

[REDACTED]

From: submissions
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Submission A1193: Irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruit and vegetables

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: [REDACTED]
> Sent: Wednesday, 9 December 2020 10:42 PM
> To: submissions <submissions@foodstandards.gov.au>
> Cc: [REDACTED] for
> all fresh fruit and vegetables
>
> To FSANZ,
>
> I write this submission in regards to the blanket approval proposed to be able to irradiate all fresh produce. I believe this will be detrimental to the quality and nutrition of our food supply. This comes at a moment in history when much of our food supply is already lower in nutrients due to industrial farming practices, chemical use of pesticides and artificial fertilisers and depleted soil nutrients. I am concerned that further diminishing the quality of our fresh produce will be detrimental for our societies health. While no long term studies on the effects and safety of irradiated food have been carried out, what is clear is that these foods can have depleted nutrient levels (eg. C, A, essential fatty acids) and that the resulting nutrient deficiencies can leave us more vulnerable to viruses and disease (eg as we saw this year with coronavirus) as well as tooth decay, and problems with immune systems among other concerns.
>
> Many people are currently realising the value of foods as medicine and I believe they would similarly contest this move to irradiate fresh produce. I am shocked to hear that you have changed the date of public consultation and submission closure to this Friday without adequately informing the public. I ask you to extend this date, in order to properly hear the voices of the people to whom these measures will undoubtedly affect.
>
> I ask that if foods are irradiated, they be labeled so that consumers can avoid purchasing.
>
> Kind regards,
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]