

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT: This version of the standard layout is based on document TRADE/WP.7/2000/11/Add.19. It includes the changes adopted at the 59th session of the Working Party. Editorial corrections to align the English and French versions have been included 2004.

STANDARD LAYOUT FOR UNECE STANDARDS
concerning the marketing and commercial quality control of

DRY AND DRIED PRODUCE

NOTE by the secretariat: In the text the following conventions are used:

- { text } : For text which explains the use of the standard layout. This text does not appear in the standard.
< text > : For optional texts or text for which several alternatives exist depending on the products.

UNECE STANDARD DF-...
concerning the marketing and
commercial quality control of

...

I. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This standard applies to of varieties (cultivars) grown from{Latin botanical reference, followed where necessary by the author's name } intended for direct consumption.

<It does not apply to for industrial processing or for use in the food industry.>¹

<It does apply to for industrial processing or for use in the food industry.>¹

II. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

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

¹ {One or the other of these sentences (or neither) could be used according to the nature of the produce. }

A. Minimum requirements

(i) General provisions

In all classes subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed² the must be:

(a) Characteristics of the shell {only applicable to dry fruit presented in the shell}

- intact; slight superficial damage is not considered as a defect
- sound; free from defects likely to affect the natural keeping quality of the fruit
- clean; practically free of any visible foreign matter
- dry; free from abnormal external moisture
- free from residue of husk
- free of damage caused by pests.

{additional provisions may be added depending on the nature of the produce }

(b) Characteristics of the edible part of the dry fruit in the shell or the dried fruit

- sufficiently dry to ensure keeping quality,
- intact; slight superficial damage is not considered as a defect,
{Individual standards may provide that the produce need not be intact, depending on the nature of the produce and its intended presentation.}
- sound; produce affected by rotting or deterioration such as to make it unfit for consumption is excluded
- sufficiently <normally> developed, and/or ripe,
- clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter; {provisions may be made for the use of flour, sugar, salt or other permitted substances according to the nature of the product},
- free from insects or mites whatever their stage of development;
- free of damage caused by pests;
- free from mould,
- free from rancidity,
- <free of fermentation>,
- free of abnormal external moisture,
- free of foreign smell and/or taste.

{additional provisions may be added depending on the nature of the produce }

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

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

² {This section will specify which of the minimum requirements are not subject to tolerances. }

(ii) **Moisture content**

The shall have a moisture content not exceeding³ per cent. ⁴

(iii) **Preservatives**

Preservatives may be used in accordance with the legislation of the importing country.

B. Classification

..... are classified in two <or three> classes defined below:

(i) **"Extra" Class**

..... in this class must be of superior quality. They must be characteristic of the variety and/or commercial type.

They must be:

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-
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{The provisions depend on the nature of the produce. In the case of dry fruit in the shell these provisions may refer to the shell and to the kernels separately. }

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**

..... in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety and/or commercial type.

³ {For inshell dry fruit different values can be fixed for the whole fruit and the edible part. }

⁴ {The method to be used should be one of the methods tested collaboratively and shown to give satisfactory results in inter-laboratory trials and which are given in Annexes I and II for dried and dry fruit. The laboratory reference method shall be used in cases of dispute. }

They must be:

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{The provisions depend on the nature of the produce. In the case of dry fruit in the shell these provisions may refer to the shell and to the kernels separately. }

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

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(iii) ***Class II***

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

They must be:

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{The provisions depend on the nature of the produce. In the case of dry fruit in the shell these provisions may refer to the shell and to the kernels separately. }

The following defects are allowed provided the retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, keeping quality and presentation.

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III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size <or screen> {if applied} is determined by {requirements to be established according to the nature of the produce and/or the class}.

{Provisions on minimum and maximum sizes and size range depending on the nature of produce, the variety, the commercial type and the classes.}

IV. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

Tolerances in respect of quality and size shall be allowed in each package (or in each lot for produce presented in bulk) for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

A. Quality tolerances

| Defects allowed ⁵ | Tolerances allowed (per cent by number or weight of defective fruit) | | |
|--|---|---------|----------|
| | Extra | Class I | Class II |
| 1 . {For dry fruit presented in shell} | | | |
| a) Total tolerances for defects of the shell Individual defects of the shell (list) | | | |
| b) Total tolerances for defects of the edible part Individual defects of the edible part (list) | | | |
| 2 . {For edible part of dry fruit and dried fruits} | | | |
| Total tolerances Individual defects (list) | | | |

⁵ *Standard definitions of the defects are listed in Annex III.*

B. Mineral impurities

{Where the nature of the produce requires it, a tolerance for mineral impurities shall be allowed.}

Ashes insoluble in acid must not exceed 1g/kg.

