

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(f) of the provisional agenda

Revision of standards

Comment by the delegation of Germany – List of varieties, apples

The following comments and illustrative photos on the list of apple varieties were submitted by the delegation from Germany:

**Comments from Germany concerning the classification of the variety R201 as russeted
With reference to INF4_France_apple_varietes**

Germany did receive the same request as France to classify the variety R201 as russeted. The inspection bodies competent in the production areas commented on this request as follows:

- Depending on climatic conditions, R201 is more or less russeted – including very smooth lots.
- For this variety, it is not typical to be russeted all over as for the variety Boskoop nor in certain areas permanently russeted as for the variety Holsteiner Cox being always russeted in the stem cavity.
- The variety Elstar similarly shows severe russeting in certain years. Anyway, the provisions on russeting are sufficient to market this variety as well as R201 even in strong russeting years.
- From German production photos were submitted showing R201 apples with russeting (see last page). The question is, whether the applicant intends to market all fruits shown on the photos as Class I – once the variety has been classified as “russeted”?

As you can see from my comments, there are doubts as to whether it is necessary and wise to include variety R201 in the UNECE standard variety list for apples as "varietal russeted" at this stage. We recommend to check another year whether the russeting permitted in the UNECE and EU marketing standards for "normal" apple varieties is sufficient for R201.

We offered to the German applicant, to publish the russeting of R201 in the stalk cavity typical of the variety in the online Explanatory Catalogue ELSKA (<https://elska.ble.de/>), so that an evaluation appropriate to the variety could be ensured.

Photos illustrating possible russeting of variety R201 – taken in 2019 from German production



The classification given above, is reflecting the existing UNECE standard.
Would you agree, that all these fruit could be marketed in Class I provided R201 would be classified as “russeted”?