

First consignment of irradiated mangoes from Australia to New Zealand

A bilateral quarantine agreement between Australia and New Zealand was modified in order to include irradiation as an allowable phytosanitary treatment option for tropical fruit. Currently restricted to mango fruit (*Mangifera indica*), and subject to certain conditions such as labelling, establishment of a technological need and the availability of pest risk data to quarantine authorities.

This agreement allows the use of irradiation as a quarantine treatment in mangoes to be sent to New Zealand. Every piece of fruit of almost 16 tonnes was individually labelled, and there were clear signs displayed at the point of sale. In spite of the efforts spent by the green groups trying to organize consumers against the use of irradiation and disseminating intentional misinformation about the technology, the fruit was sold in supermarkets in New Zealand.

This market trial was included as part of the activities carried out under the regional project Application of Food Irradiation for Food, Security, Safety and Trade (RAS/5/042).



Irradiated Mangoes