

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 4(d)

CX/FFV 03/10-Add.1

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

11th Session,
Mexico City, Mexico, 8 - 12 September 2003

Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Rambutan
(At Step 3)

Comments from Germany, Indonesia and the United States of America

GERMANY

2.2.2 Class I

The 3rd sentence (The slight defects with ...) should be replaced by a new 2nd and 3rd paragraph reading:

“The following slight defects, however, may be allowed, provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package:

- slight skin defects not exceeding 5 % of the total surface area.

The flesh must be free from defects.”

2.2.3 Class II

The 2nd sentence (The slight defects with ...) should be replaced by a new 2nd and 3rd paragraph reading:

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

- skin defects not exceeding 20 % of the total surface area.

The flesh must be free from defects.”

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

A minimum size should be determined, which should be the same for rambutans presented as single fruit and presented in bunches.

The heading of Table 1 should read:

“Size specification for rambutans presented as single fruit.”

The heading of Table 2 should read:

“Size specification for rambutans presented in bunches.”

4.2 Size tolerances

As the sizing requirements for rambutans are rather strict for both types of presentation (as single fruits and in bunches), uniformity in size is guaranteed. Therefore, it is not clear, why the size tolerance for rambutans presented in bunches must be bigger than for rambutans presented as single fruits. The proposal is, to harmonize the size tolerances with other Codex standards as well as with UN/ECE standards.

“For all classes: 10 per cent by number or weight of rambutans not satisfying the requirements as regards sizing but corresponding to the size immediately above and/or below that indicated on the package.”

5.3.1 Individually

The question is whether the requirement “the pedicel must be cut at the first knot” may never come into conflict with the requirement “the maximum length of the stalk must not extend more than 5 mm beyond the top of the fruit.” To describe the way of presentation, it seems to be sufficient if this paragraph reads:

“In this case the maximum length of the stalk/pedicel must not extend more than 5 mm beyond the top of the fruit.”

5.3.2 In Bunches

As the standard may be applied at all levels of distribution, the tolerance for detached fruit should not be restricted to those that detached during transport. Therefore, the paragraph should read:

“In this case, each bunch should have at least three attached rambutans and the bunches must not exceed 20 cm in length. ~~During transportation,~~ A maximum of 10 % by number or weight of detached fruit is allowed in each package.”

INDONESIA

Indonesia has commercial varieties of rambutans which consist of four cultivar as follows:

Size specification based on weight

Cultivar	Large	Small
	Number of fruits per kg	Number of fruits per kg
Binjai	Max. 20	>20
Rapiah	Max. 30	>30
Lebak Bulus	Max. 35	>35
Simacan	Max. 40	>40

Based on the cultivar above, which growth largely in Indonesia, we would like to propose the size specification as follows:

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

TABLE 1

Size specification of rambutans sold in single

Size Code	Number of fruits per kg
1	<20
2	20-24
3	25-29
4	30-34
5	35-39
6	>40

and we also would like to propose Quality Requirement of Rambutan as follows:

Parameter	Unit	Requirements	
		Grade I	Grade II
1	2	3	4
Cultivar Homogeneous	-	Homogen	Homogen
Homogeneous*	-	Homogen	Less Homogen
Freshness Level	-	Fresh	Unfresh
Level of Maturity	-	Ripe	Unripe
Defect Product (m/m)	%	0	0
Stem:			
With Bundle	Cm	Max. 10	Max. 10
Without Bundle	Cm	Max. 0.5	Max. 0.5
Filth	%	0	0
Insect (Life and/or death)	-	None	None

*) Refer to Cultivar

UNITED STATES

General Comment:

The United States of America supports the Standardization of Rambutan by the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.

Specific Comments

Section 2.2.2 & 2.2.3

Comment:

The maximum of 5% permitted for slight defects in Class I, and 20% in Class II are too high. Very few traders would accept any fruit with slight defects covering 20%, neither would a consumer purchase such.

The United States recommends that the maximum allowed for slight defects in Class I is 2% and in Class II 5%.

Section 3: Provision Concerning Sizing

Comment:

The provision concerning sizing does not fully match U.S. trade practices. They cater to small sized rambutan. The U.S. suggests the following sizes in Table 1.

Current Table 1

Proposed Table 1

Size specification of rambutans sold in single

Size specification of rambutans sold in single

Size Code	# of fruits/Kg
1	<25
2	25-27
3	28-30
4	31-33
5	>33

CHANGE TO

Size Code	# of fruits/Kg
1	<23
2	23-26
3	26-29
4	29-33
5	>30

Similar changes should be made for *Rambutan in Bunches* in Table 2