

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 1, 3, 4 and 5

CRD17

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

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

Twenty-third Session

Mexico City, Mexico

25 February - 1 March 2025

Comments by Ghana

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Position: Ghana does not have any proposed changes to recommend on the provisional agenda.

Agenda item 3: Draft standard for fresh dates

Position:

Ghana proposes the following editorial changes:

- In clause 3.1, the sentence “free of undeveloped and deformed fruits, as indicated by stunted growth, immature characteristics and naturally absence of pit” should be revised to “free of undeveloped and deformed fruits, as indicated by stunted growth, immature characteristics and natural absence of pit”
- In clause 3.1, the statement “an area more than 7mm” should read “an area more than 7 mm².”
- In clauses 3.1.1 and 4, fresh date should be fresh dates

Classifications of the fresh dates stating that the quality tolerances cannot be used as a classification.

Agenda Item 4: Draft standard for fresh curry leaves (at Step 4)

Ghana supports forwarding the proposed draft standard for adoption at step 5/8 with the following modification.

Section 2 it should read preparation, cleaning and packaging for consistency

Section 3.1: Minimum requirement

Bullet 2 proposal to read “intact with or without stem/stalk attached”

Rationale: Per the definition, fresh curry leaves may be presented as individual leaves therefore the minimum requirement cover all the forms that the leaves may be presented in and not only those that have stem/stalk attached.

Section 7.1.1

Ghana proposes the following working:

Each package shall be labelled as “Fresh Curry Leaves”

Rationale: Labelling is meant to inform the consumer of the product being purchased. It is therefore good practice to label the package whether the produce is visible from outside or not.

- It was noted that, Provisions is made for the individual leaves in the definition, but the classification doesn't make room for the individual leaves. The classification should therefore accommodate loose leaves.
- Class 1- When packaged with loose stalk or stems, the missing loose stalk or leaves should not exceed 1% by weight
- Class 11- Classification should include loose leaves.

Agenda Item 5: discussion paper on the review of existing fresh fruits and vegetables standard for Avocado and Asparagus

5.1 Avocado

Ghana proposes following editorial changes:

- In sections 3.1 the statement “the avocado must be display” was revised to read “the avocado must display”
- In sections 3.1 “deviations from which shall be observed by the naked eye or corrected 20/20 vision³” was revised to deviations from which shall be observed by the naked eye or corrected 20/20 vision³”.
- Maintain the statement “free of damage caused by pests” in clause 3.1
- Remove the word “practically” in clause 3.1
- The statement “However, the stalk can be missing providing the break is clean” was revised to read “However, the stalk can be missing provided the break is clean”.
- In clause 4 the (a) was removed since it was only one bullet point
- Clause 4. Overlaps in the size codes in That is 6 and 8, 28, 30, and 32
- The committee agreed to add a 0.5% tolerance decay for the Extra Class in clause 5.1.1.

The committee agreed to add a 0.5% tolerance decay for the Extra Class

5.2 Asparagus

Ghana proposes the following editorial changes:

- In sections 3.1 the statement “the asparagus must be display” was revised to read “the asparagus must display”
- In sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, the sentence “The cut at the base of the shoots must be as square as possible” was revised to read “. The cut at the base of the shoots must be as straight as possible

Clause 4 & 5: the word “Practically” should be removed