



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRADE/WP.7/GE.2/2003/9
14 April 2003

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of
Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)

Fiftieth session, 24-27 June 2003, Geneva

Item 3 (e) of the Provisional Agenda

AMENDMENT TO UNECE STANDARD FOR PRUNES

Proposal transmitted by the Government of France

Note by the secretariat: The following proposal has been received from the French delegation and is reproduced in the form in which it was received by the secretariat. The proposed amendments have been marked with bold type.

III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

C. "Pitted Prunes - Class I"

For "pitted prunes" the size is determined by the count taken before the pits have been removed from the prunes, **evaluated in relation to the final moisture content of the marketable goods.**

LARGE: not more than 67 prunes in 500 g (not more than 60 in 453 g).

MEDIUM: more than 67 prunes in 500 g (more than 60 in 453 g).

...

III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

D. "Pressure Pitted Prunes" - "Type E"

Class II: Sizing of pressure pitted prunes is not obligatory, **unless they are sold in small packages intended for the consumer.**

ANNEX

Methods of determining the moisture content of prunes

Preparation of the sample

On the basis of a representative sample of the consignment, approximately 450 g of the prunes are taken. The prunes, with or without pits, are crushed in a food grinder with a mesh gauge not greater than 4.76 mm (3/16 of an inch).

This operation is performed as quickly as possible to avoid loss of moisture.

(transposition of the two titles on methods)

I. Electric conductivity method (**reference method**)

Use is made of an apparatus functioning according to the so-called conductometric method, which permits an extremely rapid and reliable reading.

If no apparatus of this type is available, the oven-drying method may be used.

In case of dispute, only the results obtained by the reference method shall be taken into consideration.

II. Oven-drying method [**correction to the French version only**]
