

[REDACTED]

From: FSANZ no reply
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Code Inquiry
Subject: RE: Food Standards Code enquiries - [REDACTED] [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your query to FSANZ regarding various gene editing techniques.

FSANZ considered these, and a range of other new breeding techniques, as part of two technical workshops which FSANZ hosted in 2012 and 2013. The workshops had two objectives – to enhance our understanding of the new techniques as well as to seek expert scientific opinion on whether foods derived from plants developed using the new techniques should be regarded as GM food, or whether they are more like conventional food. The reports of these workshops are available on the FSANZ website through this [link](#).

FSANZ may have regard to the scientific conclusions from the workshops when considering applications to amend Standard 1.5.2 – Food produced using Gene Technology. To date we have not received any applications for food derived from plants modified using gene editing techniques and we are not aware of any such products currently in our food supply. If you require information regarding the regulatory status of crops developed using various gene editing techniques within Australia we suggest you consult directly with the OGTR.

You should note that in Australia and New Zealand the relevant definitions in relation to food are those which appear in Standard 1.5.2. I have reproduced these definitions below for your information.

a food produced using gene technology means a food which has been derived or developed from an organism which has been modified by gene technology.

gene technology means recombinant DNA techniques that alter the heritable genetic material of living cells or organisms.

We hope this information has been helpful.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) | www.foodstandards.gov.au

+61 2 6271 2222 | information@foodstandards.gov.au

55 Blackall St, BARTON ACT; PO BOX 7186 Canberra BC ACT 2610, AUSTRALIA

From: FSANZ Website [<mailto:noreply@foodstandards.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 7 January 2015 11:56 AM

To: Code Inquiry

Subject: Food Standards Code enquiries - Fran Murrell

[FSANZ Website](#)

[REDACTED] has been added

[Modify my alert settings](#) | [View \[REDACTED\]](#) | [View Food Standards Code enquiries](#) | [Mobile View](#)

Name: [REDACTED]

Organisation: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Sector: Research and Academic

Question: There are a new range of gene editing techniques including CRISPR, TALENS, ZFN, MEGA and RTDS. They are clearly GM as defined by CODEX as they are "in vitro nucleic acid technologies," and therefore require safety assessments. How are FSANZ assessing these new types of GM breeding? Have any crops or plants using these new GM types of breeding been developed or imported in any way into Australia? Many thanks for your speedy response.

Last Modified 7/01/2015 11:53 AM by (unknown)