C. Size tolerances

For all classes per cent, by number or weight, of products not according to the size indicated on the marking <but meeting to the size range immediately above and/or below the size indicated>{depending on the nature of the product}

{When the size is given in terms of a range of numbers of fruit per unit weight, special provision can be made in the specific standard if necessary. The standard may also prescribe a tolerance in relation to the minimum size.}

V. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

A. Uniformity

The contents of each package (or lot for produce presented in bulk) must be uniform and contain only of the same origin, quality and size (if sized). {In addition, for individual standards, uniformity concerning variety and/or commercial type may be laid down depending on the nature of produce. }

{Other possible provisions depending on the nature of produce }

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The visible part of the contents of the package (or lot for produce presented in bulk) must be representative of the entire contents. <For “Extra” Class and Class I the produce must be of the same variety and/or commercial type.> {In addition, depending on the nature of the produce, the standard may require that the produce shall be of the same crop year, shape and/or colour. }

B. Packaging

..... 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 that the printing or labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

Packages (or lot if the produce is presented in bulk) must be free of all foreign matter.

C. Presentation

{Specific provisions relating to the presentation of the produce may be included at this point.}

VI. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING

Each package ⁶ must bear the following particulars in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked and visible from the outside:

<For transported in bulk these particulars must appear on a document accompanying the goods and be attached in a visible position inside the transport vehicle.>

A. Identification

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Packer |) | Name and address or |
| and/or |) | officially issued or |
| Dispatcher |) | accepted code mark ⁷ |

B. Nature of produce

- Name of the produce;
- Name of the variety and/or commercial type {according to the nature of the produce}
- Type or style {according to the definitions of the standard}

C. Origin of produce

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

D. Commercial specifications

- Class;
- Size (if sized);
- Crop year {according to the nature of the produce};
- Net weight, or the number of pre-packages, followed by the net unit weight in the case of packages containing such units (optional or at the request of the importing country).
- "Best before" followed by the date (optional)

E. Official control mark (optional)

⁶ *Package units of produce prepacked for direct sale to the consumer shall not be subject to these marking provisions but shall conform to national requirements. However the markings referred to shall in any event be shown on the transport packaging containing such package units.*

⁷ *The national legislation of a number of European countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. 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 I

DETERMINATION OF THE MOISTURE CONTENT FOR DRIED FRUITS

METHOD 1 - LABORATORY REFERENCE METHOD

1. Scope and application

This reference method serves to determine the moisture for dried fruits, as dried or desiccated apricots, figs, prunes, dates, grapes, apples, pears, etc.

2. Reference

This method is based on the method prescribed by AOAC: AOAC Official Method 934.06 - Moisture in Dried Fruits.

3. Definition

Moisture content for dried fruits: conventionally, loss in mass measured under the operating conditions specified in AOAC Official Method 934.06. The moisture content is expressed as percentage by mass (grams per 100 grams).

4. Principle

Determination of the moisture content of a test portion by drying in an oven 6 h at $70 \pm 1^\circ \text{C}$ under pressure ≤ 100 mm Hg (13.3 kPa).

5. Apparatus (see AOAC Official Method 934.06)

- 5.1 Analytical balance sensitive to 1 mg or better.
- 5.2 Mechanical mill or food chopper.
- 5.3 Non-corrosive metal dish, provided with well-fitting lid, about 8.5 cm of diameter, allowing the test portion to be spread to about 0.2 g/cm^2 or less.
- 5.4 Electric vacuum oven with thermostatic control capable of being regulated in normal operation at $70 \pm 1^\circ \text{C}$ under pressure ≤ 100 mm Hg (13.3 kPa.).
- 5.6 Desiccator containing an effective desiccant.
- 5.7 Steam-bath

6. Procedure

Follow the operating conditions as specified in AOAC Official Method 934.06 for Moisture in Dried Fruits, with the following additional specifications, concerning the preparation of the test sample:

Homogenize the laboratory sample and take a minimum of 100 g of dried fruits as a test sample. With non-pitted stone fruits (apricots, prunes, peaches, dates, etc), remove the stones using the rest as a test sample.

Grind or chop the test sample to obtain small particles, using either a mechanical mill or food chopper, without overheating the product, or cut and grind by hand if necessary, using knife, scissors, mortar and pestle or similar.

Use 5.0 to 10 g of the ground or chopped product as a test portion. Mix the test portion with circa 2 g of finely divided glass fiber filter or of washed sand, with the help of a spatula, and weigh to the nearest 0,001 g.

When necessary, moisten the test portion and the glass fiber filter or the washed sand with a few milliliters of water, mix thoroughly with the help of the spatula, and heat the open dish on the steam-bath to near dryness, before complete the drying in the vacuum oven.

Carry out two determinations on the same test sample.

