

Food derived using new breeding techniques

2019 Review by Food Standards Australia New Zealand

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Outline

- Background
- Reason for the NBT review
- Key review questions
- Review findings & Recommendations
- Next steps



Genome editing techniques

Cisgenesis/intragenesis techniques





Techniques producing null segregants

Agroinfiltration



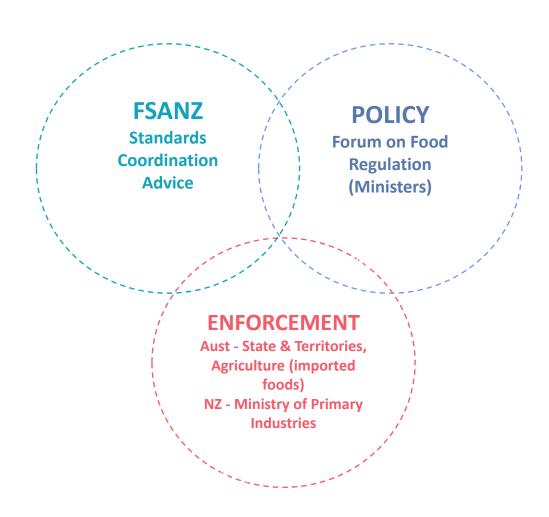


GM rootstock grafting



FSANZ and the food regulatory system

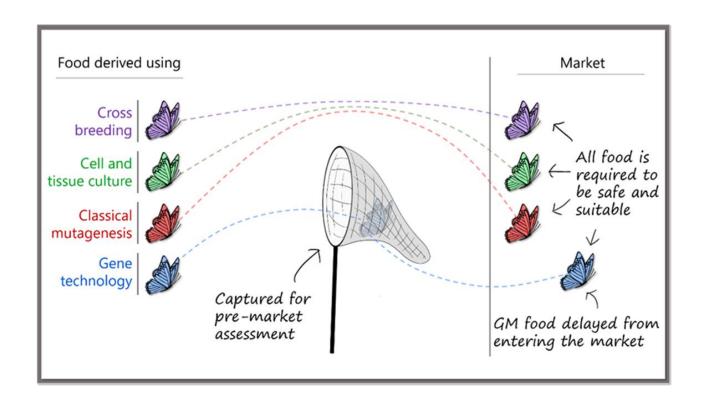
- A statutory agency within the Australian Government Health portfolio
- Develops food standards for Australia and New Zealand – Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code
- Not responsible for enforcement





GM food regulation under the Code

- Standard 1.5.2 Food produced using gene technology adopted in 1999
- Relies on process-based definitions
- Standard unchanged since its adoption in 1999





Why the review?



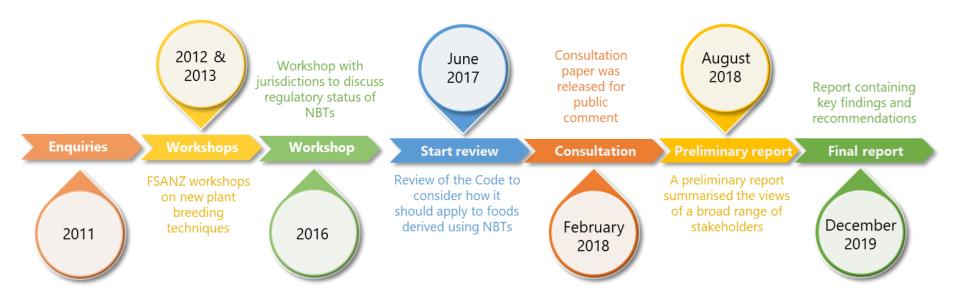
- Unclear if foods derived using NBTs are captured by current definitions
- FSANZ constrained from providing interpretive advice in relation to the scope of definitions

Key review questions:

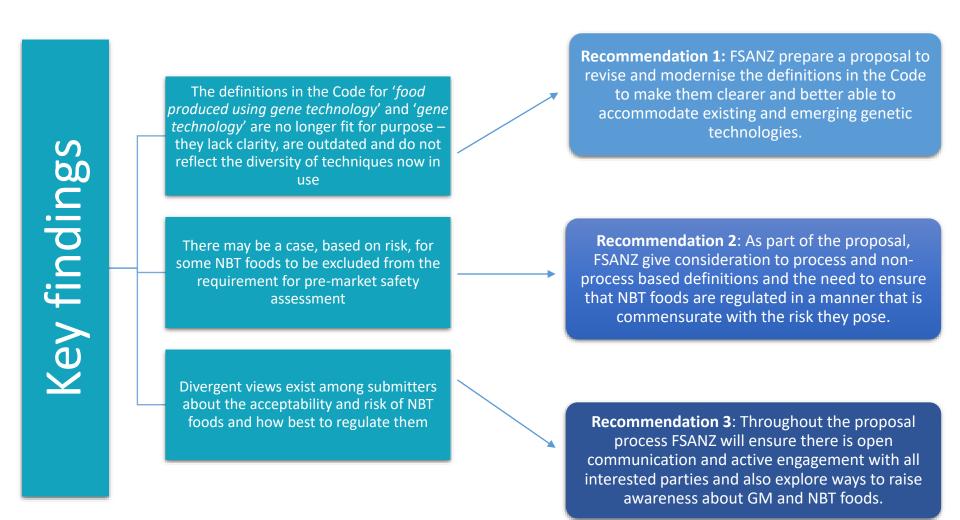
- are the definitions in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code for 'food produced using gene technology' and 'gene technology' fit for purpose given the emergence of NBTs
- is pre-market safety assessment of NBT foods justified based on risk



Timeline of FSANZ's work on NBTs



Final report – findings and recommendations



Next steps - revising definitions

- P1055 Defintions for gene technology and new breeding techniques
- Work commenced in February 2020
- First public consultation in early 2021

Objectives for amending the definitions:

Improve clarity about what foods are captured for premarket approval

Better accommodate new and emerging technologies (future proofing)

Regulate NBT foods in a manner that is commensurate with the risks they pose



Website material

Webpage for NBT review:

https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/gmfood/Pages/Review-of-new-breeding-technologies-.aspx

Final report for NBT review:

https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/gmfood/Pages/Review-of-new-breeding-technologies-.aspx

Webpage for NBT proposal for revising definitions:

https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/Proposal-P1055-%E2%80%93-Definitions-for-gene-technology-and-new-breeding-techniques.aspx



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