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Standard Grade and Packaging for the Export of Apples and Pears (Notice No: 4263 Ag 12/2/14)

This notice revokes the Standard Grade for the Export of Apples and Pears Notice 1976 (No. 374 Ag 12/2/14) published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, Thursday 11 March 1976 and Notice 1982 (Notice No. 2772, Ag.12/2/14) published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, Friday 5 March 1982.

“Pursuant to Regulation 13 of the New Zealand Grown Fruit and Vegetables Regulations 1975 and section 19 (2) (b) (ii) of the Apple and Pear Marketing Act 1971, the Director-General of Agriculture and Fisheries hereby gives notice of grade standards and packing and grading requirements respectively in respect of apples and pears intended for export from New Zealand such requirements being as specified in this notice.”

NOTICE

1. Title—(1) This notice may be cited as the Standard Grade and Packaging for the Export of Apples and Pears Notice 1987.

(2) This notice shall come into force on the day after the date of its notification in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

2. Interpretation—Unless the context otherwise requires, terms and expressions used in this notice shall have the same meaning as in the New Zealand Grown Fruit and Vegetables Regulations 1975*. Certain of these terms and expressions as applicable to Apples and Pears are defined in the First Schedule to this notice.

3. Application of Notice:

“This Notice:

- (a) Determines grade standards for apples and pears intended to be exported from New Zealand

(Regulation 13 New Zealand Grown Fruit and Vegetables Regulations 1975); and

- (b) Specifies the packing and grading requirements which the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board may require in respect of apples and pears prior to their purchase by the Board which are intended by the Board to be exported from New Zealand. (Section 19 (2) (b) (ii) Apple and Pear Marketing Act 1971).”

4. Title and Grade—The grade mark assigned to the standard grade for apples and pears intended by the Board to be exported from New Zealand shall be ‘Fancy Class 1’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the grade’).”

5. Definition of Produce—The grade applies to dessert and culinary apples and pears being fresh fruit grown from the varieties of *Pyrus malus* L. and *Pyrus communis* L. to be supplied fresh to the consumer.

6. Provisions Concerning Quality

At the despatching stage, after preparation and packaging, the following provisions will apply in respect of the quality required of apples and pears:

- (a) The apples and pears must be;
- free from pests and diseases and meet any quarantine and other legal requirements of the importing country;
 - intact, whole fruit;
 - sound;
 - clean;
 - reasonably well formed—typical of variety and not more than slightly misshapen;

- free from abnormal external moisture;
- free of foreign smell or taste.

- (b) The apples and pears must have been carefully picked and of a similar degree of maturity and colouring in the same line of produce. They must have matured sufficiently to complete the ripening process and able to withstand handling, storage and transport to meet the market requirements at the place of destination.
- (c) The apples and pears must be of good quality and have characteristics typical of the particular variety and be free of defects which:
- (i) may significantly impair the general appearance or keeping quality of the fruit; or
 - (ii) are likely to make the fruit unattractive to the purchaser.
- (d) The flesh must be sound, but each fruit is permitted a slight defect of shape, development or colouring and skin defects of a superficial nature within the limits specified in the Second Schedule to this notice.
- (e) The colouring criteria for apples and russet allowances for apples and pears are specified in the Second Schedule to this notice.

7. Provisions Concerning Sizing

- (a) Sizing of apples and pears is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section. The difference in diameter of apples and pears in the same package shall not exceed 5 mm.
- (b) The minimum diameter sizes of apples and pears for export shall be:
- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Apples: | mm |
| Cox's Orange Pippin | 55 |
| All other varieties | 60 |
| Pears: | mm |
| Large fruited varieties such as Williams' Bon
Chretien and Packham's Triumph .. | 55 |
| Elongated varieties such as Beurre Bosc | 50 |
| Small fruited varieties such as Winter Cole and
Winter Nelis | 50 |

