



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES  
Twenty-first Session**

**Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico, 7 – 11 October 2019**

**Comments of Ghana**

**Agenda Item 4: DRAFT STANDARD FOR GARLIC**

Ghana supports the development of a Standard for Garlic and proposes the following revision to the text in Appendix 1 to ensure clarity:

**2. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE**

Ghana recommends that '**packaging**' is replaced with '**preparation**' for sentence to read "a certain degree of external dryness can be observed without clove or cloves freshness detriment, to be supplied fresh to the consumer, after **packaging preparation** and packaging".

Ghana also proposes that '**ing**' is added to '**surround**' for sentence to read:

- "Dry garlic: produce in which the stem, outer skin of the bulb and the skin **surrounding** each clove are completely dry".

**Agenda Item 5: DRAFT STANDARD FOR WARE POTATOES**

Ghana supports the development of a Standard for Ware Potatoes and proposes the following revision to the text in Appendix 1 to ensure clarity:

**1. SCOPE**

Ghana proposes that the underscore sign ( \_ ) be taken out for sentence to read "When applied at stages following packaging, ware potatoes\_ may show in relation to the requirements of the standard."

In addition, Ghana proposes that the word "slight" used in the first and second bullets be defined in the Glossary of Definitions or quantified.

- a slight lack of freshness and turgidity;
- a slight deterioration due to their development and their tendency to perish.

**2. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE**

Ghana proposes that there should be a space between the genus and species in writing the correct scientific name.

This Standard applies to commercial varieties of ware potato grown from *Solanum tuberosum* L., of the *Solanaceae* family,

**3.1 Minimum Requirements**

Ghana proposes that "Practically free of mechanical damage (bruising, piercing, abrasion) be added to the list of minimum requirements.

Ghana proposes the insertion of a comma after crack on page 6, sub bullet 3 for statement to read "cracks, cuts, bites, bruises or roughness exceeding 4 mm in depth".

In addition a space should be left between "exceeding" and "5" in the fifth sub bullet for statement to read "grey, blue or black sub-epidermal stains; exceeding 5 mm in depth;"

Ghana proposes the deletion of the seventh and eighth sub bullets on page 6 since superficial scab of more than a quarter is too much to be allowed as a requirement.

**~~[deep common potato scab and powdery potato scab, of a depth of 2 mm or more]~~**

~~superficial common potato scab, i.e. scab spot in all must not extend over more than a quarter of the surface of the tuber~~

#### 4. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Ghana proposes that size code must include description of potato size as stated in the previously proposed table. (4. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING, CX/FFV 17/20/7)

Size Code	Equatorial Diameter in mm
A (Small Potato)	18-24
B (long varieties )	25-75
C (round varieties )	35-80
D	more than 80

#### 5. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

Rephrase second sentence to read” Produce that fail conformity assessment, **after down grading should be rejected** ~~may be allowed to be resorted and brought into conformity~~ in accordance with the relevant provisions in the Guidelines for Food Import Control Systems (CXG 47-2003)”.

##### 5.1 Quality Tolerances

For frozen, decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown, Ghana proposes 1% tolerance for Extra class, 2% for class I and 2% class II as shown in the table below.

Ghana proposes that tolerances are set for defects, maximum for extra class, class I and class II should be 1%, 2% and 4% respectively as shown in the table below.

Ghana also proposes that for additional tolerances, size tolerances for off-size from what is indicated/marketed should be 5% for extra class as shown in the table below.

S.No.	Quality Tolerances	Percentage of defective produce, by number or weight		
		Extra Class	Class I	Class II
1	Total Tolerances for ware potatoes not satisfying the minimum requirements including defects, of which no more than:	5	10	10
	(a) Frozen, decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown	1	<del>1</del> 2	2
	(b) Soil and Extraneous matter	0.25	0.5	0.5
	(c) Defects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown stains, cuts, bites</li> <li>• Grey, blue or black sub-epidermal stains; &gt; 5 mm deep</li> <li>• Deep common potato scab and powdery potato scab, &gt; 2 mm deep.</li> <li>• superficial common potato scab &gt; 25% of surface</li> <li>• Sprouts &gt;1mm</li> <li>• Green coloration &gt;1/8 of the surface area</li> <li>• Internal defects including Late blight, bacterial wilt, ring rot and blackheart</li> </ul>	1	2	4
2	Additional tolerances			
	(a) Produce belonging to other varieties than marked	2	2	2
	(b) Size Tolerances-off size from what is indicated/marketed	<del>4</del> 5	10	10

##### 6.2 Packaging

Ghana proposes that ‘properly’ is deleted from first sentence for statement to read “Ware potatoes must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce. **properly**”

### 7.1.2 Origin of Produce

Ghana proposes that the repeated phrase “**of ware potatoes**” in second sentence is deleted for the statement to read “In case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties of ware potatoes ~~of ware potatoes~~ of different origins,”

### 7.2.2 Nature of Produce

Ghana proposes that the last sentence is deleted for clarity.

