



## Department of Environment and Primary Industries

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### New Code Proposal: Division 6, Schedule 22 section 1.143

Section 1.4.2 in the current standard has the following statement under the heading 'Purpose'.

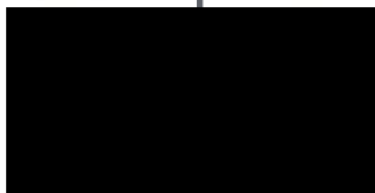
This Standard lists the maximum permissible limits for agricultural and veterinary chemical residues present in food. Schedule 1 lists all of the agricultural and veterinary chemical limits in particular foods. If a maximum residue limit for an agricultural or veterinary chemical in a food is not listed in Schedule 1 there must be no detectable residues of that agricultural or veterinary chemical in that food. **Also, if an agricultural or veterinary chemical is not listed in Schedule 1, there must be no detectable residue of that chemical and no detectable residue of any metabolites of that chemical in food (whether or not that the particular food is listed in Schedules 1, 2 or 4).** However, this Standard does not limit the presence of substances, including ingredients, food additives and processing aids that are otherwise permitted in the Code. Nor does it limit the presence of a substance naturally present in food, such as water or salt, or the presence in a food of substances that are formed naturally during processing of the food.

It appears that the information in the above statement that is highlighted in bold, has been removed from Division 6, Schedule 22 section 1.143 of the proposed standard. This is of concern because many veterinary chemicals can only be detected through their metabolites. In addition, metabolites may be excreted at a slower rate than the parent compound and may be toxic or more toxic when compared with the parent compound.

Removing this statement may possibly prevent states from taking action when a metabolite is identified as a residue because the metabolite wouldn't fit into the definition of a veterinary chemical.

Perhaps you could advise why this statement is no longer necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Principal Veterinary Officer