8. Packaging and Presentation

- (a) Packaging and Presentation must be performed in accordance with general requirements of this Notice and with the specific requirements of the Third Schedule to this Notice.
- (b) The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only apples or pears:
- (i) grown in the same region;
 - (ii) of similar quality;
 - (iii) of one variety true to name; and
 - (iv) be of a similar degree of maturity.
- (c) The apples and pears shall not be deceptively packed or stacked and must be packed in clean new packages suitable for transport and handling so that they will not be damaged in transit. Any paper or other material used inside the package must be new and harmless to human food. When printed material is used the printing must be on the outside only so as not to come into contact with the fruit. The fruit must be free of foreign bodies such as leaves and twigs.

9. Provisions Concerning Marking

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

- Identification—registered mark of grower of packing establishment and New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board identification;
- Nature of produce—kind and variety;

- Country of origin—New Zealand;
- Packing date code—registering the date of packing;
- Commercial specification—grade, count or size.

Labels, if used, must not be less than 40 square centimetres.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Definition of Terms

- 'Clean' means free from dirt, dust, insect stains or other foreign substance or material;
- 'Count' means the number of fruit contained in any package;
- 'To pack' means to arrange fruit regularly and compactly in a package so that they are not loose or compressed to an extent likely to cause damage to the fruit during handling or transport;
- 'Package' includes any portable receptacle in which fruit are cased, covered, enclosed, contained or packed;
- Note:* for apples and pears packed for export; 'package' means a traycarton, single tray or bulk bin; 'tray carton' means a New Zealand apple or pear carton supplied by the Board and consists of the standard apple traycarton, heavy duty apple traycarton, standard pear traycarton and Beurre Bosc carton.
- 'Sound' means free from decay, rots, overmaturity, breakdown, freezing injury, damage and similar defects which may cause rapid loss of condition or rapid decay;
- 'Storage defects' means decay, storage scald, fungal rots, wilt, or other injury to fruit as a result of storage.

SECOND SCHEDULE

1. Allowance for Skin Defects

Other than the Granny Smith variety of apples each apple and pear is allowed skin defects with the following limits, provided that the aggregate area of all defects, when two or more are present, shall not exceed 1 square centimetre:

- (a) Skin blemish and defects of a superficial nature caused by limb or leaf rub, hail or similar causes provided that the total area affected does not exceed 1 square centimetre.
For the Granny Smith variety, the total number of apples with skin blemish and defects in any one carton packed for export shall not exceed 75%.
- (b) Spots or speckles of a superficial nature caused by spray, lenticel spot, or similar causes provided that the total area affected does not exceed 1/4 square centimetre.
- (c) Superficial healed shallow cracks, scars, or similar defects of an elongated nature permitted in the stem cavity only provided the total length does not exceed 1 centimetre.

2. Colouring Criteria for Apples

- (a) Each apple of each variety is required to display on the surface of each fruit, the minimum percentage of full characteristic red colour listed against the variety in the following table.

	Minimum Colour Percentage
<i>Solid Reds</i>	
Premier Red:	75
Oregon Red, Red Chief, authorised blocks of Harold Red with bold stripes on red background.	
Red Delicious:	
Block Red	60
Bold Stripe	100
or a combination of both.	
Democrat, Red Dougherty, Red Jonathan, Richard, Regal and all other solid reds	50

Variety	Minimum Colour Percentage
<i>Partial Reds</i>	
Splendour	50
Braeburn	40
All other partial reds	25
<i>Striped Varieties</i>	
Cox's Orange Pippin	10
Fuji	33
Gala	24
Royal Gala	66
All other striped varieties	10
<i>Yellow on Green Varieties</i>	
These varieties must be reasonably even in colouring.	
Sturmer	Colour showing

3. Russeting Allowance for Apples and Pears

- (a) Patches of russet typical of the variety of fruit are permitted:
 - (i) on each apple within the stem and calyx cavities; or
 - (ii) on each pear within the calyx cavity.
- (b) Each apple or pear may also have smooth solid patches of russet on each variety up to a maximum percentage of the fruit surface area listed against that variety in the following table.