7. Expression of results and test report

The moisture content, W , as percentage by mass of the sample (grams per 100 grams), is equal to:

$$W = \frac{M_1 - M_2}{M_1 - M_0} \times 100$$

where

M_0 is the mass, in grams, of the dish and lid. ^{1, 2, 3}

M_1 is the mass, in grams, of the dish and lid, and the test portion before drying. ^{1, 2}

M_2 is the mass, in grams, of the dish and lid, and the test portion after drying. ^{1, 2}

Take as a result the arithmetic mean of the results of the two determinations, if the difference between the results is smaller than 0.2%. The result has to be reported to one decimal place.

The test report shall show the method used and the results obtained. It shall mention any operating details not specified or optional, and incidents, likely to have influenced the results. It shall also include all the information necessary for the complete identification of the sample.

8. Repeatability

The difference between the results of two determinations carried out simultaneously or in rapid succession by the same analyst, using the same apparatus and in the same laboratory, should not be greater than 0.2 g of moisture per 100 g of sample.

¹ Weigh to the nearest 0.001 g

² In case, plus the glass fibre or washed sand, and spatula

³ After heating on the oven for 2 hours and cooling in the desiccator

METHOD 2: RAPID METHOD

1. Scope and application

This rapid method serves to determine the moisture for dried fruits. ⁴

2. Reference

This method is based on the method prescribed by AOAC: AOAC Official Method 972.20 - Moisture in Prunes and Raisins (Moisture Meter Method). This method is also commonly used as unofficial method for the determination of moisture content in other kinds of dried fruits.

3. Definition

Moisture content for dried fruits: conventionally, correlation between moisture content and conductance-temperature measured under the operating conditions specified in AOAC Official Method 972.20. The moisture content is expressed as percentage by mass (grams per 100 grams).

4. Principle

Determination of the conductance and temperature of a test portion by the moisture tester meter and under the operating conditions specified in AOAC Official Method 972.20. The moisture tester meter has to be calibrated according to the laboratory method, for each kind of dried fruit, taken into account the variety or commercial type and the type of presentation (whole, pitted, slabs, dices, etc) and, when necessary, the crop year and/or the origin.

5. Apparatus (see AOAC Official Method 972.20)

- 5.1 Moisture tester meter type A series.
- 5.2 Thermometer (if not incorporated to the moisture tester meter).
- 5.3 Mechanical mill or food chopper.

6. Procedure

Follow the operating conditions as specified in AOAC Official Method 972.20 - Moisture in Prunes and Raisins (Moisture Meter Method).

Carry out the determination on two test portions

7. Expression of results and test report

7.1 Result

The result should be the arithmetic mean of the two determinations. Report the result to one decimal place.

7.2 Test report

The test report must state the method used and the results obtained. The report must contain all the information necessary for the complete identification of the sample.

⁴ *It is also possible to employ other rapid methods based on different conductance methods, or on the principle of loss of mass by heating with apparatus including an halogen or infra-red lamp and a built-in analytical balance, always at condition that the method and the apparatus has to be calibrated according the laboratory method.*

ANNEX II**DETERMINATION OF THE MOISTURE CONTENT FOR DRY FRUIT****METHOD 1 - LABORATORY REFERENCE METHOD****1. Scope and application**

This reference method serves to determine the moisture and volatile matter content for both inshell nuts and shelled nuts (kernels).

2. Reference

This method is based on the method prescribed by ISO: ISO 665-2000 Oilseeds - Determination of moisture and volatile matter content.

3. Definition

Moisture content and volatile matter content for dry produce (inshell nuts and shelled nuts): loss in mass measured under the operating conditions specified in ISO 665-2000 for oilseeds of medium size (see point 7.3 of ISO 665-2000). The moisture content is expressed as mass fraction, in percent, of the mass of the initial sample.

For whole nuts, when moisture content is expressed both on the whole nut and on the kernel, in cases of dispute between the two values, the moisture content value of the whole nut takes precedence.

4. Principle

Determination of the moisture and volatile matter content of a test portion by drying at $103 \pm 2^\circ \text{C}$ in an oven at atmospheric pressure, until practically constant mass is reached.

5. Apparatus (see ISO 665-2000 for more details)

- 5.1 Analytical balance sensitive to 1 mg or better.
- 5.2 Mechanical mill.
- 5.3 3 mm round-holes sieve.
- 5.4 Glass, porcelain or non-corrosive metal containers, provided with well-fitting lids, allowing the test portion to be spread to about 0.2 g/cm^2 (approximately 5 mm height).
- 5.5 Electric oven with thermostatic control capable of being regulated between 101 and 105°C in normal operation.
- 5.6 Desiccator containing an effective desiccant.

6. Procedure

Follow the operating conditions as specified in ISO 665-2000 for oilseeds of medium size (point 7 and 7.3 of ISO 665-2000), but with the following specific modifications, concerning the preparation of the test sample.

