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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Standardization of
Perishable Produce and Quality Development

Meeting of Experts on Co-ordination of
Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
(Forty-fourth session, 9 to 13 March 1998, Geneva)

Item 4(k) of the Provisional Agenda

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS TO REVISED STANDARDS
AVOCADOS

Note by the secretariat

The following proposal to revise the UN/ECE Standard for Avocados was submitted by the delegation of Spain.

The delegation of Spain proposes to revise the UN/ECE Standard for Avocados (FFV-42) as follows:

1. In Chapter II "Provisions concerning Quality":

- (a) In point A, the following text and footnote are inserted as the second indent:

- firm 1/

1/ The avocados must be firm at all marketing stages, such that they do not give when pressed with the fingers, except when presented as "ready to eat" at points of sale to the final consumer.

- (b) The following new point B is inserted:

"B. Ripeness

In order to guarantee the consumer ripe avocados, and to prevent fruit which is not sufficiently ripe for marketing being placed on the market, avocados must have a minimum dry-matter content, determined for each variety and production zone established for each marketing year, by continuous-weighing desiccation.

For the cultivar "Haas", the minimum dry-matter content must generally be 21 per cent."

2. In Chapter III "Provisions concerning Sizing":

- (a) Deletion of the footnote

- (b) The figures "125 to 135" and "30" are deleted from the weight scale

- (c) The final sentence is replaced by the following:

"The minimum weight of avocados must not be less than 135g."

3. In Chapter V "Provisions concerning Presentation", in point A, the first sentence and the footnote are replaced by the following:

"The content of each package must be uniform and contain only avocados of the same origin, variety, quality, colouring 2/ and size."

- "2/ A change in the colour of dark-skinned varieties is not considered a defect, but the colouring of the fruit in each package must be uniform, except at points of sale to the consumer."