Variety	Maximum Percentage of Russet
<i>(i) Apples:</i>	
Cox's Orange Pippin, Sturmer Pippin with a bronze blush or colour showing	30
Braeburn, Fuji, Gala, Royal Gala, Regal, Dougherty, Richared, Splendour, Premier Red, Democrat ..	10
Golden Delicious, Granny Smith Red Jonathan	5
<i>(ii) Pears:</i>	
Clear skinned pear varieties such as Packham's Triumph, Clapps Favourite, Doyenne Du Comice, William Bon Chretien, and Louise Bonne de Jersey	25
Russet susceptible pear varieties such as Beurre Bosc, Winter Cole, Winter Nelis, and P. Barry	100

- (c) On all apple varieties, with the exception of Cox's Orange Pippin and Sturmer Pippin then net-like or tracery russet is permitted provided:

- (i) it does not contrast strongly with the general colouring of the fruit; and
- (ii) the aggregate area of thin net-like russet alone or in combination with solid patches of smooth russet does not exceed the maximum percentage specified in the table to clause 3 (b) of the Second Schedule to this notice, and is not spread over more than 20 percent of the surface of the fruit.

On Cox's Orange Pippin, and Sturmer Pippin, and all pear varieties there is no restriction of the percentage of the fruit surface area carrying thin net-like russet.

THIRD SCHEDULE

Cartons

Packages that apples and pears for export will be packed in are the traycartons supplied by the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board (comprising standard apple traycartons, heavy duty apple traycartons, standard pear

traycartons and Beurre Bosc cartons) single trays and bulk bins.

Traycarton Weights

To overcome excessive overfill and underfill, and associated bruising, gross carton weights must fall within the following weight ranges:

	Minimum Gross	Maximum Gross
Standard size carton		
Golden Delicious/Red Jonathon	19.5kg	20.5kg
Standard size carton		
All other apple varieties	20.0kg	21.0kg
Standard size carton		
All pear varieties	20.0kg	21.0kg
Heavy duty cartons		
Golden Delicious	20.0kg	21.0kg
Heavy duty cartons		
All other varieties	20.5kg	21.5kg

The material components of a heavy duty carton weigh 0.5kg above that of a standard size carton.

Heavy Duty Cartons

These will be utilised only in Hawke's Bay and Nelson.

Granny Smith—Counts 72—80—88—both regions.

Sharbatly—total shipment—both regions.

Gala and Royal Gala—Counts 80—88—100—Hawke's Bay and Nelson.

Variety and Size Range

The following are the varieties and count (fruits per carton) range accepted by the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board for export in the respective regions:

Shipping Mark	Variety	Auck	Gis	Hawkes Bay	Nelson Marl.	Cantby/Otago
35	Braeburn	—	—	72-198	72-198	—
01	Cox's Orange	—	—	88-198	88-198	88-198
41	Coromandel Red	—	—	80-163	80-163	—
34	Democrat	—	—	80-150	80-150	—
03	Dougherty	—	—	100-175	100-175	—
33	Red Dougherty	—	—	100-198	100-198	—
63	Fuji	—	—	64-198	64-198	—
36	Gala	—	—	80-198	80-198	80-198
39	Royal Gala	—	—	80-198	80-198	80-198
49	Regal	—	—	80-198	80-198	—
04	Golden Delicious	—	—	88-163	88-163	88-163
02	Granny Smith	64-175	64-175	65-198	64-198	64-198
16	KOR	—	—	113-163	—	—
66	Premier Red	—	—	64-198	—	64-198
66	Red Delicious F	—	64-198	64-198	64-198	64-198
55	Red Jonathan	—	—	113-163	—	—
18	Richared	—	—	100-198	100-198	—
37	Spartan	—	—	100-175	—	100-175
08	Sturmer	—	—	100-163	—	100-163
23	B Bosc	—	—	70-150	70-150	—
22	Packhams T	—	—	64-150	64-150	—

