



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****Sixty-eighth session**

Geneva, 6-8 May 2020

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Standard Layout for United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables****Proposals to amend the Standard Layout for UNECE
standards on fresh fruit and vegetables****Submitted by the secretariat**

The following proposals (highlighted) were received from the delegation of Germany for consideration by the Specialized Section.

This document is submitted according to ECE/CTCS/2019/10 section IV, ECE/CTCS/2019/2 Decision 2019-8.6, and A/74/6 (Sect.20) and supplementary information.

Proposed amendments to the Standard Layout

Under II. - Provisions concerning quality:

2nd paragraph: "However, if applied at stages following export/**dispatch**, products may show in relation to the requirements of the standard:"

Motivation: In the 1st paragraph of this section, the reference to "export" has been deleted in 2017. Thus, it is misleading to refer to export in the 2nd paragraph. Moreover, the acceptance for slight lack of freshness and/or slight deterioration due to development and tendency to perish should be allowed to marketing stages following dispatch.

Under IV. - Provisions concerning tolerances - A. Quality tolerances:

ii) Class I

A total tolerance of 10 per cent, by number or weight, of {name of produce} not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class II is allowed. Within this tolerance, not more than **5 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~~. **Within the 5 % not more than** 1% of produce may be affected by decay.

Motivation: In order to increase the flexibility and tolerance in Class I, it should be allowed that the tolerance for produce satisfying neither the requirements of Class II nor the minimum requirements should be increased from 1 % to 5 %. However, these defects should not affect

the edibility. The tolerance for decay (i.e. all defects affecting the edibility) should not be increased and remain fixed at 1 %.

Under VI. - Provisions concerning marking - A. Identification:

Packer and/or dispatcher/exporter:

Name and physical address of the packer and/or the dispatcher/**exporter** (for example: street/city/region/postal code and, if different from the country of origin, the country) ~~or a code mark officially recognized by the national authority if the country applying such a system is listed in the UNECE database.~~

This mention may be replaced:

- **for all packages with the exception of pre-packages:**
 - **by the officially issued or accepted code mark representing the packer and/or the dispatcher, indicated in close connection with the reference “Packer and/or Dispatcher” (or equivalent abbreviations) if the country applying such a system is listed in the UNECE database. The code mark shall be preceded by the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the recognising country; or**
 - **by name and physical address of an importer in close connection with the mention “imported by:” or an equivalent mention.**
- **for pre-packages:**
 - **by name and physical address of a seller in the country of consumption in close connection with the mention “Packed for:”. In this case, the labelling shall also include a code representing the packer and/or the dispatcher. The seller / importer shall give all information deemed necessary by the inspection body as to the meaning of this code.**

Footnote:

The national legislation of a number of countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference “packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)” has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark, and the code mark should be preceded by the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the recognizing country, if not the country of origin.

Motivation referring to the general replacement: Labelling is a very sensitive issue, as the relevant information on the trader responsible for the goods should be available along the marketing chain. This information is crucial for traceability too. The developments in the market should be taken into consideration and should be guided into a reasonable direction.

Motivation referring to the replacement by official code: The option to replace the packer/shipper/exporters' name and address by an official code should be limited to packages. In addition, the requirement to indicate the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the country of recognition should always apply and not only if the country of recognition and the country of origin are not the same. The latter leads to a simplified application of the labelling rules.

Motivation referring to the replacement on packages and pre-packages: More and more packages (and pre-packages) are on the market which exclusively provide detailed information about the seller/importer as the point of contact. As the vendor/importer may also be an appropriate reference point for information and traceability, it is proposed to legalise the replacement of name and address of the packer/shipper by name and address of the seller/importer, provided that the marking/labelling includes other information enabling the tracing of the consignment back to the packer/dispatcher.

Under VI. - Provisions concerning marking - D. Commercial specification:

- Size expressed as
- ...

- **In case of sales packages (pre-packages): net weight. However, in the case of products sold by number, the requirement to indicate the net weight shall not apply if the number of items may be clearly seen and easily counted from the outside or, if the number is indicated on the label.**

Motivation: In many standards, the indication of the size (i.e. size range) is mandatory. This indication is of relevance in the case of packages. In the case of sales packages (pre-packages), this indication is of no relevance to the consumer. For consumers, the net weight of the sales package is of importance or – where the produce is sold by number (national provision) – the number of units (if not visible from the outside). To provide proper information to consumers, it is proposed to add the above-mentioned sub-paragraph to the provisions on indication of the size.