Each shall be labeled as to the name of the produce and may be labeled as to name of the variety <and/or commercial type>. ~~The shape of the tuber may be marked (optional) on the label such as oval, round and long.~~

## Agenda Item 7: PROPOSED DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR YAM

Ghana supports the development of a Standard for Yam and proposes the following revision to the text in Appendix1 to ensure clarity:

Ghana suggests that the title is changed to read” PROPOSED DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR **WARE YAM**” to differentiate it from seed yam and be more specific with the produce.

Ghana proposes that the title DEFINITION OF PRODUCE should be moved to the next line and thereafter inserting ‘2’ in front of the title for it to read “2. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE”.

### 3.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Ghana proposes that “practically free from Mechanical damage (bruising, piercing, abrasions) be added to the list of minimum requirements.

#### 3.2.1 "Extra" Class

Ghana proposes the inclusion of the phrase “**Cuts or surfaces with scarred wounds may be allowed as long as they do not exceed 5% of the surface of the product;**” to the last paragraph to reduce limitation on extra class for the whole paragraph to read “Yams in this class must be of superior quality and with the characteristics of the variety and/or commercial type. They must be free from defects, with the exception of very slight superficial defects, provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package. **Cuts or surfaces with scarred wounds may be allowed as long as they do not exceed 5% of the surface of the product.**”

#### 5.1.2 Class I

Ghana proposes an increase of tolerance for decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown from 1% to 3% for the statement to read “Ten percent by number or weight of yams not satisfying the requirements of this class, but meeting those of class II. Included therein, is ~~4~~ **3%** tolerance for decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown”. This would help to reduce product rejection.

#### 5.1.3 Class II

Increase tolerance for decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown from 2% to 5% for the statement to read” Ten per cent by number or weight, of yams not satisfying the requirements of this class. Included therein, is ~~2~~ **5%** tolerance for decay, soft rot and/or internal breakdown”. This would help to reduce product rejection.

### 6.2 PACKAGING

Ghana proposes that ‘**properly**’ is deleted from the first sentence for statement to read “Yams must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce. ~~properly.~~”

#### 7.1.1 Name of Produce

Ghana proposes the addition of ‘ware’ to ‘yam’ as proposed in order to be product specific and differentiate it from seed yam for the sentence to read “Each package shall be labelled as to the name of the produce “**ware yam**” and may be labelled as to the name of the variety(ies) and/or commercial type.”

## Agenda Item 8: PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR ONIONS AND SHALLOTS

Ghana supports the development of a Standard for Onions and Shallots and proposes the following revision to the text in Appendix1 to ensure clarity:

### 1. SCOPE

Ghana proposes that the phrase “**with standard**” is deleted for sentence to read “The holder/seller shall be responsible for observing ~~with standard~~ such conformity.”

### 3.1 Minimum requirements

Ghana proposes that ‘**two**’ is deleted from the sentence in **bullet 11** since it is practically not possible to get the second outer skin to be fully dried. The new sentence will read “sufficiently dry for the intended use (in the case of onions for storing, at least the first ~~two~~ outer skins and the stem must be fully dried)”

#### 4.2.1 For onions

Ghana proposes that the second sentence of bullet 1 is deleted since statement has been repeated in bullet 2 of 4.2.1.

- 5 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 10 mm and over but under 20 mm. **However, where the diameter of the onion is 15 mm and over but under 25 mm, the difference may be 10 mm;**
- 15 mm where the diameter of the smallest onion is 20 mm and over but under 40 mm;

#### 4.2.2 For shallots

Ghana proposes new tolerance values for the different diameters of shallots

- 5 mm where the diameter of the smallest shallot is 10 mm and over but under 20 mm;
- 10 mm where the diameter of the smallest shallot is 20 mm and over but over 40 mm;
- 20 mm where the diameter of the smallest shallot is 40 mm or over 60

### 5.1 Quality tolerances

Ghana proposes an **extra class** for onions and shallots with the following identification:

**Five per cent, (5.0%) by number or weight, of onions and shallots not satisfying the requirements of the class, but meeting those of Class II is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 0.5 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.**

### 6.1 Uniformity

Ghana proposes that “method of production” be replaced with “varieties” in the following sentence: for each commercial type and/or colour concerned, in origin and ~~method of production~~ **varieties**.

### 6.2 Packaging

Ghana proposes that the word ‘**properly**’ is deleted from the first sentence for statement to read “Onions and shallots must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce. ~~properly~~”-