

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZ/328  
date of distribution

(xx-xxxx)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original:

## NOTIFICATION

<p>1. <b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>NEW ZEALAND</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b></p>
<p>2. <b>Agency responsible:</b> Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)</p>
<p>3. <b>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable)</b> Processed foods.</p>
<p>4. <b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> All countries supplying food to Australia, as well as domestically produced foods sold in new Zealand.</p>
<p>5. <b>Title, language and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Draft Assessment for Application A553 – Food derived from Glyphosate-tolerant Cotton Line MON 88913 (53 pages, in English).</p>
<p>6. <b>Description of content:</b> FSANZ has received an Application to amend Standard 1.5.2 – Food Produced using Gene Technology in the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> (the Code) to approve the use of food products derived from genetically modified glyphosate-tolerant cotton line MON 88913. Herbicide tolerance is conferred by the <i>CP4 epsps</i> gene.  Cotton line MON 88913 has been developed for cultivation in the United States and Australia, therefore, if approved, food derived from this cotton could enter the market in New Zealand via imported products.</p>
<p>7. <b>Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests  Foods produced using gene technology are required to undergo a pre-market assessment of their safety, to ensure that they are as safe as their conventional counterparts.  All applications to change the Code, must be assessed in the context of the following objectives: (a) the protection of public health and safety; (b) the provision of adequate information relating to food to enable consumers to make informed choices; and (c) the prevention of misleading or deceptive conduct.</p>
<p>8. <b>International standard, guideline or recommendation:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b></p>

9.	<b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> (English)
10.	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> Notification to Government anticipated early 2006 with adoption (gazettal) to follow, pending Government consideration.
11.	<b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> Date of Gazettal , pending Government consideration.
12.	<p><b>Final date for comments:</b> <u>3 October 2005</u></p> <p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>National notification authority,</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>Food Standards Australia New Zealand  PO Box 10559  Wellington 6036  NEW ZEALAND  Fax: + 64 4 473 9855  E-mail: <a href="mailto:slo@foodstandards.govt.nz">slo@foodstandards.govt.nz</a></p>
13.	<p><b>Texts available from:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>National notification authority,</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b> Documents are available from the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website:  <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment">www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment</a>.</p> <p>Copies are also available from:</p> <p>The NZ SPS Notification Point  PO Box 2526  Wellington  NEW ZEALAND  Fax: +64 4 4744219  Email: <a href="mailto:sps@maf.govt.nz">sps@maf.govt.nz</a></p>