



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

17th Session

Mexico City, Mexico, 3 – 7 September 2012

PROPOSED DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR GOLDEN PASSION FRUIT

(At Step 3)

(Prepared by the Electronic Working Group on Golden Passion Fruit led by Colombia)

Codex Members and Observers wishing to submit comments on this proposal should do so in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (Codex Alimentarius Procedural Manual) as presented in the [Annex I](#) before **31 July 2012** to: the Codex Contact Point of Mexico, Dirección General de Normas (DGN), Av. Puente de Tecamachalco 6, 2do piso, Lomas de Tecamachalco Sección Fuentes, C.P. 53950 Naucalpan de Juárez, Estado de México, México (Tels.: +52 (55) 57 29 94 80, +52 (55) 57 29 91 00, Ext.: 43220, 43218; Fax: +52 (55) 55 20 97 15; E-mail: codexmex@economia.gob.mx; codexmex1@economia.gob.mx), with a copy to the Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy (Fax: +39 (06) 5705 4593; E-mail: codex@fao.org)

Format for submitting comments: In order to facilitate the compilation of comments and prepare a more useful comments document, Members and Observers, which are not yet doing so, are requested to provide their comments in the format outlined in Annex III to this document.

BACKGROUND

1. The 16th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (May 2011) agreed to recommend new work on a Codex Standard for Golden Passion Fruit and to establish an electronic working group led by Colombia to prepare a proposed draft Standard for consideration by the 17th Session of the CCFFV subject to approval by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.¹
2. The 34th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2011) approved the elaboration of the Standard for Golden Passion Fruit.

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD

3. The proposed draft Standard for Golden Passion Fruit was circulated for three rounds of comments within the electronic working group made up of Argentina, Australia, Colombia, India, Malaysia and Mexico.
4. Regarding the first draft circulated, Argentina commented on the wording of the minimum requirements (2.1) for the Spanish version of the document and on the need to remove footnote 2, maturity index, for which no values were referred to in the document. In addition, it was considered advisable to remove the maturity index as it is a parameter used by the grower as a criterion for the time of harvesting the product and not as a quality requirement.
5. The proposed draft was amended and circulated again for comments within the electronic working group. Australia proposed removing from the minimum requirements the condition that the stalk must be present until the first knot. However, according to the characteristics of the fruit, this must be a requirement as the lack of the stalk or break of the stalk allows the edible part of the fruit to be exposed thereby facilitating contamination. Therefore the stalk must be kept until the first knot.
6. Regarding sizing, Australia proposed to reduce the number of size codes to only three to facilitate trading of the fruit. In addition, when there are more codes as was originally drafted, the differences between them are very small which makes the classification difficult. For these reasons it was agreed to retain only three size codes.

¹ REP11/FFV, para. 143 and REP11/CAC, App. VI.

7. Another point raised by Australia was to remove the uniformity requirements (5.1) to allow the possibility to present in one package fruits of different origin, variety, colour, quality and size. In this regard, it was decided to keep the provisions unchanged as corresponding to the standard layout for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables. In addition, mixtures of fruits with different characteristics in the same package may induce product deterioration and does not allow product tracing.

8. Australia also proposed to remove the provisions for packages to be free of all foreign matter and smell in section 5.2.1 (description of containers) as this provision was already covered in section 2.1. It should be clarified that the provisions in 2.1 apply to the fruit while those in 5.2.1 apply to the package that may affect the quality of the fruit therefore both requirements must be retained as presented in the proposed draft.

9. As a result of the analysis of the comments submitted by Australia, the proposed draft was amended and circulated for a third round of comments within the electronic working group. Comments were received only from Mexico confirming the treatment of the comments submitted on the second draft and requesting the addition of common names of golden passion fruit in other countries in footnote 1. As regards other common names, this matter should be carefully assessed as it is possible that some alternative names may be given to fruit of different botanical families in other countries and was therefore not considered in the proposed draft.

