

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 3

CX/FFV 14/18/5
December 2013 (REV)

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

18th Session

Phuket, Thailand, 24 – 28 February 2014

DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR GOLDEN PASSION FRUIT

(Prepared by the Electronic Working Group on Golden Passion Fruit led by Colombia)
(AT STEP 7)

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 **20 January 2014** 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, E-mails: codexmex@economia.gob.mx, codxmex1@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 3057; 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 17th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (September 2012) considered a proposed draft Codex Standard for Golden Passion Fruit¹ and agreed to re-establish the electronic working group led by Colombia to discuss any open questions in the standard especially the section on sizing by weight and count^{2,3}. The 36th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2013) adopted the Standard at Step 5 with the current scope noting that any delegation could make comments or proposals regarding other species in the CCFFV.⁴ Following the decision of the Commission, the Codex Secretariat circulated a CL 2013/20-FFV⁵ requesting comments on the scope and the remaining sections of the Standard in particular the section on sizing (weight and count).

SUMMARY NOTES

2. The EWG revised the Standard in light of the discussions held and recommendations made at the 17th session of the CCFFV in particular the section on sizing, comments submitted in reply to CL 2013/20-FFV⁵, and comments submitted by members of the EWG. Based on these comments, the reference to the Latin name in the title of the standard was retained as this allows the removal of colloquial names since the product are named differently in countries / regions; the minimum requirement referring to the presence of the stalk to the first knot was kept as the stalk does not fall easily and the provision as drafted is relevant to avoid contamination if the edible portion of the fruit is exposed; the sizing provisions were retained as revised by the 17th Session of the CCFFV - no specific comments were received on sizing by weight; the provisions for uniformity were kept unchanged for consistency with other Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables and to better assure the final consumer of the quality of the product i.e. every package should contain fruits of the same origin, variety, colour, size and quality. For the same reasons, the provisions for description of containers were also kept unchanged.

3. In view of the work carried out in the EWG, it is proposed that the CCFFV finalizes the Standard with a view to its adoption at Step 8 by the 37th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 2014.

¹ REP13/FFV, Appendix IV.

² REP13/FFV, paras. 72-74.

³ REP13/FFV, paras. 54-85.

⁴ REP13/CAC, paras. 87-90.

⁵ <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/circular-letters/circularletters2013/en/>

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Codex Members and Observers are kindly invited to submit comments on the draft Standard for Golden Passion Fruit as revised by the electronic working group. In submitting comments, consideration should be given to the discussion, recommendations and decisions taken during the consideration of this produce at the 17th Session of the CCFFV. In particular, those countries / regions applying other sizing methods e.g. sizing by weight / count, are invited to submit comments and justification for consideration by the CCFFV in order to facilitate finalization of the Standard.

5. As regards the scope⁶, Codex members and observers are invited to consider possible options as indicated in CL 2013/20-FFV⁵ (see paras. 19-20) to aid consideration of this matter in the CCFFV.

⁶ Those countries which already replied to CL 2013/20-FFV do not need to re-send their comments.

ANNEX I**DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR GOLDEN PASSION FRUIT (*Passiflora ligularis* Juss)****1. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE**

This Standard applies to commercial varieties of golden passion fruit grown from *Passiflora ligularis* Juss from the Passifloraceae family, 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;
- 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;
- free of cracking.

2.1.1 The golden passion fruits must have reached an appropriate degree of development and ripeness¹ 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 into 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:

- a slight defect in shape;
- slight defects of the skin such as scratches, not exceeding more than 10% of the total surface area of the fruit;
- slight defects in colouring.

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

¹ The maturity of golden passion fruits can be gauged visually from its external colouring and confirmed by examining total soluble solid content, titratable acidity.

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 shape including an extension in the zone of the stalk;
- defects of the skin such as scratches or rough skin, not exceeding more than 20% of the total surface area of the fruit;
- defects in colouring.

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

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Golden passion fruit may be sized by diameter or count [or weight.]

- (A) When sized by diameter, 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

- (B) When sized by count, size is determined by the number of individual fruit per package.

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 new², 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.

² For the purposes of this Standard, this includes recycled material of food-grade quality.

Golden passion fruits shall be packed in each container in compliance with the *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 *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, "Golden Passion Fruit (*Passiflora ligularis* Juss)", and may be labelled as to name of the variety.

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)³.

6.2.2 Nature of Produce

Name of the produce, "Golden Passion Fruit (*Passiflora ligularis* Juss)", 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 *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 *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).

³ 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

ARGENTINE / ARGENTINA

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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.