

1 June 2010

Ms Naomi Bleeser
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Bleeser

Re: Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2010

I am writing to express Growcom's support for legislative change to remove the inconsistencies that currently exist between Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) standards of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority and the Foods Standards Australia New Zealand.

Growcom is the peak representative body for the Queensland horticulture industry and over the years Growcom (formerly Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers) independently and with others has/have provided submissions to government on the seriousness of the inconsistencies between the two regulatory systems and our preferred options on harmonising the system in a way that will allow the timely gazettement of MRLs and promotes consumer health and safety and protects overseas trade.

Growcom welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Senate committee and looks forward to a timely resolution via legislative change that will allow these long overdue reforms to be implemented.

Yours sincerely

Alex Livingstone

Chief Executive Officer