

codex alimentarius commission

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Agenda Item 4(c)

CX/FFV 09/15/9-Add.1

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

Fifteenth Session

Mexico City, Mexico, 19 – 23 October 2009

PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR TREE TOMATO (N18-2008)

Comments at Step 3
(Argentina and Iran)

ARGENTINA

Argentina is pleased to be a member of the electronic drafting group on the Proposed Draft Standard for Tree Tomato led by Colombia and wishes to submit these comments:

1. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This standard applies to **fruits of commercial varieties** of tree tomatoes from *Cyphomandra betacea* (Cav.) Sendtn., of the *Solanaceae* family, to be supplied fresh to the consumer, after preparation and packaging. **Tomatoes intended for industrial processing are excluded.**

Justification:

Scientific name as included in the Argentina's Vascular Plant Catalogue [*Catálogo de Plantas Vasculares de la Argentina (Instituto de Botánica Darwinion)*] ([http:// www. darwin.edu.ar](http://www.darwin.edu.ar) . accessed on 18-03-09)

It is worth including the reference to processing so as to state it clearly that tomatoes intended for industrial processing are not considered in this standard and to be consistent with the Codex standard model.

2.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Argentina recommends the following format/editorial changes in the Spanish version:

Se recomienda respetar el formato de este ítem con relación a las demás Normas del Codex en lo referente al verbo "*estar*", el que deberá expresarse al final del primer párrafo y eliminarse del comienzo de las viñetas, para no ser repetitivo en cada una de ellas. La **última viñeta, pasarla al noveno lugar.**

Asimismo, las viñetas correspondientes a:

- *ser de consistencia firme*
- *tener aspecto fresco, sería conveniente redactarlas como sigue:*

y deberán tener:

- *consistencia firme*
- *aspecto fresco*

2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 5.1, 6.1.1 etc. "...and/or commercial type..."

Justification:

Clarification is requested on whether there are any commercial types of tree tomatoes; if not, this phrase should be deleted. Further, no reference is made to this in 6.2 or below (**NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS, Identification, etc**).

3. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined by the maximum **equatorial** diameter or the weight of each fruit, in accordance with the following tables...

Justification:

It is worth clarifying which diameter is being considered in order to avoid misinterpretation.

Footnote 3: Clarification is needed on how the iodine test is used in tree tomato and what its interpretation is.

7. CONTAMINANTS

Paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2 should be redrafted as follows:

7.1 Pesticide residues

Tree tomatoes shall comply with those maximum pesticide residue limits established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for this commodity.

7.2 Other Contaminants

Tree tomatoes shall comply with those maximum levels for contaminants established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for this commodity.

Justification:

The wording should be consistent with the Layout for Codex Standards on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.

IRAN

Iran is pleased to submit the following comments in response CX/FFV 09/15/9 (Agenda Item 4(c) AUGUAT 2009): on draft codex standard for Tree Tomatoes with the following resulting comments based on the bold and italic text within the sections/paragraphs indicated.

Specific comments:

Section 2.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The word "intact" specifies more precisely the intactness. It is much easier to understand by people that are not native speakers.

Iran suggests the intact would be appropriate than whole in requirements and the below intend is mentioned in the proposed standard layout, in the requirement.

"- *Intact*"

Section 2.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

To merge the forth and fifth bullets regarding the presence and damage caused by pest in accordance with the committee agreed to merge the two indent to address the presence and damage caused by pests namely "*practically free of pest and damage caused by them affecting the general appearance of the produce*" in 12th session of the CCFV, May 2005.

So Iran suggests merging these two indents based on agreement committee.

Section 2.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The below intend is mentioned in the Proposed Standard Layout, in Section 3.1 – Minimum Requirements:

"- *Clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter*".

Iran suggests the above requirement as proposed could be acceptable.

Section 2.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Firmness is an important attribute ensuring that fruit to be supplied to the consumer is in good condition, but if no minimum level is provided, it should be related to the variety. The term 'firm' should be one of the minimum requirements to reflect the firmness of the produce, as this attribute is important in ensuring that the quality of the produce remains in good condition until it reaches the final consumer, specially, in cases where the transit is for a long period. Firmness is an indication of the freshness and can be measured with the help of pressure testing equipment. However, inclusion of the text reading, "taking into account the characteristics of the variety" after the word, "firm" could be acceptable as suggested by Iran.

We agree on retaining the term "firm" and Iran suggest the inclusion of "*Firm, taking into account the characteristics of the variety*".

Section 2.1.1

The below sentences is mentioned in the proposed standard layout, in the requirement:

"The tree tomatoes must have been *picked* and have reached an appropriate degree of be sufficiently development and *display satisfactory ripeness in accordance with criteria proper to the variety and/or commercial type*, and to the area in which they are grown."

Iran supports the above proposed.

Foot note 1 in page1

The below footnote is mentioned in the proposed standard layout. Iran suggests amending below sentences for this footnote.

"This disposition allows a foreign smell on the skin of the fruit caused by the used of preserving agents or any other chemical substance of conformity with the corresponding regulations."

Section 2.2 CLASSIFICATION

Section 2.2.1 Extra Class and Section 2.2.2 Class I and Class II

Iran believes that the proposal of classification become clear during discussion on committee and it was proposed that consideration be given to the development of definitions for classes when discussing the proposal Layout.

Iran proposes for uniformity in size, shape and coloring is important in classification especially in extra class. So, Iran suggests that add this sentence for all classes.

"The stalk must be intact."

Section 2.2.2 Class I and Section 2.2.3 Class II

Any grouping of fruits and vegetables has the same commercial quality conditions, size and coloring. Color may be expressed in classification.

Iran suggests adding the following phrase to this part and merge with the first bullet.

"Slight defects in coloring and shape."

Section 3 PROVISION CONCERNING SIZING

Tree tomatoes shall be classified by other methods, such as number of fruits by package. Iran suggests amending this section as the following mentioned.

"Size is determined by maximum diameter of the equatorial section or by weight of each Tree Tomato, according to the provisions of the legislation of the importing country."

Section 4.2 SIZE TOLERANCES

Iran suggests changing in below sentences as mentioned in the proposed standard layout.

"For all classes, 10% by number or weight of tree tomatoes *not meeting* the size immediately above and/or below that indicated on the package."

Section 6.2.4 Commercial Identification

Iran suggests amending the phrase as mentioned in the proposed standard layout.

“Size (if sized)”

Section 6.2.5

Regards to foot note 6 in page 5; we can use it for "Official Inspection Mark (Optional)" too. We suggest putting foot note 6 for official inspection mark.