

SUBMISSION

TO: Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
PO Box 6182.
KINGSTON. ACT. 2604

DATE: 4th January 2016.

TOPIC: Response 'Establishing an Australian crop group listing'
Consultation Paper

FROM: On behalf of

- Australian Walnut Industry association Inc (AWIA)
- Chestnuts Australia Inc (CAI)
- Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc (HGA)
- Pistachio Growers' Association Inc (PGAI)

we would indicate that we have considered the '**Establishing an Australia crop grouping list**' material and we would make the following submission.

DISCUSSION:

The information supplied by APVMA has been reviewed and we note the following:

- a) There is a specific and separate crop grouping list for 'Tree Nuts', and
- b) Chestnuts, Hazelnuts, Pistachios and Walnuts are included in the 'Tree Nut' crop list.

As such the relevant industry organisations are comfortable with the proposed 'Tree Nut' grouping. The industry organisations agree with the common crop names as listed being utilised within the crop grouping system.

Representatives of the Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc, Chestnuts Australia Inc, Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc and Pistachio Growers' Association Inc, collectively or individually, would be pleased to expand on these and other issues at any time in the near future.

Yours faithfully,



Trevor M Ranford B.Sc., Dip MP (AIMSA), Adv Dip Hosp (Wine Marketing), CPMgr.

Industry Development Officer
Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.

Industry Development Officer
Chestnuts Australia Inc

Communications Officer
Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc

Executive Officer
Pistachio Growers' Association Inc

27 Ludgate Hill Road,
ALDGATE. SA. 5154.

Mobile: 0417 809 172 E-mail: sahort@bigpond.com

APPENDIX A: INDUSTRY OVERVIEWS

The following is a brief introduction to each of the industries:-

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc

The major production areas in Australia are on the east coast of Tasmania, in Victoria in the Goulburn Valley near Shepparton and the Murray Irrigation Area near Kerang and Swan Hill, and the Riverina near Griffith in NSW.

Small-scale orchards are scattered in the Ovens Valley, Gippsland and Central regions of Victoria, in the NSW Southern Highlands, in the Adelaide Hills and Riverland regions of South Australia, and in south-west Western Australia.

The Australian Industry is a mix of small, older orchards and new, extensive orchards. Most orchards are family operations but these do not represent the majority of area under cultivation.

Current production

- ✚ Area: about 3,000 ha.
- ✚ Production: an estimated 11,000 tonnes a year of fresh walnuts with the 2014 production valued at \$44 million

Industry potential

Walnut production is expected to increase to 15,000 tonnes by 2020 as new orchards come into production.

Chestnuts Australia Inc

About 70-75% of the total national chestnut crop is produced in north-east Victoria.

Chestnuts are also grown east of Melbourne, in central Victoria, around Orange, Southern Tablelands, Blue Mountains and Batlow in New South Wales, in the Adelaide Hills in South Australia, in Tasmania and in south-west Western Australia. Many chestnut orchards are small family owned orchards, but there are several large scale commercial plantings and the average size of new chestnut orchards is increasing.

Current production

- ✚ Area: about 1,000 ha.
- ✚ Production: an estimated 1,200 tonnes a year of fresh chestnuts with the 2013 production valued at \$7.5 million

Industry potential

Chestnut production is expected to increase to 2,000 tonnes by 2020 as young orchards come into production.

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc

Hazelnut orchards are scattered throughout south-eastern Australia due the requirements of climate. The main production regions are the Central Tablelands of New South Wales near Orange, and north-east Victoria near Myrtleford. Hazelnuts are also grown in central and eastern Victoria and increasingly in Tasmania.

Many hazelnut operations are small orchards of up to 6,000 trees. The average size of new hazelnut orchards is increasing and they are being planted to more productive varieties. Most are family operated enterprises.

Current production

- ✚ Area: approximately 130 ha, including young orchards yet to come into production.

- ✚ Production: About 70 tonnes; expected to increase as new orchards come into bearing.
- ✚ Value: Industry has a current value of approximately \$1 million.

Industry potential

By 2015, the area under hazelnut production is expected to be approaching 200 ha.

Pistachio Growers' Association Inc

The major production areas are along the Murray River Valley between Swan Hill in Victoria and Waikerie in South Australia. Further plantings are in central west Victoria and Pinnaroo, South Australia. Small plantings exist in Western Australia.

A central commercial processing facility is at Robinvale in Victoria.

The pistachio industry includes a mix of medium-sized business ventures and smaller family-owned operations. The bulk of the crop is produced on medium-sized orchards.

Current production

- ✚ Area: 900 ha (2013 data).
- ✚ Production: average of 1,200 tonnes in-shell per year (based on a two year average) (2013 data) with a two year average value of \$12 million.

Industry potential

By 2016, the area under pistachio production is expected to increase to 1,200 ha. It is estimated that by 2020 pistachio production could average 3,000 tonnes/year (\$25 million).