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Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

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Item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda

Revision of standards

Proposal by the delegation of Spain to amend the standard for berry fruits

Submitted by the delegation of Spain

The following proposals were submitted for consideration by the Specialized Section.

This document is submitted according to ECE/CTCS/2021/2 Decision 2021-07-02 and Decision 2021-07-07, ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2021/2 paragraph 66, and A/76/6 (Sect.20).

Proposal: The delegation from Spain would like to modify the provisions concerning tolerance as follows:

Under Section IV. Provisions concerning tolerances

At all marketing stages, tolerances in respect of quality shall be allowed in each lot for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

Quality tolerances

(i) “Extra Class

A total tolerance of 5 per cent, by number or weight, of berry fruits not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class I is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 0.5 per cent in total may consist of produce satisfying the requirements of Class II quality.

(ii) Class I

A total tolerance of 10 per cent, by number or weight, of berry fruits not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class II is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 2 per cent in total may consist of produce satisfying neither the requirements of Class II quality nor the minimum requirements, or of produce affected by decay and 4% tolerance for wet, soft or leaky.

(iii) Class II

A total tolerance of 10 per cent, by number or weight, of berry fruits satisfying neither the requirements of the class nor the minimum requirements is allowed. Within this



tolerance not more than 4 per cent in total may consist of produce affected by decay rot and/or internal breakdown and 6% tolerance for wet, soft or leaky.

Rationale: In order to reduce food loss and waste in the berry fruits sector, Spain would like to modify the provisions concerning tolerances. In addition, this proposal would allow operators to have more margin to harvest fruit close to its optimum maturity, and not harvest green, as it is currently done, to avoid problems in the final destination.
