

PMA A-NZ release safety information for consumers

Melbourne, Victoria: The Produce Marketing Association Australia-New Zealand (PMA A-NZ) has today released advice for consumers shopping for fruit and vegetables during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

There has been varying reports in the media about the potential transmission of COVID-19 and PMA A-NZ wanted to assure consumers of the message from the World Health Organization that fresh produce is safe and the consumption of fruit and vegetables is encouraged during this time.

"It's important for consumers to be deliberate in planning their trips to the supermarket to adhere to the Government advice around social distancing. However, it's important to remember that the threat is not food or food packaging, but other people", says Deon Mahoney, Head of Food Safety at PMA A-NZ.

"Prepare and wash your fruit and vegetables as normal – wash them in cold running water and peel and cook where appropriate. Don't use soaps or detergents as they're not formulated for food", Mahoney said.

PMA A-NZ, Australia's largest industry association for fresh produce, has released a range of resources to help fresh produce businesses succeed during the COVID-19 pandemic, which are free to the public at pma-anz.com.

"Now more than ever, it's important to consume fresh fruits and vegetables, which can help boost the immune system and overall health", Mahoney said.

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