**KOR FROM MARLBOROUGH ONLY

Packing Requirements

The following are the export packing requirements for apples:

Braeburn ..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Cox's Orange	(Top layer diagonal plain wraps (and perforated polyliner
Democrat ..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Dougherty	} Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Red Dougherty	
Fuji	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Gala	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Golden Delicious	Top layer diagonal plain wraps and perforated polyliner
Granny Smith*	Fully wrapped oil wraps
Kidd's Orange Red	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Premier Red ..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Red Delicious	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Red Jonathan	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Regal	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Richared ..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps

Royal Gala	..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Spartan	..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps
Sturmer	..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps and perforated polyliner
Other apples	..	Top layer diagonal plain wraps

*Export Granny Smith which have been drenched with DPA are to be wrapped top layer diagonal plan.

Friday Tray Schedule

The following are the Friday tray requirements for apples and pears packed in traycartons. Friday trays for export packing are provided by the NewZealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board for all counts (and where necessary A and B trays within a count):

APPLE TRAYCARTON SCHEDULE

Apple Count	No of layers per carton	Trays* per carton	
		A	B
64	4	2(+C)	— 2
72	4	Reversible	
80	4	2(+C)	— 2
88	4	Reversible	
100	5	Reversible	
113	5	3(+C)	— 2
125	5	Reversible	
138	5	3(+C)	— 2
150	5	Reversible	
163	5	3(+C)	— 2
175	5	Reversible	
198	6	Reversible	

PEAR TRAYCARTON SCHEDULE

Pear Count	Layers per carton	Tray Count	Trays* per carton	
			A	B
64	4	64	2(+C)	— 2
72	4	72	Reversible	
80	4	100	Reversible	
90	4	113	2	— 2(+C)
100	4	125	Reversible	
110	4	138	2	— 2(+C)
120	4	150	Reversible	
130	4	163	2	— 2(+C)
140	4	175	Reversible	
150	5	150	Reversible	
165	5	198	Reversible	
180	5	216	3	— 2(+C)

*NOTES:



1. B trays are identified in addition to a stamped "B" with orange paint mark on edge of trays.
2. All traypacks must have a capper tray covering the top layer of fruit. (+C) denotes tray type to be used for capper in packs with A and B trays.
3. Reversible trays—only one size tray used for these counts but the position of the alternative trays is reversed.
4. The bottom tray in the carton must always be an A tray.

FRUIT PLACEMENT—APPLES

Good, even presentation of fruits is vital and is an important feature which must be achieved in packed fruit. Packers should be encouraged to ensure that on the top layer of coloured varieties the more highly coloured side of the apple is facing upwards.

It is essential that fruit be packed in such a way as to ensure that it is suitably protected.

A special tolerance shall be applied for this purpose and any line found with more than 10 per cent out of placement shall be segregated from export.

The following directions on fruit placement are to be observed.

<i>Apples</i>	Cox's Orange Democrat Spartan	} PACKED ON THE FLAT WITH CALYX UP
	Sturmer	
	All Other Varieties	PACKED ON THE CHEEK WITH STEMS ALL POINTING TOWARDS THE SAME END OF THE CARTON.

PACKING REQUIREMENTS EXPORT PEARS

Beurre Bosc	Carton	<i>Export</i> Fully wrapped plain Perforated polyliner Special Bosc carton No trays
Packham's Triumph	Traycarton	Fully wrapped plain Perforated polyliner

FRUIT PLACEMENT—PEARS

All traypacked pears must be placed diagonally to avoid stems overlapping adjacent cups.

Dated at Wellington this 1st day of December 1987.

R. E. W. ELLIOTT,
for Director-General of Agriculture and Fisheries in exercise of powers delegated to me under section 10 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Act 1953.

*S.R. 1975/57

4