

Rice Levy Regulations (Amendment) 1997 No. 210

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULES 1997 No. 210

Issued by the Authority of the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy

Rice Levy Act 1991

Rice Levy Regulations (Amendment)

The *Rice Levy Act 1991* (the Act) provides for the imposition of a levy on leviable rice varieties. The amount raised by the levy, along with matching Commonwealth funds, is used to finance research of benefit to the rice industry. The rice research scheme and associated administrative arrangements are authorised by the Primary *Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989*.

Section 3 of the Act provides for leviable rice varieties to be prescribed by regulations. This section also defines a "rice industry body" to include the Rice Marketing Board for the State of New South Wales.

Section 6 of the Act provides for a rate of levy for a variety of rice to be recommended by the State marketing authority for the state in which that variety is harvested.

The Regulations provide for additional rice varieties to be levied. A recommendation has been received from the Rice Marketing Board for the State of New South Wales seeking inclusion of additional rice varieties.

The purpose of the Regulations is therefore to provide for the 'Koshihikari', 'Namaga',

'YRL101', 'YRF203', and 'YRW4' varieties of rice to be levied. The other varieties listed in the recommendation are already prescribed by under the Act and are subject to levy.

Details of the Regulations are; set out below:

Regulation 1 provides that the Rice Levy Regulations are amended by the Rice Levy Regulations (Amendment).

Regulation 2 provides for the omission and substitution of Regulation 3 of the Rice Levy Regulations. The purpose of the substitution is to consolidate into one list all the leviable varieties of rice, for the purpose of section 3 of the Act, not already specified in the Schedule to the Act. This: list includes the additional varieties of rice to be levied.

The regulations commenced on gazettal.