10. Due to the risks of including other names, the Codex Contact Point of Colombia is carrying out a consultation to clarify if the other alternative names suggested by Mexico and other names correspond to the fruit covered by the Standard. This consultation includes photographs to elucidate clearly whether the alternatively named fruit correspond to golden passion fruit. The information collected will be submitted prior to the 17th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.

ANNEX I

PROPOSED DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR GOLDEN PASSION FRUIT¹

1. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This Standard applies to commercial varieties of golden passion fruit grown from *Passiflora ligularis* Juss, to be supplied fresh to the consumer after preparation and packaging. Golden passion fruits 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 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;
- free of any foreign smell and/or taste;
- with the stalk present to the first knot;
- free of surface depressions and cracking.

2.1.1 The golden passion fruits must have reached an appropriate degree of development and ripeness² in accordance with criteria proper to the variety and to the area in which they are grown.

The development and condition of the golden passion fruits 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

Golden passion fruits are classified in three classes defined below:

2.2.1 "Extra" Class

Golden passion fruits 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

Golden passion fruits 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 of the skin such as defects in colouring and scratches, not exceeding more than 10% of the total surface area of the fruit.

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

2.2.3 Class II

This class includes golden passion fruits 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 golden passion fruits retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, the keeping quality and presentation:

- defects in colouring, rough skin and defects due scarring, not exceeding more than 20% of the total surface area of the fruit.
- defects in shape, such as an extension in the zone near to the stalk;

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

¹ Commonly known in certain regions by: golden passion fruit.

² The maturity of golden passion fruits can be gauged visually from its external colouring and confirmed by examining soluble solids total content, titratable acidity.

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section of each fruit, in accordance with the following table:

Size Code	Diameter (mm)
A	≥ 78
B	77 – 67
C	66 – 56

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 golden passion fruits 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 golden passion fruits 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 golden passion fruits 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 or forms of presentation, 10% by number or weight of golden passion fruits 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 golden passion fruits of the same origin, variety, quality, colour and size. The visible part of the contents of the package must be representative of the entire contents.

5.2 PACKAGING

Golden passion fruits 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.

Golden passion fruits shall be packed in each container in compliance with the Recommended International Code of Practice for Packaging and Transport of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP 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 golden passion fruits. Packages must be free of all foreign matter and smell.

6. MARKING OR LABELLING

6.1 CONSUMER PACKAGES

In addition to the requirements of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CODEX STAN 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.

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

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 (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

- Class;
- Size (size code);
- 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 Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CODEX STAN 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 Recommended International Code of Practice – General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969), Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP 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 for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods (CAC/GL 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.

**ANNEX II
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

Country	Delegate	Organization	Position	Address	City	Telephone	E-mail
Argentina		Codex Alimentarius - Argentina	Punto focal	Dirección de relaciones Agtropalimentarias Internacionales Ministerio de agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca Paseo Colon 922 Planta Baja Oficina 29	Buenos Aires	+54 11 43 492 549/ 2747	codex@minagri.gob.ar
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Colombia		Codex Alimentarius – Colombia Chair of the Working Group	Punto Focal	Área de Alimentos, Grupo Promoción y Prevención, Ministerio de la Protección Social, Carrera 13, No. 32-76, Piso 14, Santafé de Bogotá D.C.	Bogotá	+57 1 3365066	bolarte@minsalud.gov.co
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ANNEX III**GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS**

In order to facilitate the compilation and prepare a more useful comments' document, Members and Observers, which are not yet doing so, are requested to provide their comments under the following headings:

- (i) General Comments
- (ii) Specific Comments

Specific comments should include a reference to the relevant section and/or paragraph of the document that the comments refer to.

When changes are proposed to specific paragraphs, Members and Observers are requested to provide their proposal for amendments accompanied by the related rationale. New texts should be presented in underlined/bold font and deletion in ~~strikethrough font~~.

In order to facilitate the work of the Secretariats to compile comments, Members and Observers are requested to refrain from using colour font/shading as documents are printed in black and white and from using track change mode, which might be lost when comments are copied/pasted into a consolidated document.

In order to reduce the translation work and save paper, Members and Observers are requested not to reproduce the complete document but only those parts of the texts for which any change and/or amendments is proposed.