



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations**



**World Health
Organization**

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Agenda Item 5

CX/FFV 12/17/9-Add.1

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

**17th Session
Mexico City, Mexico, 3 – 7 September 2012**

PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR GOLDEN PASSION FRUIT AT STEP 4 – CX/FFV 12/17/9

Comments at Step 3 from Costa Rica, Ghana, Paraguay and United States of America.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica welcomes the opportunity to give comments to the document CX/FFV 12/17/9 Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Golden Passion Fruit.

(i) General Remarks:

Costa Rica considers important to clarify that it is not completely true that the lack or break of the stalk causes that the edible part of the fruit be exposed facilitating that the fruit is decayed, rather than it would only affect if the stalk damages other fruits resulting they are exposed.

In this way, cutting the stalk from the third knot ensures a cutting in a sealed zone of access that it is very difficult to decay.

(ii) Specific remarks:

Regarding paragraph 3 on provisions concerning sizing, Costa Rica is agreed with the 3 sizes proposed.

Regarding paragraph 5 on provisions concerning presentation, specifically clause 5.1 Uniformity, Costa Rica considers important that the fruit keeps its uniformity according to the origin, variety, color, quality and size. This is because the market trend is to standardize the produce to make the trade agile.

For paragraph 6 Marking or Labelling, specifically clause 6.1.1 Nature of Produce, Costa Rica considers important that the scientific name of produce is incorporated together with a common name subject to the results of investigation made by Colombia.

GHANA

Editorial

Ghana proposes the following;

Under 2.1.1 bullet 1, "To withstand transportation and handling..."

Under 2.2.3 bullet 1, "...defects due to scaring..."

Specific Comment

Section 3 Provisions concerning sizing

Ghana proposes that sizing be determined by maximum weight and the diameter of the equatorial section of each fruit as well as the weight of the fruit.

Rationale: Given the nature of the fruit, limiting the size to only the maximum diameter may be deceptive as some large fruits may not necessarily contain adequate pulp; whereas some small fruits may have adequate pulp, which translates to weight. 4

PARAGUAY

1^o) In Section 2.1. Minimum Requirements

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

- Whole, fresh in appearance and firm;
- sound; produce affected by rotting or deterioration such as to make it unfit for consumption is excluded.

- clean, free of any visible foreign matter ~~practically~~ free of pests and damage caused by them affecting the general appearance of the produce.
- free of abnormal external moisture, excluding condensation following removal from cold storage;
- exentas de cualquier olor y/o sabor extraños;
- with the stalk present to the first knot;
- free of surface depressions and cracking.

2º) In Section 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 golden passion fruits. **It is required to delete this paragraph due to it is a repetition of section 5.2**

~~5.2. Packages must be free of all foreign matter and smell.~~

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The United States is pleased to submit the following comments on agenda item 5 for the upcoming session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV).

2. Provision Concerning Quality 2.1.1

Issue: Footnote 2 - Appropriate Degree of Development.

Rationale: The text in section 2.1.1 and the accompanying footnote 2 is very subjective, as it does not provide any scientific indicators that can be measured to yield the same result; i.e., "the appropriate degree of development."

Proposal: Delete Footnote 2.

3. Provision Concerning Sizing

Issue: The size codes and sizing method in this section are overly restrictive and do not correctly reflect current practices in international trade of passion fruit.

Proposal: Inclusion of the following text in the opening paragraph of Section 3:

Passion fruits may be sized by count or diameter in accordance with pre-existing commercial trading practices. When such is the case, the package must be labeled accordingly.

When sized by diameter, size is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section of each fruit. Sizing by diameter may be measured in accordance with the following table. However, other diameter sizing ranges are permitted.

Rationale: There is no single globally accepted passion fruit sizing method. Passion fruit is traded by count (number of fruit per pound/kilogram, per box, trays etc.) and by diameter with different sizing ranges being used. Therefore, the indication of only one sizing method and sizing range in the proposed standard is contrary to current global passion fruit industry trading practices.