



Mountain Blue Farms Pty Ltd

ABN: 97 158 878 169

Postal Address

PO Box 6001

South Lismore

NSW 2480

Phone: +61 2 6624 8258

Fax: +61 2 6624 6070

E-mail: info@mountainblue.com.au

To whom it may concern,

Reference: Application A1115: Irradiation of Blueberries and Raspberries.

Mountain Blue Farms are wishing to notify that we are in entire support of the NSW Department of Primary Industries application in the amendment of the Food Standards Code 1.5.3 to incorporate blueberries and raspberries on the approved list of fresh produce for the use of irradiation as a pest disinfestation treatment for a phytosanitary purpose.

We believe that in authorising these amendments it will enable growers, marketers, exporters, retailers and other associated supply chain members better and more effective avenues to Australian domestic markets under the ICA-55 protocol, as well as export markets, and that irradiation provides to them all an efficacious and sustainable additional post – harvest disinfestation option.

Furthermore, we believe by approving this phytosanitary treatment for blueberries and raspberries, customers will gain greater access to both higher quality and fresher blueberries and raspberries than the current specifications for circulation allow, ultimately benefiting the consumer through an increased choice of healthy, affordable food options throughout the year.

We also support this application by reason of favourable benefits for the environment and public health, acknowledging that the process is both chemical and gas free unlike many alternative approaches of treatment utilised previously and or currently in the distribution of fresh produce, including chemical dips and sprays (Dimethoate and/or Fenthion) and fumigants (Methyl Bromide).

Mountain Blue Farms additionally understands that the option to treat blueberries and raspberries using phytosanitary irradiation has the potential to reduce food spoilage and waste, due to the speed of the treatment and ability to maintain the cold chain for these highly temperature sensitive products during treatment. These two advantages when combined are unique to the irradiation process and will reduce associated costs (financial and environmental) that impact both consumer and industry.

Yours sincerley,



Ridley Bell

Mountain Blue Farms Pty Ltd / Mountain Blue Orchards Pty Ltd – Managing Director

