



MQA Melbourne Quality Assurance
Specialising in Food Safety

Edition 29 – February 2019

MQA Newsletter

Welcome to the Melbourne Quality Assurance newsletter.



Bacteria are microscopic single-celled organisms that thrive in diverse environments. Bacteria can be found everywhere: in the air, on the ground, in dirt, on people, on animals, on food, and in water. [Read me.](#)



Note: The FSANZ information is reproduced with permission of Food

FSANZ has completed an administrative assessment and accepted the following application:

- [A1174](#) Xylanase from *Trichoderma reesei*

Australian Food Composition Database

Long overdue, FSANZ's NUTTAB has finally been updated. Now called [Australian Food Composition Database](#) and ready for use, the database allows you to search through 1500+ products for NIP and ingredient listing information.

Risk Assessment for Imported Foods

FSANZ has released document on how imported food risk assessment advice is prepared for the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. [Read me.](#)

Strawberry Tampering Investigation Report Released

FSANZ released its [report](#) on the strawberry tampering incident, with key recommendations focusing on the need for improved communication during incidents, particularly those involving criminal matters.

Amendment Number 183

Amendment Number [183](#) to the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code was published by FSANZ on 23 January 2019.

RECALL ALERT

Media released food recalls of **January 2019:**

- Physical Contamination (Glass) | [Beer Nuts](#)
- Chemical Contamination (Biotxin) | [Raw Apricot Kernels](#)
- Potential Injury (Top Pop Open) | [Moon Dog Son of a Plum](#)
- Physical Contamination (Plastic) | [Candy Cane](#)
- Microbial Contamination (E.Coli) | [Kefir](#)
- Microbial Contamination (E.Coli) | [Organic Milk](#)

Melbourne Quality Assurance

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NEWS

MQA Updates

Food Fraud Notifications has been updated to [January 2019](#).

GFSI News

Australia and New Zealand create a GFSI local group to elevate food safety and consumer trust. [Read me](#).

Circular Economy for Food

Launched at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2019 in Davos, this report explores the benefits of the transition to a regenerative food system. Report by [Ellen Macarthur Foundation](#).

Scottish E. coli Guidance Updated

Scotland has updated its guidance for the public health management of E. coli O157 and other Shiga toxin-producing (STEC) infections. [Read me](#).

Six 'Megatrends' to Re-Shape Workplace

In 2018, CSIRO released a report on six 'megatrends' to re-shape workplace health and safety. To read the [CSIRO Workplace Safety Futures](#) report.

Skills Impact

- Register for a consultation workshop: [Artisanal Food & Beverage Project](#)
- Feedback on final draft: [Meat Processing Project](#)
- Feedback on final draft: [Artisanal Food & Beverage Project](#)

NSW Food Authority

The [NSW Food Authority](#) is urging people to check their kitchens for any eggs that are marked with the identifying stamp BEC or BEC115 because they may be contaminated with a particular type of Salmonella.

NSW: Food and Beverage Manufacturing Strategy

The NSW Government has launched the Food and Beverage Manufacturing Strategy. The strategy is designed ensure NSW's food industry is able to provide continual economic support for the state and develop innovation for the future. [Download the strategy](#).

PIDA | Packaging Innovation and Design Awards

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and Packaging New Zealand have announced that submissions are now open for the 2019 Packaging Innovation & Design Awards. [Read me \(or apply\)](#).

Scientists Find Promising Results in E. Coli Study

Scientists from Scotland are reporting they have found a way to treat E. coli O157 infections without causing serious side effects. Article by [Food Safety News](#).

Women in Industry

[Nominations are now open](#) for the **2019 Women in Industry Awards**. Nominations will close at 5:00pm on 29 March 2019.

