



21 May 2012

Project Officer Proposal P1015
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6036

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposal P1015 – Primary Production and Processing Standard for Horticulture – First Call for submissions

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has the following comments to make.

MPI supports the pragmatic approach being taken by FSANZ in considering a number of options, regulatory, self-regulatory and non-regulatory, to ensure the food safety of the primary production of horticultural produce in Australia. MPI notes that it is important that the option pursued is based on science and is practical and cost effective to implement.

The findings from the review of outbreaks of foodborne illness conducted by FSANZ highlights the importance of maintaining good agricultural practice (GAP) (and good hygienic practice (GHP) and good manufacturing practice (GMP)). MPI is currently conducting research in this area and early results also support this. The report will be published soon.

MPI looks forward to contributing to this project.

Yours sincerely