

**Economic Commission for Europe**

Committee on Trade

**Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

**Specialized Section on Standardization  
of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**

**Fifty-eighth session**

Geneva, 1-3 November 2010

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Review of the texts of the standards aligned with the 2009 Standard Layout**

This note contains proposals by New Zealand for revising the Standard for Pears.

## New Zealand comments on Pear Standard

### 1. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

#### B. Classification

##### (i) "Extra" Class

Pears in this class must be of superior quality. In shape, size and colouring **and russeting** they must be characteristic of the variety.

NZ Comment:

Why would pears where russet is characteristic of the variety be excluded from Extra Class? For example Taylors Gold has smooth russet as a characteristic. For this variety the russet is a desirable prerequisite for quality.

### 2. III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined by maximum diameter of the equatorial section or by weight.

*Option A:*

A minimum size is required for each class as follows:

	'Extra'	Class I	Class II
Large fruited varieties	60mm or 130 g	55mm or 110 g	55mm or 110 g
Other varieties	55mm or 110 g	50mm or 100 g	45mm or 75 g

Or:

*Option B:*

For all varieties and all classes the minimum size is 45mm if measured by diameter or 75 grams if measured by weight.

NZ Comment

As large varieties have been removed from the annex then there should be no option A. New Zealand supports option B

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(b) For fruit sized by weight:

For "Extra" Class and Class I fruit packed in rows and layers, the difference in weight between the lightest and the heaviest fruit in the same package shall be limited to:

Range (g)	Weight difference (g)
75 – 100	15g
100 – 150	35g
150 – 200	35g
200 – 250	50g
250 <	80g

NZ Comment:

New Zealand asks for more tolerance especially as size gets larger.

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

### B Size tolerance

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- first paragraph - delete the word "for" ...package, with **for** fruit...

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

### A Uniformity.

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NZ Comment:

Many fruit types are packed with variations of ripeness and this is an innovation in the pear category. The consumer wants to have retail packs that are deliberately packed with variations in ripeness and this innovation is called "eat me keep me".

With regards to ripeness - how will "eat me keep me" packs get on. i.e. four fruit in a pack, two ripened to eat straight away two intentionally un-ripened which after a couple of days are good to eat.

## FOOTNOTES

NZ Comment

Footnotes may need to be renumbered or reordered.

E.g. (page 7) footnote 6 "*This text was previously.....*" - there is no point 6 in the text

(Page 8) footnote 7 relates to a deleted paragraph so should also be deleted