

STATEMENT : 7/11/13

NPNZ reassures New Zealand herbal medicine users.

A recent article published in BMC Medicine journal “DNA barcoding detects contamination and substitution in North American herbal products” has been highlighted in international media.

Canadian researchers claim that a number of herbal products in the Canadian and US marketplaces may be contaminated or substituted with alternative plant species and fillers that are not listed on the labels. The researchers have refused to name the brands that are not true to label but they are all manufactured in Canada.

Natural Products New Zealand would like to reassure New Zealand consumers of herbal supplements and medicines that no New Zealand produced brands were included in this study.

When purchasing from New Zealand herbal supplement and medicine producers who are GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) certified, consumers can be confident that what is on the label is in the bottle. Additionally, New Zealand manufacturers of herbal supplements who are exporting will already be manufacturing to very stringent regulatory standards required by international markets.