INFORMATION FOR RETAILERS

As a member of the retailer sector you should be aware that Standard 1.5.3 of the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) Code requires that if foods have been irradiated or contain irradiated ingredients or components, and are available for retail sale in Australia or New Zealand, then the label must carry a statement to the effect that the food/ingredient/component has been treated with ionising radiation.

Standard 1.5.3 provides three examples of how the required statement can be displayed on irradiated food for retail sale. These examples are:

- Treated with ionising radiation
- Treated with ionising electrons
- Irradiated (name of food)

None of these words are compulsory, and food manufacturers can choose a different set of words so long as the statement still indicates that the food has been treated with ionising radiation.

The Radura symbol (Figure 1 below) is a standard international symbol indicating that a food product has been irradiated. The Code does not mandate the display of this symbol on the labels of irradiated food, however there is also no prohibition on its voluntary use. Even if the symbol is used, the food label must still display the mandatory labelling requirements for irradiated foods.



Figure 1: International Radura Symbol

Other sources of information:

- Labelling requirements for irradiated foods information for food businesses
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand
- Ministry of Health
- GNS Science
- National Radiation Laboratory
- Facts about food irradiation (PDF) A series of Fact Sheets from the International Consultative Group on Food Irradiation