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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****Sixty-ninth session**

Geneva, 9—11 June 2021

Item 13(b) of the provisional agenda

**Revision of standards****Proposal by the delegation of Sweden to amend the standard for carrots \*****Submitted by the secretariat**

The following proposals (highlighted) were submitted by the delegation of Sweden 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/75/6 (Sect.20) and supplementary information.

Sweden proposes three changes to the standard for carrots. First, under minimum requirements we propose that the bullet point “not forked, free of secondary roots” be split as this is in fact two different requirements. Secondary roots, i.e. thin white roots, can appear at the end of the storage season independently of whether carrots are forked or single.

In addition, Sweden proposes that carrots in Class II may be forked and have some secondary roots.

Under Section II. Provisions concerning quality A. Minimum requirements:

One of the minimum requirements states the following:

- Not forked, free of secondary roots

Sweden propose that the minimum requirement be split into two.

- Not forked
- Free of secondary roots

Under Section II. Provisions concerning quality B. Classification iii. Under Class II:

This class includes carrots that do not qualify for inclusion in the higher classes but satisfy the minimum requirements specified above.

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\* Submitted late due to secretariat resource constraints.

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

- defects in shape
- defects in colouring
- healed cracks not reaching the heart
- cracks or fissures due to handling or washing
- forked,
- some secondary roots
- green or violet/purple tops up to:
  - 2 cm long for roots not exceeding 10 cm in length
  - 3 cm for other roots.

*Motivation: In a food loss perspective it would be good to allow also forked carrots and carrots with some secondary roots in Class II. It is proposed to amend the standard accordingly.*

Sweden also proposes that the requirement that carrots must be sufficiently dried after washing be removed.

Under Section II. Provisions concerning quality A. Minimum requirements:

One of of the minimum requirements states the following:

- Free of abnormal external moisture i.e. sufficiently dried after washing

*Motivation: At packaging and washing, the carrots are often not dried, but packaged moist. That is not to the detriment of the carrots. It is proposed to amend the standard accordingly.*

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