

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
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Agenda Item 4(c)

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ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

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

Fifteenth Session

Mexico City, Mexico, 19 – 23 October 2009

PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR TREE TOMATO (N18-2008)

Comments at Step 3

(New Zealand)

New Zealand would like to thank Colombia for leading the working group on this draft, and wishes to make the following comments:

Section 2.1, last indent.

The intention of this indent is to ensure that the stalk is intact to the first knot, without being cut. We suggest clearer wording would be, “with a stalk that is intact to the first knot”.

Section 2.1.1, footnote 3

We think it would be helpful to include a sentence to indicate that when tree tomatoes are mature, they have full colour up to the calyx. We believe this is true of all varieties. We suggest adding a sentence at the end of the footnote, “Mature tree tomatoes have full colour to the calyx.”

Section 2.2.3, first indent

The word “flattering” should be changed to “flattening”.

Section 3, sizing tables

We appreciate the flexibility of allowing for sizing fruit by diameter, weight or number. However we are concerned that there may be confusion from using two different size codes (letters and numbers). Further, we think that diameter is not useful for sizing tree tomatoes because the shape of the fruit may be round or oblong, so the diameter does not reliably indicate the size. We therefore suggest that sizing by diameter should be excluded.

The count provisions should be included alongside weight to show how weight and count correspond, and to allow count to be used fully as an alternative to weight. In this case footnote 4 would not be needed. The table would read:

Size code	Weight range (in grams)	Number of fruit (count per single-layer tray)
1	> 125	< 28
2	101 - 125	28/30/33
3	75 - 100	33/36
4	< 75	39/42

Section 6.2.4, second and third indents

The option of labelling non-retail containers with the number of units should be allowed, without the need to also label the size by weight or diameter. We consider that if the number of fruit is stated, it is redundant to state also the size by weight or diameter.

We therefore propose to combine the two indents as follows:

“Size (size code or weight range or number of fruit (count))”