confident that I will be able to distinguish between irradiated and non-irradiated food as labelling requirements are under review. There is no assurance in this application that labelling

... requirements will remain. Irradiated food must be labelled "treated with radiation" or irradiated.

I can count on you to reject A1115 as it is not in the public interest. I look forward to your response and wanting to keep our food nutritious, healthy and safe for all Australians and New Zealanders.

Yours sincerely

Nick Pastalatzis

