


From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 19 December 2020 9:03 PM
To: standards management
Subject: FSANZ Submission Form Received (Internet) - n/a

Categories: [REDACTED]

	
Application/Proposal Number:	A1193 - Irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruit and vegetables
Organisation Name:	n/a
Organisation Type:	Individual
Representing:	[REDACTED]
Street Address:	[REDACTED]
Postal Address:	[REDACTED]
Contact Person:	[REDACTED]
Contact Number:	[REDACTED]
Email Address:	[REDACTED]
Submission Text:	<p>I am writing to urge FSANZ to reject the application to amend Standard 1.5.3 of the Food Standards Code, Irradiation of Food, to include irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruits and vegetables. The standard currently allows 26 specific fruits and vegetables to be irradiated. Trade in irradiated fruit and vegetables already occurs. This fact is not publicised and so is not widely known or understood in</p>

Australia. The whole trade is kept very quiet. Clearly deliberately so because the industry knows that consumers reject the technology when it is explained to them and so no good reason for it. The small proportion of the population who do know about it are denied choice because, despite legislation requiring it, nothing is labelled. The only choice open to us is to avoid the foods currently approved for irradiation. This is a poor option but at least it is an option if you know what is on the list.. Extending the range to include all fresh fruits and vegetables removes this option. Anyone wishing to avoid irradiated produce either has to eliminate all fruit and vegetables from their diet or grow their own or pay a premium price for organics. The public's right to reliably fresh fruit and vegetables should not be bargained away in pursuit of some imagined benefit to international trade. Whatever happened to the idea that Australia was the home of clean, green produce?