

THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR EXPORT) RULES

PINEAPPLES

3. All pineapples intended for export shall be typical fruits of the "smooth cayenne" variety, symmetrical in shape, not malformed, nor affected by sunscorch or blemished in any way.

4. No person shall export pineapples unless the crown of every pineapple is—

(a) single, upright, and of typical colour;

(b) not wilted, bruised or yellow in colour or otherwise unattractive in appearance;

(c) less than 66.67 per cent of the total length of such fruit:

Provided that the stalk or butt of every such fruit shall be cut square and project in such a way that the base of the fruit is not in contact with the container.

5. All pineapples intended for export shall be sufficiently mature in accordance with the market requirements, which may from time to time be indicated by the importers, so that they will ripen normally on or after arrival at their destination:

Provided that the same shall not be so mature that spoilage would occur during transit.

6. (1) All pineapples intended for export shall be packed in the following weight grades—

2 3/4 to 3 kilograms;

2 1/2 to 2 3/4 kilograms;

2 1/4 to 2 1/2 kilograms;

2 to 2 1/4 kilograms:

1 1/2 to 2 kilograms;

1 1/2 to 1 3/4 kilograms;

1 1/4 to 1 1/2 kilograms;

1 to 1 1/4 kilograms: Provided that any consignment of a grade below 1 1/2 kilograms for export to the United Kingdom, shall be on specific request by the importer.

(2) A tolerance of up to 100 grams on any individual pineapple shall be permitted.

(3) The weight grade of the pineapples shall be clearly marked on the outside of every container.

(4) All pineapples in any one container shall be of the same weight grade.

7. (1) Every container of pineapples intended for export shall be deep enough to take the whole length of an individual pineapple without any crushing of the crown.

(2) When non-compartmented containers are used individual pineapples shall be wrapped in clean paper other than newspapers and extra padding material shall be placed round, under and over them to make a firm pack.

(3) Pineapples in non-compartmented containers shall be packed in a single layer, lying on their sides with alternate fruits reversed:

Provided that in the case of shipment by sea, pineapples shall be packed in such manner in such suitable container as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(4) No extra padding material shall be used in containers which have individual compartments for each pineapple.

(5) The net weight of every packed container shall not exceed 22 kilograms.

AVOCADOES

8. (1) All varieties of avocados intended for export shall be fresh, mature, evenly coloured, well formed and free of disease, insect or any mechanical damage.

(2) Every container of avocados intended for export shall have fruits of the same variety and of the same weight grade and the number of fruits contained therein shall be clearly marked on the outside of

the container and a tolerance of variation in weight of individual fruits shall not be more than 50 grams.

9. (1) All avocados intended for export shall be packed in rigid single layer trays of timber or cardboard:

Provided that the packed weight of every container shall not exceed 10 kilograms.

(2) Individual avocado fruits intended for export shall be wrapped in a clean tissue paper and the wrapped fruits packed with a suitable layer of padding material placed above and below the layer of fruits to ensure a tight pack.

FRENCH BEANS

10. (1) All french beans intended for export shall be well formed with a minimum length of 10 centimetres of a good green colour, undamaged and without excessive seed development:

Provided that when broken the pods shall snap cleanly without any protruding fibres.

(2) The pods in every container shall be of approximately the same length, and size.

(3) The net weight of pods in every container shall be clearly marked on the outside of every such container.

11. (1) French beans intended for export shall be packed in well ventilated cardboard or timber containers. The packed weight of each inner container shall not exceed 5 kilograms.

(2) Every container of french beans intended for export shall be lined with clean tissue paper and the pods packed therein shall be in even parallel rows.

PASSION FRUIT

12. (1) All passion fruit intended for export shall be clean with dry smooth surface skin and have fresh appearance. The surface skin of the fruit shall be free of disease, insect or any mechanical damage and have an appreciable purple or yellow colour depending on the variety.

(2) The fruit stalk of the passion fruit intended for export shall not exceed 10 millimetres in length and every fruit shall be of a size that it will not pass a circular hole of 25 millimetres in diameter.

13. Every container of passion fruit intended for export shall be clearly marked on the outside with the number of individual fruits.

14. (1) Passion fruit intended for export shall be packed in rigid containers of timber or cardboard and such containers shall be perforated on the sides to facilitate free air circulation.

(2) Every container shall be packed with fruits in multiples of a dozen or ten:

Provided that the packed weight of every container shall not exceed 10 kilograms.

(3) Every container shall be lined with clean tissue paper, under and over which is a suitable layer of padding material to ensure a firm pack.

STRAWBERRIES

15. (1) All strawberries intended for export shall be mature, firm, skin-dry but not over-ripe:

Provided that a fruit which has at least one-half of its skin showing a pink or red colour shall be considered mature.

(2) All strawberries intended for export shall be free from dirt, decay, disease, insect, mechanical damage or malformation and every fruit shall have its calyx attached.