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SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- [Artisanal Sector Program](#)
- Business Vic | [Managing Energy Costs](#)
- EMDG | [Export Market Development Grants](#)
- Queensland Businesses: [Small Business Grants](#)
- CSIRO's [SME Connect](#)
- [Victorian Salt Reduction Innovation Grants](#)

LEARNING MATERIAL

Great Websites to Learn From, Reading Material, and Webinars

- [2017 Foreign Policy White Paper](#)
- [Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia](#)
- Allergy Facts | [Travelling with Allergies](#)
- CSIRO [Food and Agribusiness Roadmap 2017](#)
- [Disease information and advice](#)
- [E-Waste Infrastructure](#)
- Free online training: [All about allergens](#)
- FSANZ [Compendium of Microbiological Criteria for Food](#)
- FSANZ [Food Allergen Portal](#)
- FSANZ [Safe Food Australia](#) - A Guide to the Food Safety Standards
- [Packaging for Sustainability](#)
- [Waste Management Review Magazine](#)

CALENDAR

- [Pause Fest](#) | Melbourne | 06-08 February
- [Managing Mental Health in the Workplace](#) | Melbourne | 13 February
- [EvokeAG](#) | Melbourne | 19-20 February
- [Australian Waste to Energy Forum](#) | Ballarat (Victoria) | 19-21 February
- [Internet 4.0 Summit](#) | Sydney | 26-28 February
- [FSANZ Stakeholder Forum](#) | Sydney | 5 March
- [Proteins for Food and Health](#) | Melbourne | 6 March
- [Proteins for Food and Health](#) | Adelaide | 7 March
- [Proteins for Food and Health](#) | Sydney | 13 March
- [Aus Pack 2019](#) | Melbourne | 26-29 March
- [Safety and an Ageing Workforce](#) | Melbourne | 27 March
- [Smart Energy](#) | Sydney | 2-3 April
- [Food Safety Summit](#) | USA | 6-9 May
- [OZ Water](#) | Melbourne | 7-9 May
- [HOFEX](#) | Hong Kong | 10 May
- [Allergen Symposium](#) | Melbourne | 13-16 May
- [Australian Biosecurity](#) | Gold Coast | 12-13 June
- Allergen: [Free From Show](#) | Melbourne | 12-14 July
- [Safety Connect 2019](#) | Melbourne | 28-29 August
- [ASCIA Annual Conference](#) | Perth | 3-7 September
- [ICEF13](#) | Melbourne | 23-26 September
- [Cibus Tec](#) | Italy | 22-25 October

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CONSUMER TIPS

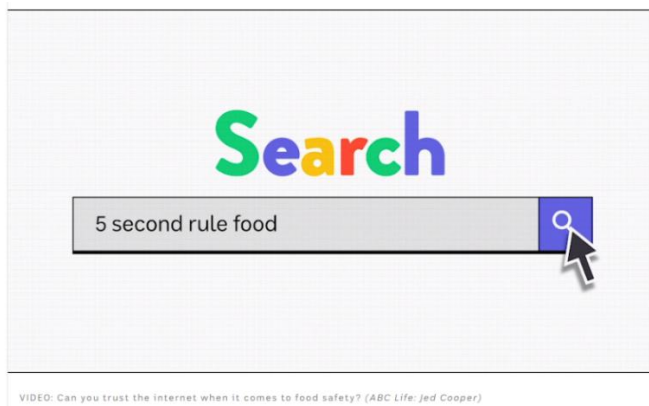
Pregnancy and Allergens

A new study has shown that avoiding certain foods during pregnancy does not reduce the risk of developing childhood food allergies. Read from [Allergen Bureau](#)



Food Safety: Internet vs Expert

Please watch this [01:28 minute video](#) on some of the common questions consumers ask Google.



MQA IS HUNTING

MQA is always looking for the best way to service our customers. We are often updating our own systems and supplier data base as we grow.

We are looking for food safety/quality specialists to join our team (auditors, technologists, labelling, etc.). Please feel free to contact Janette Hughes on mobile 0466 377 371 or janette@melbournega.com to discuss how we can potentially work together.

DEALS

Promotional deal code **MQA201610**: Complimentary 1-hour quote and 20% off first project.

MQA

Food safety programs implemented by MQA: HACCP-based standards, SQF, Client-based standards (due to confidentiality, MQA is not permitted to publicise standards. Please feel free to contact us to discuss further).

Services include food safety consultancy and internal auditing of the above food safety programs.

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