

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 – 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000571

OUTCOME: 2 – Health Access and Support Services

Topic: GM Categorisations

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Rice, Janet

Question:

1. Which of the following techniques does FSANZ consider result in genetically modified food?
 - a) Pioneer Hi-Bred International's proprietary seed production technology (SPT);
 - b) reverse breeding;
 - c) Cisgenesis and intragenesis;
 - d) GM rootstock grafting;
 - e) Oligo-directed mutagenesis (ODM);
 - f) Zinc-finger nuclease (ZFN) technology;
 - g) accelerated breeding following induction of early flowering;
 - h) Transcription activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs);
 - i) Type II clustered, regularly interspaced, short palindromic repeats (CRISPR) /Cas systems;
 - j) Meganucleases;
 - k) Triplex-forming oligonucleotides; and/or
 - l) Agro-infiltration.

2. Has FSANZ issued any advice regarding whether any of these techniques result in genetically modified food or not?
 - a) Please table this advice.
 - b) If advice has been issued, does FSANZ consider that the recipient of the advice may legally act upon this advice?

Answer:

1.a) to l)

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has not formally assessed the regulatory status of any of the listed techniques under Standard 1.5.2 – Food produced using gene technology.

Australian state and territory government agencies are responsible for enforcing and interpreting the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*, including interpretation of whether any of these techniques are considered to result in genetically modified food under Standard 1.5.2.

2. No.

a) Not applicable.

b) Not applicable.