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### **Economic Commission for Europe**

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

**Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

**Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**

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Item 3(h) of the provisional agenda

**Revision of UNECE standards**

### **Revision of UNECE Standards – Leeks<sup>\*</sup>**

The following document contains amendments (highlighted) proposed by the OECD working group as a result of their discussions on the draft explanatory brochure on leeks. Delegations are invited to send their comments to the Secretariat by 1 April 2016.

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<sup>\*</sup> This document was submitted on the above date due to delayed input from delegations.

## UNECE standard FFV-21 concerning the marketing and commercial quality control of leeks

### II. Provisions concerning quality

#### A. Minimum requirements

- clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter; however, the roots may have remnants of soil adhering to them and traces of soiling within the sheathed part are allowed

#### B. Classification

##### (i) Class I

Leeks in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety and/or commercial type.

The white to greenish white part of the leeks must represent at least [one-third / one-quarter] of the total length ~~or half of the sheathed part. However, in early leeks<sup>†</sup> the white to greenish white part must represent at least one quarter of the total length or one third of the sheathed part.~~

The following slight defects, however, may be allowed, provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package:

- slight defect in shape
- slight superficial ~~defects~~ and dry damage on not more than two leaves
- slight bruising on the leaves
- slight damage caused by thrips [on the leaves / affecting not more than 50 per cent of the leafy part]. ~~, but not elsewhere~~
- ~~slight traces of soil within the shaft.~~

##### (ii) Class II

This class includes leeks that do not qualify for inclusion in Class I but satisfy the minimum requirements specified above.

~~The white to greenish white part of the leeks must represent at least one quarter of the total length or one third of the sheathed part.~~

The following defects may be allowed, provided the leeks retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, the keeping quality and presentation:

- defects in shape
- slight superficial and dry damage
- slight bruising

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<sup>†</sup> ~~Direct drilled, non-transplanted leeks, harvested from late winter to early summer.~~

- slight damage caused by thrips
- slight traces of rust on the leaves, ~~but not elsewhere~~
- slight ~~defects in colouring~~ greyish discolouration due to low temperatures
- a tender flowering stem, ~~provided that it is enclosed within the sheathed part~~
- ~~traces of soil within the shaft.~~

### III. Provisions concerning sizing

Size is determined by the diameter measured at right angles to the longitudinal axis ~~above the swelling of the neck~~ in the middle of the sheathed part.

~~The minimum diameter shall be 8 mm for early leeks and 10 mm for other leeks.~~

To ensure uniformity in size, the diameter of the largest leek in the same bundle or package must not be more than twice the diameter of the smallest leek.

Uniformity in size is compulsory for Class I.

### IV. Provisions concerning tolerances

#### A. Quality tolerances

##### (i) Class I

A total tolerance of 10 per cent, by number or weight, of leeks not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class II is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 1 per cent in total may consist of produce satisfying neither the requirements of Class II quality nor the minimum requirements, or of produce affected by decay.

~~In addition and for early leeks only, 10 per cent, by number or weight, of leeks showing a tender flowering stem enclosed within the sheathed part is allowed.~~

### VI. Provisions concerning marking

#### B. Nature of produce

- “Leeks” if the contents are not visible from the outside.
  - ~~“Early leeks” where appropriate.~~
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