



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/2003/6  
9 April 2003

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND  
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of  
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Forty-ninth session, Geneva, 17-20 June 2003  
Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF THE UN/ECE STANDARD  
FOR COURGETTES**

**Note by the secretariat:** This document was transmitted by the delegation of the European Community and has been reproduced in the form in which it was received. The proposals for revision of the existing standard are shown as follows:

Text on a grey background = new text

Struck-out text = text to be deleted.

**Courgettes:**

1. In title I:

- (a) Footnote 1 should be deleted,
- (b) The following paragraph should be added:

**“This standard also covers courgettes presented with the flower.”**

2. In title II, point A:

(a) The first paragraph should read as follows:

“In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, the courgettes **and the courgettes with flower** must be:

- intact ...
- sound ...
- clean ...
- fresh ...
- practically ...
- practically ...
- **free of abnormal external moisture,**
- **free of any foreign smell and/or taste.**

**In addition, fruits must be:**

- firm,
- free of cavities,
- free of splits,
- sufficiently ...
- ~~free of abnormal external moisture~~
- ~~free of any foreign smell and/or taste.~~

3. In title II, point B:

- (a) Paragraphs (i) and (ii) should be renumbered (ii) and (iii)
- (b) The following paragraph (i) should be added:

**“(i) Extra Class**

**Courgettes in this class must be of superior quality. They must be characteristic of the variety and/or commercial type.**

**They must be:**

- **well developed,**
- **well formed,**
- **with the stalk neatly cut and of a maximum length of 3 cm.**

**They must be free from defects with the exception of very slight superficial defects provided that these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package.”**

(c) In the new paragraph (ii) (Class I), second subparagraph, the last indent should be replaced by the two following indents:

- “– **very slight healed cracks defects** of the skin,
- **very slight defects due to diseases provided that they are not progressive and do not affect the flesh.”**

(d) In the new paragraph (iii) (Class II), second subparagraph, the last indent should be replaced by the two following indents:

- “– **slight healed cracks defects** of the skin,
- **slight defects due to diseases provided that they are not progressive and do not affect the flesh.”**

4. Title III should read as follows:

“III. Provisions concerning sizing:

Size is determined either:

- by length, or
- by weight.

(a) For sizing by length, this is measured between the junction of the stalk and the end of the fruit tip, ~~according to the following scale.~~

**The minimum size is 7 cm and the maximum size 35 cm.**

**For Classes Extra and I, courgettes shall be sized according to the following scale:**

- 7 cm to 14 cm (inclusive)
- 14 cm (exclusive) to 21 cm (inclusive)
- 21 cm (exclusive) ~~to 30 cm~~ **and above.**

(b) For sizing by weight, ~~the following scale should be followed~~ **the minimum size is 50 g and the maximum size 450 g.**

**For Classes Extra and I, courgettes shall be sized according to the following scale:**

- 50 g to 100 g (inclusive)
- 100 g (exclusive) to 225 g (inclusive)
- 225 g (exclusive) to 450 g.

The size requirements shall **not** apply ~~neither~~ to miniature produce,<sup>1</sup> **nor to courgettes presented with the flower.**

5. In title IV:

(a) Paragraphs (i) and (ii) in point A should be renumbered (ii) and (iii).

(b) The following paragraph (i) should be inserted in point A:

**“(i) Extra Class**

**5 per cent by number or weight of courgettes not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class I or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class.”**

(c) The first paragraph of point B should be amended to read:

“For all classes: 10 per cent by number or weight of courgettes not satisfying **the requirements of the size but satisfying those of** the size immediately below or above that specified on the package.

6. In title V:

(a) The first paragraph of point A should read as follows:

“The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only courgettes of the same origin, **variety and/or commercial type**, quality and size **(if sized)**, and appreciably the same degree of development and colouring.”

(b) The third paragraph of point A should read as follows:

“Miniature courgettes and **courgettes with flower** must be reasonably uniform in size. **Miniature courgettes** may be mixed with other miniature products of a different type and origin.”