16. (1) The maximum number of fruits packed per 114 grams punnet shall be fourteen except in the case of "fraises du bois".
- (2) All strawberries intended for export shall be packed in rigid ventilated punnets, squares or trays of a suitable size to contain not more than half kilogram of fruit:
- Provided that the fruits in any one container shall be of reasonable even size and all such inner containers shall be packed in a rigid ventilated outer container to ensure adequate protection of the fruit during transit.
- (3) The total net weight of the packed container shall not exceed 6 kilograms.
- (4) Every outer container shall be clearly marked on the outside with the number of punnets, squares or trays contained therein.

BRINJAL

17. (1) All brinjal intended for export shall be mature, firm, well formed, coloured and free from dirt, decay, disease, insect or mechanical damage and each fruit shall have the calyx attached which shall be fresh in appearance.
- (2) The stalk of each fruit shall be trimmed to a length of between 6 and 15 millimetres.
18. (1) All brinjal in every container shall be of the same weight grade and have similar varietal characteristics, the tolerance for variation in weight between individual fruits in every container being not more than 150 grams.
- (2) All brinjal intended for export shall be packed in rigid ventilated containers of timber or cardboard, the net weight of which shall not exceed 10 kilograms.
- (3) Every container shall be lined with clean tissue paper, under and over which there shall be a layer of suitable padding material to ensure a tight pack.
- (4) Every container shall be clearly marked on the outside with the net weight of contents or number of fruits therein.

ASPARAGUS

19. (1) Asparagus intended for export shall be fresh, straight with tight buds and not tapering markedly between butt and tip and the spear shall be clean and undamaged.
- (2) Asparagus intended for export shall be cut at the butt end of each spear and this cut shall be clean and at right angles to the length of the spear.
- (3) There shall be the following grades of asparagus for export—

Super selected—

minimum length of spears 23 centimetres, and each 1/2 kilogram bundle to contain not more than one dozen spears.

Extra selected—

minimum length of spears 23centimetres, and each1/2 kilogram bundle to contain 13 to 16 spears.

Selected—

minimum length of spears 20 centimetres, and each 1/2 kilogram bundle to contain not more than 28 spears.

20. (1) All asparagus intended for export shall be packed in bundles weighing 1/2 kilogram each and the spears in every such bundle shall be of reasonably even diameter and length.
- (2) Only one grade of asparagus intended for export shall be packed in any one container and each bundle of asparagus shall be wrapped in a single sheet of clean tissue paper which shall extend from the butts to within at least 2.5 centimetres of the tips and the bundle and the wrapper being secured with two ties of raffia or other suitable material other than rubber bands and string:
- Provided that the ties shall be made approximately 1 1/2 centimetres inside the top and bottom of the wrapper which may be printed with advertising material and the grade of asparagus contained therein.

- (3) All asparagus intended for export shall be packed in rigid containers of timber or cardboard.
- (4) Every container of asparagus intended for export shall be packed with not more than a single layer of bundles and the maximum number of bundles in every container shall not exceed twelve.
- (5) Every container of asparagus intended for export shall be lined with clean tissue paper, under and over which there shall be a layer of suitable padding material to ensure a tight pack.
- (6) Every container of asparagus intended for export shall be clearly marked on the outside with the number of bundles and the grade of asparagus contained therein.

21. Asparagus intended for export shall reach the port of exit within 24 hours of harvesting and shall then be pre-cooled for not less than eight hours and not more than thirty-six hours at a minimum temperature of 40° F, and maximum temperature of 45° F. before being exported.

PHYSALIS

- 22. (1) All physalis or cape gooseberries intended for export shall be mature, firm, dry but not overripe, golden in colour, and all fruits shall be free from dirt, decay, disease, insect, mechanical damage or malformation.
- (2) The fruit of every physalis or cape gooseberries intended for export shall have its calyx attached and the calyx shall be dry, brown, clean and undamaged.
- (3) All physalis or cape gooseberries intended for export shall be packed in rigid ventilated punnets and each punnet shall contain not more than seventy-five fruits and the top of each punnet shall be covered with a perforated sheet of cellophane secured with an elastic band.
- (4) All punnets of physalis or cape gooseberries intended for export shall be packed in a well ventilated outer container of timber or cardboard which shall be of such a size as to hold not more than twelve punnets packed in a single layer with sufficient headroom to ensure that there shall be no crushing of, the fruit.
- (5) Every outer container of physalis or cape gooseberries intended for export shall be clearly marked on the outside with the following information—
Number of Punnets:

MANGOES

23. All mangoes, except green preserving mangoes, intended for export shall be true to variety and be of any of the following varieties—

- (a) Ngowe;
- (b) Boribo;
- (c) Apple;
- (d) Dodo;
- (e) Coloured Batawi;
- (f) Harries;
- (g) Kitovu;
- (h) Peach;
- (i) Rose:

Provided that an inspector may, in writing, and subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary, permit the export to neighbouring territories of fruit of other varieties in such quantities as he may think fit.

24. Every container of preserving mangoes for export shall have clearly marked on the outside thereof the words "preserving mangoes, not for consumption as fresh fruit".

25. Mangoes intended for export shall be reasonably free from dirt, bruises, rub marks, visible insects, mango sap, punctures, disease, insect or any other damage or blemishes:

Provided that mangoes intended for export to neighbouring territories, Aden and Persian Gulf ports may have such minor blemishes as will not, in the opinion of the inspector, cause deterioration of the fruit in transit.

26. (1) All mangoes intended for export shall be firm but not immature; for the purpose of this rule a mango whose interior flesh shows no colouring shall be deemed to be immature.
(2) An inspector may, in order to ascertain the maturity of fruits in any consignment, cut open not more than five single fruits from five separate containers or cut open single fruits up to a maximum of 2 per cent of the total number of containers whichever is the greater.

27. (1) All mangoes intended for export by air shall be packed in cardboard containers.
(2) All mangoes shall be individually wrapped in clean tissue paper and packed with sufficient padding material between each fruit so that no appreciable movement of fruit occurs within the container when it is shaken.
(3) For the purposes of this rule padding material shall comprise of woodwool or other suitable non-odoriferous material, but not coconut fibre, woodchips, woodshavings, sawdust and grass.
(4) Not more than one layer of fruit shall be placed in any one container.

28. Mangoes intended for export by sea shall be packed in rigid wooden boxes, which may contain more than one layer of fruit, provided there is, between each fruit and between each layer of fruit, sufficient padding material so that no appreciable movement of the fruit takes place when the box is shaken.

29. Every container of mangoes intended for export shall be clearly marked on the outside with the name of the variety and the number of fruits contained therein:
Provided that an inspector may exempt from the provisions of this rule such small quantities, as he may think fit, of mangoes intended for export to the neighbouring territories.

30. All mangoes intended for export shall before despatch be cooled at a temperature between 40° F. and 50° F. for a period not less than 12 hours and not more than 36 hours:

Provided that an inspector may exempt from the provisions of his rule such small quantities, as he may think fit, of mangoes intended for export to neighbouring territories.

CAPSICUMS

31 (1) All green capsicums and green chillies intended for export shall be mature, firm, well formed and reasonably free from dirt, disease, insect or any other damage.
(2) All individual green capsicums in any container shall be of approximately the same size.
(3) All green capsicums intended for export shall be packed in rigid ventilated timber or cardboard containers and the net weight of each packed container shall not exceed 6 kilograms.
(4) The net contents in weight shall be clearly indicated on the outside of each container.

PAWPAWS

32 (1) All varieties of pawpaws intended for export shall be fresh, mature, well formed, firm and free from dirt, disease, insect or mechanical damage, and shall be washed of all pawpaw sap on the surface.
(2) Every container of pawpaws intended for export shall have fruits of similar varietal characteristics, shape, size and such fruits shall be of the same weight grade:

Provided that the number of fruits contained therein shall be clearly marked on the outside of the container and a tolerance of variation in weight of individual fruits shall not be more than 100 grams.
(3) All pawpaws intended for export shall be individually wrapped in clean tissue paper and packed in rigid single layer trays of timber or cardboard. The wrapped fruits shall be packed with a suitable layer of padding material placed above and below the layer of fruits to ensure a tight pack:

Provided that the packed weight of every container shall not exceed 10 kilograms.

MELONS

33 (1) All varieties of melons or water-melons intended for export shall be fresh, mature, well formed, firm and free of dirt, disease, insect or any other damage or blemish.

(2) Every container of melons or water-melons intended for export shall have fruits of similar varietal characteristics, same shape and size, and such fruits shall be of the same weight grade:

Provided that the number of fruits contained therein shall be clearly marked on the outside of the container and a tolerance of variation in weight of individual fruits shall not be more than 100 grams.

(3) All melons or water-melons intended for export shall be individually wrapped in clean tissue paper and packed in rigid single layer tray of timber or cardboard. The wrapped fruit shall be packed with a suitable layer of padding material placed above and below the layer of fruits to ensure a tight pack and prevent damage during transport:

Provided that the packed weight of every container shall not exceed 10 kilograms.

CUCUMBERS OR COURGETTES

34. (1) All cucumbers or courgettes intended for export shall be fresh, or of uniform green colour, reasonably straight in shape and of uniform thickness; and the seeds shall be immature and the seed coat shall be soft.

(2) All cucumbers or courgettes intended for export shall be free of dirt, disease, decay, insect or mechanical damage.

(3) Every container of cucumber or courgettes intended for export shall have fruits of similar varietal characteristics, and shall have the same shape and size.

(4) All cucumbers or courgettes intended for export shall be packed in rigid containers of timber or cardboard with perforations in the sides to ensure free air circulation. The containers shall be lined with clean tissue paper under and over which a suitable padding material is placed to ensure a tight pack :

Provided that the packed weight of every container shall not exceed 10 kilograms.

35. These Rules are in addition to and not in derogation of the Agricultural Produce (Export) (Horticultural Produce Inspection) Rules.