

# Talking health benefits to your customers

#### Navigating the regulatory roadmap for Nutrition and Health claims in food marketing Donnell Alexander

Growing and Protecting New Zealand

### Outline

- Our history communicating health benefits
- Our present new standard
  - Some basic examples of options available
- Exporting claims
- MPI Resources and contacts
- Questions/Discussion

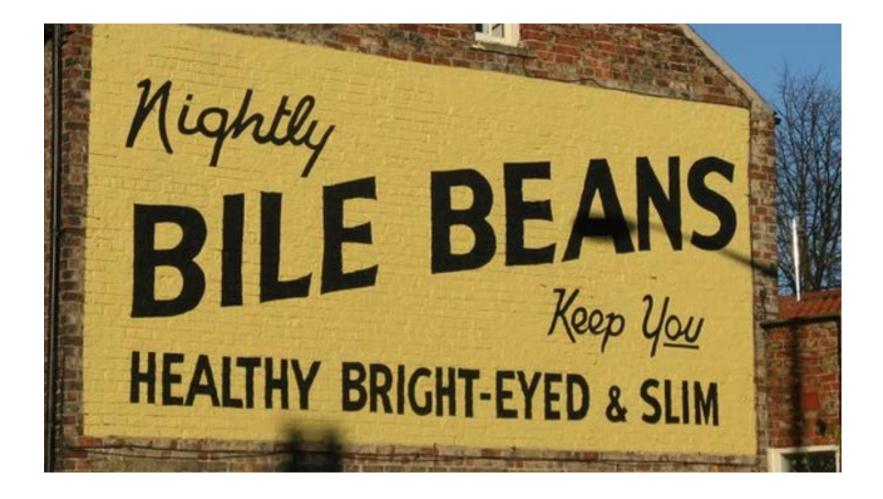
## Some real (and not so real) examples from history...

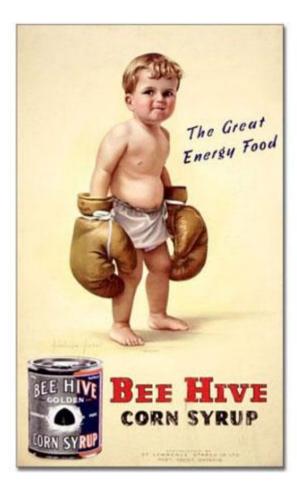


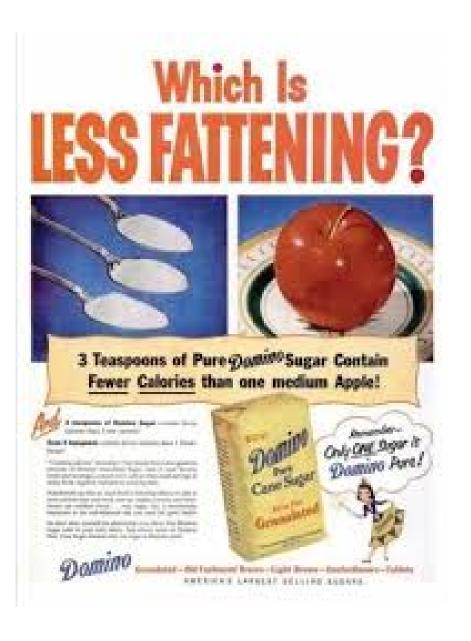
Xin Dynasty, around 220BC, a book of Chinese medicine says: "Those who often take honey can keep fit, honey can cure indigestion"

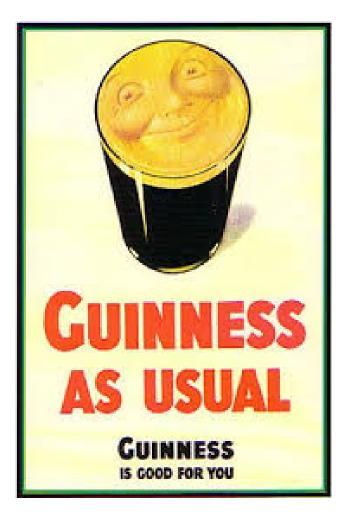




















POTATOES feed without fattening and give you ENERGY





**CARROTS** keep you healthy and help you to see in the blackout





Department of Health.

#### Hints on Diet.

Issued by the Department of Health, Wellington, New Zealand, under the authority of the Minister of Health, the Hon, Sir J. Alexander Young, K.C.V.O.

> WELLINGTON. G. H. LONEY, Government Printer. 1935.







## Health claims: Evidence provides opportunity

- The greatest future growth globally is seen to be in those foods and food products with proven health benefits
- Increasing regulatory interest and requirements for proof of effect
- Standard 1.2.7 supports this approach

## Standard 1.2.7 key options for claims

#### Nutrient content claim

 a claim about the presence or absence of a biologically active substance, or a range of listed nutrients, or glycaemc index/load that doesn't refer to the presence or absence of alcohol and is not a health claim

#### General level health claim

 a health claim that is not a high level health claim. Refers to a nutrient or substance in a food and its effect on a health function.

