

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZ/ 370
date of distribution

(xx-xxxx)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original:

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>NEW ZEALAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)
3.	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): Processed foods.
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All Countries. Imported (as well as domestically produced) foods sold in New Zealand.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Assessment for Application A540 – Steviol Glycosides as Intense Sweeteners (89 pages, in English).
6.	Description of content: FSANZ has received an Application to amend Standard 1.3.1 – Food Additives in the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> to approve the use of steviol glycosides as intense sweeteners and flavour enhancer in a range of foods.
7.	Objective and rationale: <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 New food additives are required to undergo a pre-market assessment of their safety, to ensure they are safe for use in foods for human consumption. All Applications to change the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> , 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.
8.	International standard, guideline or recommendation: <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 If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: Codex General Standard for Food Additives (Codex Stan 192-1995, Rev. 7-2006). Steviol glycosides not currently included in this Codex standard.
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> (English)
10.	Proposed date of adoption: Notification to Government anticipated December 2007 with adoption (gazettal) to follow, pending Government consideration.
11.	Proposed date of entry into force: Date of Gazettal pending Government consideration.

12. Final date for comments: 27 July 2007

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: National notification authority, National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
Wellington 6036
NEW ZEALAND
Fax: + 64 4 473 9855
E-mail: slo@foodstandards.govt.nz

13. Texts available from: National notification authority, National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Documents are

available from the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment/documentsforpublicco868.cfm>.

Copies are also available from:

The NZ SPS Notification Point
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