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REPORT OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION

Addendum 7

Note by the secretariat

This document contains the revised UN/ECE Standard for Plums (FFV-29) as adopted at the fifty-fourth session of the Working Party.

UN/ECE STANDARD FFV-29
relating to the marketing and commercial
quality control of

PLUMS
moving in international trade between and to
UN/ECE member countries

I. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This standard applies to plums of varieties (cultivars) grown from

- *Prunus domestica L. ssp. domestica*
- *Prunus domestica L. ssp. insititia (L.) Schneid.*,
- *Prunus domestica L. ssp. italica (Borkh.) Gams*,
- *Prunus domestica L. ssp. syriaca (Borkh.) Janchen* and
- *Prunus salicina Lindl.*

to be supplied fresh to the consumer, plums for industrial processing being excluded.

II. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

The purpose of the standard is to define the quality requirements of plums at the export control stage, after preparation and packaging.

A. Minimum requirements

In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, the plums must be:

- intact
- sound; produce affected by rotting or deterioration such as to make it unfit for consumption is excluded
- clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter
- practically free from pests
- practically free from damage caused by pests
- free of abnormal external moisture
- free of any foreign smell and/or taste.

The plums must have been carefully picked. They must be sufficiently developed and display satisfactory ripeness.

The development and condition of the plums must be such as to enable them:

- to withstand transport and handling, and
- to arrive in satisfactory condition at the place of destination.

B. Classification

Plums are classified in three classes defined below:

(i) ***"Extra" Class***

Plums in this class must be of superior quality. In shape, development and colouring they must be characteristic of the variety.

They must be:

- practically covered by their bloom, according to variety
- of firm flesh.

They must be free from defects with the exception of very slight superficial defects provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package.

(ii) ***Class I***

Plums in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety.

The following slight defects, however, may be allowed, provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package:

- a slight defect in shape
- a slight defect in development
- a slight defect in colouring
- skin defects of elongated shape must not exceed in length one-third of the maximum diameter of the fruit. In particular, healed cracks may be allowed for "Golden gage" varieties¹
- other skin defects of which the total area affected must not exceed one-sixteenth of the whole surface.

(iii) ***Class II***

This class includes plums which do not qualify for inclusion in the higher classes but satisfy the minimum requirements specified above.

The following defects may be allowed provided the plums retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, the keeping quality and presentation:

¹ Definition: Gages (Green Apricots, Dauphines, Greengages) having a green skin with a yellowish sheen.

FFV-29: Plums

- defects in shape
- defects in development
- defects in colouring
- skin defects of which the total area affected must not exceed one-quarter of the whole surface.

III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

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

Minimum sizes are fixed as follows:

	"Extra" and I	II
Large-fruited varieties ²	35 mm	30 mm
Other varieties	28 mm	25 mm
Mirabelles and Damsons	20 mm	17 mm

For the "Extra" Class, the maximum difference in diameter between fruit in any one package is fixed at 10 mm.

IV. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

Tolerances in respect of quality and size shall be allowed in each package for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

A. Quality tolerances

- (i) **"Extra" Class**
5 per cent by number or weight of plums not satisfying the requirements of the class, but meeting those of Class I or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class.
- (ii) **Class I**
10 per cent by number or weight of plums not satisfying the requirements of the class, but meeting those of Class II or, exceptionally, coming within the tolerances of that class. Within this tolerance, not more than 2 per cent in total may consist of split and/or worm eaten fruit.

² See list annexed to this standard.

(iii) ***Class II***

10 per cent by number or weight of plums satisfying neither the requirements of the class nor the minimum requirements, with the exception of produce affected by rotting, marked bruising, or any other deterioration rendering it unfit for consumption. Within this tolerance, not more than 4 per cent in total may consist of split and/or worm eaten fruit.

B. Size Tolerances

For all classes: 10 per cent by number or weight of plums deviating from the minimum size or the size stated on the package, the deviation not exceeding 3 mm above or below.

V. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

A. Uniformity

The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only plums of the same origin, variety, quality and size (if sized), and for the "Extra" Class, the contents must also be uniform in colour.

The visible part of the contents of the package must be representative of the entire contents.

B. Packaging

Plums must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce properly.

The materials used inside the package must be new, clean and of a quality such as to avoid causing any external or internal damage to the produce. The use of materials, particularly of paper or stamps bearing trade specifications is allowed provided the printing and labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

Packages must be free of all foreign matter.

C. Presentation

The plums may be presented

- in small packages
- arranged in one or more layers separated from each other
- in bulk in the package, except for the "Extra" Class.

VI. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING

Each package³ must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside:

A. Identification

Packer)	Name and address or
and/or)	officially issued or
Dispatcher)	accepted code mark. ⁴

B. Nature of Produce

- "Plums", if the contents are not visible from the outside
- Name of the variety.

C. Origin of Produce

- Country of origin and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional or local place name.

D. Commercial Specification

- Class
- Size (if sized) expressed in minimum and maximum diameter.

E. Official Control Mark (optional)

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The UN/ECE Standard for Plums

has led to an explanatory brochure published by the OECD Scheme

³ Package units of produce prepacked for direct sale to the consumer shall not be subject to these marking provisions but shall conform to the national requirements. However, the markings referred to shall in any event be shown on the transport packaging containing such package units.

⁴ The national legislation of a number of countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference "packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)" has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark.

ANNEX (non-exhaustive)

List of large-fruited varieties

Andys Pride	Kelsey	Sangue di Drago
Ariel	Kirke's Plum (Kirke)	Santa Rosa
Apple	Laroda	Satsuma improved
Beauty	Late Santa Rosa	Seneca
Belle de Louvain (Bella di Loivanio)	Magna Glauca	Simka
Bernardina	Manns Number One	Songold
Bleu de Belgique	Marjorie's Seedling	Stanley
Blue Free	Mariposa	Starking Delicious
Burmosa	Merton Gage (Merton)	Sultan
California Blue (Blu)	Merton Gem	Swan Gage
Calita	Monarch	Tragedy
Coe's Golden Drop	Morettini 355 (Coeur de Lion)	Utility (Laxton's utility)
De Fraile (Fraila)	Nubiana	Valor
Denniston Superb	Nueva Extremadura	Victoria
Early Orléans (Monsieur Hâtif)	Oneida	Vision
Edwards (Colbus)	Ontario	Washington
Eldorado	Ozark Premier	Wickson
Emma Leppermann	Pond's Seedling	Yakima
Empress	President	Zimmers Frühzwetsche
Ersinger Frühzwetsche	Prince Engelbert	
Formosa	Prince of Wales (Prince de Galles)	
Friar	Prof. Collumbien	
Frontier	Prune Martin	
Gaviota	Queen Rosa	
Giant (Burbank giant prune)	Queen's Crown (Cox's Emperor)	
Goccia d'Oro	Quetsche blanche de Létrécourt	
Golden Japan	Red Beauty	
Grand Prix (Grand Prize)	Redgold	
Grand Rosa	Redroy	
Hackman	Regina Claudia Mostruosa	
Hall	Regina d'Italia	
Harris Monarch	Reine Claude d'Althan (Falso)	
Harry Pickstone	Reine Claude d'Oullins (Oullin's Gage)	
Heron	Rosar Premier	
Imperial Epineuse	Royale de Montauban	
Jefferson (Jefferson's Gage)	Royale de Tours	
Jori's Plum	Ruth Gerstetter	
June Blood		