#### High level health claim

 a health claim that refers to a serious disease\* or a biomarker of a serious disease

\*Serious disease is one that is diagnosed, managed or treated in consultation/supervision by a health care professional

#### An example...

- Nutrition Content Claim
  'Contains calcium' or 'Good source of calcium'
- General Level Health Claim
  Calcium for strong bones'
- High Level Health Claim
  'Calcium reduces the risk of osteoporosis'
- Therapeutic Claim
  'Calcium prevents osteoporosis'



## Breakfast-themed examples of how Standard 1.2.7 works









### New ingredient in muesli



Dried Himalayan moss fruit

- Contributes more than 10% RDI for vitamin E and selenium per serve of muesli
- ✓ Nutrient content claims
- Pre-approved general level health claims (6 for selenium and 2 for vitamin E)
- Self-substantiated general level health claim based on a systematic review showing a causal relationship between the effective dose of moss fruit and a specific health effect
   www.mpi.govt.nz • 17

### **Bowl of oat porridge**



- Contributes less than 1.5g/100g saturated fat, >2g/serve of fibre and >1g/serve of beta-glucan
- ✓ Nutrient content claims
- Pre-approved general level health claims (1 for fibre and 1 for beta-glucan)
- Pre-approved high level health claims (1 for low saturated fat and 1 for beta-glucan)

### **X Brand Tomatoes**



• Contribute 25% more lycopene per serve than other common tomatoes

- ✓ Nutrient content claim on the level of lycopene
- ✓ Comparative claim against a reference tomato
- ✓ Self-substantiated general level health claim based on a systematic review showing a causal relationship between the effective dose of lycopene and a specific health effect
- Pre-approved high level health claims (2 for fruit and vegetables)

## Cheat death.

The antioxidant power of pomegranate juice:

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### **Other notable exceptions**





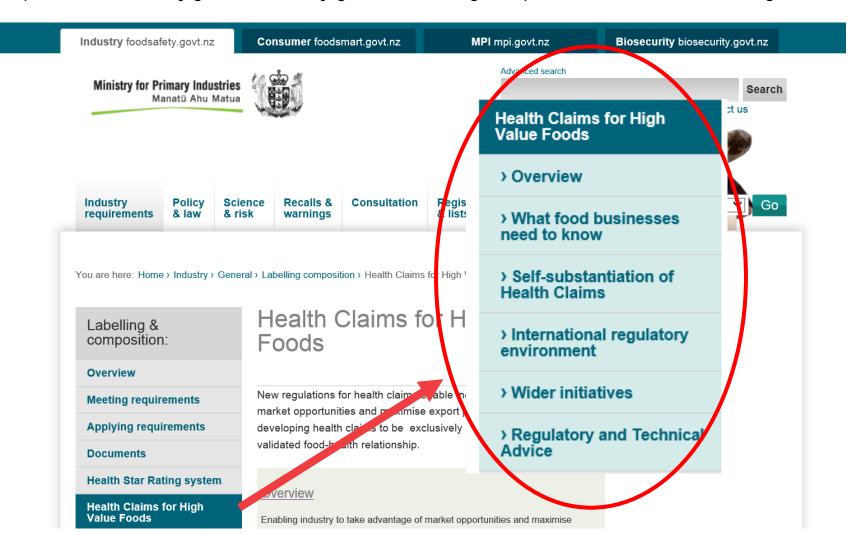
## Exporting claims

- All exported foods with health claims are subject to NZ Regulations for Export Certification
- MPI Communicates the robustness of NZ's regulations with other regulators
- Where specific permissions are given in importing country we consider on a case by case basis



## MPI's 'Health Claims for High Value Foods' webpage

http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/general/labelling-composition/health-claims-for-high-value-foods/



### **International Health Claim Regulations**

#### Current guidance on:

- Australia & New Zealand
- Canada
- China
- EU
- Hong Kong
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan

- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- USA
- Viet Nam

#### **Available Resources for Claims**



Ministry for Primary Industries Manatū Ahu Matua



Systematic review of a foodhealth relationship

Guidance document on how to self-substantiate a foodhealth relationship in order to make a new general level health claim

Prepared by: Biosecurity Science, Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate, Regulation and Assurance Branch

January 2016



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FoodS

Ministry for Primary Industries Manatū Ahu Matua



Global Regulatory Environment of Health Claims on Foods

MPI Technical Paper No: 2015/16

Prepared by Food Science and Risk Assessment Group

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Growing and Protecting New Zealand

New Zealand Government

## Key out-takes from this morning

- We have a new evidence-based Standard for communicating the health benefits of foods
- It provides for a range of options and encourages innovation for the establishment of new evidence/health benefits
- MPI are here to help food manufacturers and researchers understand and work with the Standard
- Please contact me any time: donnell.alexander@mpi.govt.nz

#### **Questions/discussion**

"It is well to remember that tins and packets have to be paid for with the foods they contain, and that the housewife who wishes to save money and feed her family well, should choose fresh foods and make them appetising and nourishing by careful cooking"

> - quote from "Hints on Diet", Department of Health, Wellington, NZ, 1935



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