

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

STANDARD FOR TANNIA¹

CXS 224-2001

Adopted in 2001. Amended in 2005, 2011.

¹ Commonly known in certain regions by: tania, yautia, new cocoyam, tanier, chou Caraïbes, taioba, mangareto, mangarito, mangarás, yautía, malanga, macal, quiscamote, tiquisque, otó, okumo, uncucha, gualuza, malangay, queiquexque, taniera, macabo, etc.

1. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This Standard applies to the tubercles of commercial varieties of lilac tannia grown from *Xanthosoma violaceum* Schott and white tannia grown from *Xanthosoma sagittifolium* (L.) Schott, of the *Araceae* family, to be supplied fresh to the consumer, after preparation and packaging. Tannias for industrial processing are excluded.

2. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

2.1 Minimum Requirements

In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, the tannias must be:

- whole;
- sound, produce affected by rotting or deterioration such as to make it unfit for consumption is excluded;
- clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter, except permitted substances used to prolong their shelf life;
- practically free of pests affecting the general appearance of the produce;
- practically free of damage caused by pests;
- free of abnormal external moisture, excluding condensation following removal from cold storage;
- free of any foreign smell and/or taste²;
- firm;
- practically free of mechanical damage and bruising;
- practically free of signs of sprouting.

2.1.1 The tannias must have reached an appropriate degree of physiological development, account being taken of the characteristics of the variety and/or commercial type and the area in which they are grown.

The development and condition of the tannias must be such as to enable them:

- to withstand transport and handling; and
- to arrive in satisfactory condition at the place of destination.

2.2 Classification

Tannias are classified in three classes defined below:

2.2.1 "Extra" Class

Tannias in this class must be of superior quality. They must be characteristic of the variety. They must be free of 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.

2.2.2 Class I

Tannias in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety. 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 defects in shape;
- scarring, provided this does not cover more than 20% of the surface area;
- scraped areas, provided these do not exceed 20% of the surface area.

The defects must not, in any case, affect the flesh of the produce.

2.2.3 Class II

This class includes tannias which do not qualify for inclusion in the higher classes, but satisfy the minimum requirements specified in Section 2.1 above. The following defects, however, may be allowed, provided the tannias retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, the keeping quality and presentation:

- defects in shape;
- scarring, provided this does not cover more than 30% of the surface area;
- scraped areas, provided these do not exceed 30% of the surface area.

The defects must not, in any case, affect the flesh of the produce.

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined by the weight of the tannia, in accordance with the following table:

Size Code	Weight (in grams)	Length	Diameter
A	150 - 249	Between 100 and 300 mm (measured at the convex part of root)	45 to 70 mm (measured at the widest cross section)
B	250 - 349		
C	350 - 450		

4. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

Tolerances in respect of quality and size shall be allowed in each package for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

4.1 Quality Tolerances

4.1.1 "Extra" Class

Five percent by number or weight of tannias not satisfying the requirements of the class, but meeting those of Class I or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class.

4.1.2 Class I

Ten percent by number or weight of tannias not satisfying the requirements of the class, but meeting those of Class II or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class.

4.1.3 Class II

Ten percent by number or weight of tannias satisfying neither the requirements of the class nor the minimum requirements, with the exception of produce affected by rotting or any other deterioration rendering it unfit for consumption.

4.2 Size Tolerances

For all classes, 10% by number or weight of tannias corresponding to the size immediately above and/or below that indicated on the package.

5. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

5.1 Uniformity

The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only tannias of the same origin, variety and/or commercial type, quality and size. The visible part of the contents of the package must be representative of the entire contents.

5.2 Packaging

Tannias must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce properly. The materials used inside the package must be new³, clean, and of a quality such as to avoid causing any external or internal damage to the produce. The use of materials, particularly of paper or stamps bearing trade specifications is allowed, provided the printing or labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

Tannias shall be packed in each container in compliance with the *Code of Practice for Packaging and Transport of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables* (CXC 44-1995).

5.2.1 Description of Containers

The containers shall meet the quality, hygiene, ventilation and resistance characteristics to ensure suitable handling, shipping and preserving of the tannias. Packages must be free of all foreign matter and smell.

² This provision allows for smell caused by conservation agents used in compliance with corresponding regulations.

³ For the purposes of this Standard, this includes recycled material of food-grade quality.

6. MARKING OR LABELLING

6.1 Consumer Packages

In addition to the requirements of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985), the following specific provisions apply:

6.1.1 Nature of Produce

If the produce is not visible from the outside, each package shall be labelled as to the name of the produce and may be labelled as to name of the variety and/or commercial type.

6.2 Non-retail Containers

Each package must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside, or in the documents accompanying the shipment.

6.2.1 Identification

Name and address of exporter, packer and/or dispatcher. Identification code (optional)⁴.

6.2.2 Nature of Produce

Name of the produce if the contents are not visible from the outside. Name of the variety and/or commercial type (optional).

6.2.3 Origin of Produce

Country of origin and, optionally, district where grown or national, regional or local place name.

6.2.4 Commercial Identification

- Type (white or lilac);
- Class;
- Size (size code or minimum and maximum weight in grams);
- Net weight (optional).

6.2.5 Official Inspection Mark (optional)

7. CONTAMINANTS

7.1 The produce covered by this Standard shall comply with the maximum levels of the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995).

7.2 The produce covered by this Standard shall comply with the maximum residue limits for pesticides established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

8. HYGIENE

8.1 It is recommended that the produce covered by the provisions of this Standard be prepared and handled in accordance with the appropriate sections of the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), *Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables* (CXC 53-2003), and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice.

8.2 The produce should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the *Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods* (CXG 21-1997).

⁴ The national legislation of a number of countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference "packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)" has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark.