

THE COPRA (INSPECTION AND GRADING) REGULATIONS

LN 62/1985

(Section 34)

[26th July 1985]

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Copra (Inspection and Grading) Regulations.

Interpretation

2. For the purposes of these regulations, the expressions-

"Authority" means the Commodities Export Marketing Authority established pursuant to section 5(1) of the Act;

"bag" includes any container approved by the Authority for the purpose of containing copra therein;

"desiccated coconut peelings and residue" means the by-products of the desiccated coconut industry;

"germinated nut" means coconut fruit which is wholly tapered towards the plumule by the natural development of haustorium;

"inspector" means the Chief Inspecting Officer or other inspecting officer designated pursuant to section 14 of the Act;

"owner", when used in relation to copra, includes servant or agent of the owner; and

"storage place" means any building, yard or place authorised by the Authority for the purpose of storing copra.

Copra grades and criteria

3.-(1) When examining copra pursuant to section 14(5) of the Act, the inspector shall, subject to paragraph (2), grade the copra as first grade, second grade or third grade, as the case may be.

(2) Copra shall be graded as-

(a) first grade only if-

(i) it is dried by hot air, by Ceylon-drying method or by some other drying method approved by the Authority;

(ii) it is clean, not discoloured and is free from smoke permeation, excess mould, insect infestation and charred pieces of copra, wood or other matters;

(iii) it is not mixed with an unreasonable amount of copra made from germinated nuts;

(iv) its moisture content does not exceed six percent; and

(v) its fatty acid content does not exceed three percent;

(b) second grade only if-

(i) it has the qualities referred to in paragraph (a) (iii), (iv) and (v);

(ii) it is dried by a method approved by the Authority; and
(iii) it is clean, not unreasonably discoloured and it is free from smoke permeation, excess mould, insect infestation and charred pieces of copra, wood or other matters; and
(c) third grade if it is not of any of the qualities referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) provided that-

(i) it is dried by a method approved by the Authority;
(ii) it is not excessively moulded or infested by insect;
(iii) it does not contain excessive amount of charred pieces of copra, wood or other matters;
(iv) its moisture content does not exceed seven percent; and
(v) its fatty acid content does not exceed three percent.

Distinguishing numbers and letters

4. The Authority shall provide and allocate to the owner of any copra a distinct number and letter for the purpose of identifying the area from which the copra was obtained.

Marking and grading copra by owner

5.-(1) Before the owner of any copra produces the copra to an inspector for examination, the owner shall-

(a) grade the copra in accordance with the criteria set out in regulation 3(2); and
(b) mark the bag of copra by writing conspicuously on both sides of the bag the distinct number and letter allocated to him under regulation 4.

(2) When marking the bag of copra, the owner shall write the distinct number and letter-

(a) in green colour, where the copra is graded by him as first grade;
(b) in black colour, where the copra is graded by him as second grade; and
(c) in red colour, where the copra is graded by him as third grade.

(3) Any person, other than an inspector, who erases, alters, or otherwise damages any mark written on any bag of copra pursuant to this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of forty dollars.

Duties of Inspector when examining copra

6.-(1) Where copra is produced to an inspector for examination, he shall-

(a) confirm the grade marked on the bag of copra by the owner;
(b) up-grade or down-grade the copra where, upon examination by him, he is of the opinion that the copra is of a higher or lower grade than that marked on the bag by the owner; or
(c) reject the copra altogether where the copra does not have the qualities of any of the grades referred to in regulation 3.

(2) Where copra is up-graded, down-graded or rejected pursuant to paragraph (1), the

inspector shall cancel any grade marked on the bag of copra by the owner and re-mark the bag with the appropriate grade.

Copra to be re-conditioned

7.-(1) Where any copra is down-graded or rejected by an inspector and in his opinion such copra, if re-conditioned, can be of a better grade than the grade marked on the bag or can acquire the qualities of any of the grades referred to in regulation 3, he shall, as soon as practicable after such down-grading or rejection, request the owner to remove and re-condition the copra.

(2) Any copra re-conditioned pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be re-examined by an inspector and regulation 6 shall apply upon such re-examination.

Storage of copra

8.-(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), any copra produced to an inspector for examination shall be stored by the owner in such storage place as the Authority may direct.

(2) No copra shall be stored or directed to be stored in any storage place if, in the opinion of the inspector, the copra is of such condition that is likely to adversely affect the good condition of any other copra stored in that storage place.

(3) Where copra which has been stored in a storage place is found to be of such condition that is likely to adversely affect the good condition of the other copra in that storage place, the Authority may request the owner to remove the copra from that storage place.

Delivery of copra to owner

9. (1) Where any owner who has been requested pursuant to regulations 7(1) or 8(3) fails to remove the copra within a reasonable period after such request, the Authority may cause the copra to be removed and delivered to the owner.

(2) Any costs or expenses necessarily incurred in connexion with the delivery of copra to the owner pursuant to paragraph (1) may be claimed from the owner of the copra by the person who incurred them.

Standard of copra bag

10. (1) No person shall export any copra unless-

- (a) the copra is contained in a good quality bag standard in the copra trade;
- (b) the copra weighs not more than seventy-eight kilograms and not less than sixty-eight kilograms; and
- (c) the bag containing the copra is securely fastened at the mouth to prevent the copra from falling out.

(2) Any person who contravenes paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of forty dollars.

Desiccated coconut peelings and residue

11.-(1) Any person who exports any desiccated coconut peelings and residue shall conspicuously write on the bag containing the peelings and residue such mark that clearly indicates that the bag contains desiccated coconut peelings and residue.

(2) Any person who contravenes paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of forty dollars.