7. In title VI, point B should read as follows:

“B. Nature of produce

**Where the contents are not visible from the outside:**

- ‘courgettes’ **if the contents are not visible from the outside**
- **‘courgettes with flower’ or equivalent designation, where appropriate.**”

#### Artichokes

1. In title I, the following paragraph should be added:

**“The names ‘Poivrade’ and ‘Bouquet’ refer to young, cone-shaped artichokes of the violet type.”**

2. In title II, point A, the second paragraph reads as follows:

“The stems must be cut off cleanly and must not be longer than 10 cm. This latter provision is not applicable to artichokes packed in bunches, that is: made up of a certain number of heads fastened together around the stems, **or to artichokes of the variety ‘Spinoso’.**”

3. In title III, the following second paragraph should be added:

**“The minimum diameter is fixed at 6 cm.”**

4. In title VI, point B, the following indent should be added:

- **‘Spinoso’, where appropriate.**”

### **Peaches and nectarines**

In title II, point A, the following third paragraph should be added:

**“They must be sufficiently developed and display satisfactory ripeness.”**

### **Standard layout**

In title V, point B, second paragraph, the following sentence should be added:

**“Stickers individually affixed on product shall be such as, when removed, neither to leave visible traces of glue, nor to lead to skin defects.”**

### **Onions**

1. Point A in title V should read as follows:

“The contents of each package (or in each batch, for onions in bulk) must be uniform and contain only onions of the same origin, variety, quality and size.

**However, sales packages, of a net weight not exceeding three kilos, may contain mixtures of onions of different colours, provided that they are uniform in quality, and, for each colour concerned, in origin, variety and size.**

The visible part of the contents of the package (or in each batch, for onions in bulk) must be representative of the entire contents.”

2. In title VI, points B and C should read as follows:

“B. Nature of produce

– ‘Onions’ if the contents are not visible from the outside,

– **In the case of sales packages containing a mixture of different colours of onions:**

– **‘Mixed onions’ or equivalent designation,**

– **If the contents are not visible from the outside, the indication of each of the colours present in the package and of the minimum number of pieces of each of the colours concerned.**

## C. Origin of produce

- Country of origin and, optionally, district where grown or national, regional or local place name.
- **In the case of sales packages containing a mixture of onions of different colours and different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the colour concerned.**

**Apples**

1. In title II, point A, footnote 1 should read as follows:

“Due to varietal characteristics of the Fuji variety **and its mutants** concerning ...”

2. In title II, point B, paragraph (iii), third subparagraph, fourth indent, the second sub-indent should read as follows:

“– 2.5 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area for other defects, **including slightly discoloured bruising**, with the ...”

3. In title III, the word “Apples” should be deleted from the table.

4. Also in title III, the third and fourth subparagraphs should read as follows:

“To ensure there is uniformity in the package:

- **for fruit sized according to the diameter**, the difference in diameter ...
  - 5 mm ...
  - 10 mm ...
- for fruit sized according to weight ...:
  - 20% ...
  - 25% ...”

5. In title VI, point D, paragraphs (a) and (b) should read as follows:

“(a) For produce subject to the uniformity rules, as minimum and maximum diameters or **minimum and maximum** weights;

(b) For produce not subject to the uniformity rules, the diameter or weight of the smallest fruit in the package, **followed by ‘and over’ or ‘+’ or, if appropriate, the diameter or weight of the largest fruit in the package.**”

### Avocados

1. In title I, the sentence “Antillian varieties are also excluded from the standard” should be deleted.
2. In title II, point B (maturity), second paragraph, the third subparagraph should read as follows:

“19% for the other varieties, **except for Antillian varieties that may show a lower dry matter content.**”

### Pears

1. In title II, point B, paragraph (ii), third subparagraph, fourth indent, the second sub-indent should read as follows:

“– 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area for other defects, with the exception of scab (*Venturia **pirina and** inaequalis*), ...”

2. In title II, point B, paragraph (iii), third subparagraph, fourth indent, the second sub-indent should read as follows:

“– 2.5 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area for other defects, ~~including slightly discoloured bruising,~~ with the exception of scab (*Venturia **pirina and** inaequalis*) ...”

3. In title III, the word “Pears” should be deleted from the table.
4. In title VI, point D, paragraphs (a) and (b) should read as follows:

“(a) For produce subject to the uniformity rules, as minimum and maximum diameters;”

“(b) For produce not subject to the uniformity rules, the diameter of the smallest fruit in the package, **followed by ‘and over’ or ‘+’ or, if appropriate, the diameter of the largest fruit in the package.**”

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