



MARKETING STANDARDS

WATERMELONS

(*Citrullus lanatus (Thunb.) Matsum. et Nakai*)



PRODUCT: WATERMELONS (<i>Citrullus lanatus (Thunb.) Matsum. et Nakai</i>)		FILE NUMBER: 38	
VARIETIES: Several		VERSION: 3	
0. REFERENCE		Regulation 1862/04 of 26 October 2004.	
1. DEFINITION		This standard applies to watermelons for supply fresh to the consumer. Watermelons for industrial use are excluded. A slight lack of freshness and turgidity is accepted due to transportation over and above the requirements listed below. Furthermore, the tendency to perish and inherent development mean a slight deterioration is permitted.	
2. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS			
Intact, sound, clean, practically free from pests and their damages, firm and sufficiently ripe (flesh colour and taste should conform to a sufficient state of ripeness), free of abnormal external moisture, free of any foreign smell and/or taste.			
3. DEVELOPMENT AND CONDITION			
Development and condition must be such as to enable them to withstand transport and handling, and to arrive in satisfactory condition at destination.			
4. CLASSIFICATION			
Class I:		Good quality. Well-formed, allowing for the characteristic of the variety. Free of cracks and bruises (slight superficial cracks are not considered as defects). A slight defect of colouring is allowed for the paler part (in contact with the ground during growing period). Stem must be ≤ 5 cm in length.	
Tolerance:		10% by number or weight out of standards, but within Class II standards or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class.	
Class II:		Defects admitted, provided they retain their essential characteristics of quality, the keeping quality and presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - slight defects in shape and/or in colouring of the rind, - slight bruising or superficial defects due to mechanical impact or to damage by parasites or diseases. 	
Tolerance:		10% by number or weight out of standards, with the exception of produce affected by deterioration affecting consumption (e.g. rotting).	
5. SIZING By weight		By weight per unit:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum weight: 1,5 kg. • Difference between the lightest and the heaviest unit in the same package should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ≤ 2 kg or, - ≤ 3,5 kg (if the lightest units weighs < 6 kg) • This relative uniformity of weight is not compulsory for watermelons presented in bulk. 	
6. PRESENTATION		Size tolerance: 10% by number or weight of watermelons out of specifications, but no more than 1 Kg above or below the size range specified. Tolerance does not extend to fruit weighing < 1 kg.	
		Uniformity: in origin, variety and quality. Besides, for Class I, uniformity in shape and colour of the rind. The visible part must be representative of the entire contents.	
		Packaging: The produce must be packed in such a way to assure its protection. Materials must be new, clean and of a proper quality. Non-toxic ink or glue. Packages, or lots presented in bulk, must be free of all foreign matter. Produce transported in bulk must be separated from floor and walls of the vehicle by a suitable protective material (new, clean and not liable to transfer abnormal taste or smell the fruit). Stickers individually affixed to products shall be removable without leaving a visible trace of glue or damaging the fruit skin.	
		Presentation: (a) in packages, (b) in bulk.	
7. MARKING -legibly and indelibly marked, - grouped on the same side, -visible from the outside.		Mixed products: Watermelons may be mixed, in sales packages of < 3 Kg net weight, with different types of fresh fruit and vegetables on the condition laid down by the Regulation 48/2003 of 10 January 2003.	
		Identification: The name and address of the packer and/or dispatcher, which can be replaced on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>packages but not pre-packages</i> by a code mark (officially issued or accepted) of the packer and/or dispatcher. The latter should be accompanied by the words "packer and/or dispatcher" (or equivalent abbreviations); or <i>pre-packages only</i> by the name and address of a seller in the EU in close connection with the words "Packed for:" and a code to represent the packer and/or distributor (coded information must be available on request). Packages containing sales packages visible from the outside, marked with the above markings, must be free of markings. Where palletised, the pallet should be labelled with the above information on two sides.	
		Nature of the produce: - "Watermelons", if not visible from the outside.	Origin: Country (comp) and district or local name (opt)
		Commercial specifications: Class; Size (if sized) expressed in min. and max. weight; Net weight or number of units.	Official control mark: (opt)
For watermelons dispatched in bulk, the above particulars appear on a document accompanying the goods or on a notice placed in a visible position inside the means of transport. Indication of size, net weight or number of units is not compulsory.			
8. CONTAMINANTS			
Heavy metals	Maximum level	Commission Regulation	Sampling & Analysis methods
Lead (Pb)	0,1 mg/kg wet weight	466/2001	Directive 2001/22/EC
Cadmium (Cd)	0,05 mg/kg wet weight	466/2001	Directive 2001/22/EC