

## **TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/INF.3**

Re: **TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2000/7 & 8**

Dear Tom,

I'm sorry for not being able to attend the next meeting of the Specialized Section of fresh fruit and vegetables. I would like to bring to the group's attention the following comments on the above mentioned documents.

### I. Definition of Produce

No problems with the proposed definitions for most of the citrus species and their hybrids as written in GE.1/2000/7 except for the "easy peelers" which should read as follows:

- satsumas, *Citrus unshiu* Marrow, common mandarins, *Citrus reticulata* Blanco, Mediterranean mandarins, *Citrus deliciosa* Ten., of varieties (cultivars) grown from these species and their hybrids.

Please note that *Citrus deliciosa* is defined as 'Mediterranean mandarins' and not 'common mandarins' as proposed by Spain in document GE.1/2000/8. Also, 'clementines' are included in 'common mandarins' which defined as *Citrus reticulata*. Therefore, this proposal is more accurate definition and should be included in the standard.

As for Pummelos, although both names *Citrus grandis* and *Citrus maxima* can be excepted, I would rather have *Citrus grandis* as proposed by Spain in GE.1/2000/8.

We maintain that maturity requirement are an important quality aspect for citrus fruit. Sugar/acid ratio is a practical indicator for maturity definition (although not the only one) of citrus fruit and should be included in the standard. We should not forget that one of the objectives of the standard is to facilitate the trade. To avoid further lengthy and tiresome discussions I suggest to approach the trade and simply making a survey (possibly by means of a questionnaire) which would reflect the view of an important partner to the standard.

Yours sincerely  
Igal Schulman  
Deputy director, PPIS  
(Plant Protection & Inspection Services)