Although ISO 665-2000 sets up one initial period of 3 hours in the oven set at $103 \pm 2^\circ \text{C}$, for nuts it is recommended one initial period of 6 hours.

6.a Determination of the moisture and volatile matter content of kernels:

For shelled nuts, homogenize the laboratory sample and take a minimum of 100 g of kernels as a test sample.

For inshell nuts, take a minimum of 200 g and, using a nutcracker or hammer, remove the shells and fragments or particles of shell, using the rest as a test sample. The kernel skin (cuticle or spermoderm) is included in the test sample.

Grind and sieve the test sample until the size of the particles obtained is no greater than 3 mm. During the grinding operation, care should be taken to avoid the production of a paste (oily flour), the overheating of the sample and the consequent loss of moisture content (for example, if using a mechanical food chopper, by successive very short grinding and sieving operations).

Spread evenly over the base of the vessel about 10 g of the ground product as a test portion, replace the lid, and weigh the whole vessel. Carry out two determinations on the same test sample.

6.b Determination of moisture and volatile matter content on whole nuts (shell plus kernel):

Remove all the foreign matter (dust, stickers, etc.) from the test sample. Homogenize the laboratory sample and take a minimum of 200 g of nuts as a test sample.

Grind the whole nuts using either a Rass Mill, a Romer Mill or a Brabender apparatus or similar, without overheating the product.

Spread evenly over the base of the vessel about 15 g of the ground product as a test portion, replace the lid, and weigh the whole vessel. Carry out two determinations on the same test sample.

7. Expression of results and test report

Follow all the instructions as specified in ISO 665-2000 (point 9 and 11) for method of calculation and formulae, and for test report, without any modification. ¹

8. Precision

For conditions of repeatability and reproducibility apply specifications of ISO 665-2000 (point 10.2 and 10.3) for soya beans.

¹ The main points specified are as follows:

- moisture and volatile matter content is expressed as mass fraction, in percent, of the mass of the initial sample.
- The result is the arithmetic mean of the two determinations; the difference between the two determinations should not exceed 0.2 % (mass fraction).
- The result has to be reported to one decimal place.

METHOD 2: RAPID METHOD

1. Principle

Determination of the moisture content using a measuring apparatus based on the principle of loss of mass by heating. The apparatus should include a halogen or infra-red lamp and a built-in analytical balance, calibrated according to the laboratory method.

The use of apparatus based on the principle of electrical conductivity or resistance, as Moisture Meters, Moisture Testers and similar, is also allowed always at condition that the apparatus has to be calibrated according with the laboratory reference method for the tested product.

2. Apparatus

- 2.1 Mechanical mill or food chopper.
- 2.2 3 mm round-holes sieve (unless indicated otherwise by the instructions for use of the apparatus).
- 2.3 Halogen or infrared lamp with built-in analytical balance sensitive to 1 mg or better.

3. Procedure

3.1 Preparation of sample

Follow the same instructions as given for the laboratory reference method (points 6.a and 6.b), unless indicated otherwise by the instructions for use of the apparatus, particularly with regard to the diameter of the fragments.

3.2 Determination of moisture content

Carry out the determination on two test portions of approximately 5 to 10 g each, unless indicated otherwise by the instructions for use of the apparatus.

Spread the test portion over the base of the test receptacle, thoroughly cleaned in advance, and note the weight of the test portion to within 1 mg.

Follow the procedure indicated in the instructions for use of the apparatus for the product to be tested, in particular with regard to the adjusting of temperatures, the duration of the test and the recording of the weight readings.

4. Expression of results

4.1 Result

The result should be the arithmetic mean of the two determinations, provided that the conditions of repeatability (4.2) are satisfied. Report the result to one decimal place.

4.2 Repeatability

The difference in absolute value between the respective results of the two determinations performed simultaneously or one immediately after the other by the same operator, under the same conditions on identical test material, must not exceed 0.2%.

5. Test report

The test report must state the method used and the results obtained. The report must contain all information necessary for the full identification of the sample.

ANNEX III

**RECOMMENDED TERMS AND DEFINITION OF DEFECTS
FOR STANDARDS OF DRY FRUITS (INSHELL NUTS AND NUT KERNELS)
AND DRIED FRUITS**

1. Recommended terms

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Kernel:</i> | edible part of the inshell nuts, corresponding to the seed of the dry fruit, provided with an outerskin or integument (testa or episperm). |
| <i>Peeled kernel (blanched):</i> | nut kernel with its outerskin or integument removed. |
| <i>Hull:</i> | inedible fleshy part of the inshell nuts that covers the shell, and has to be removed before packing the produce. |
| <i>Shell:</i> | inedible woody part of the inshell nuts that protect the kernel, corresponding to the endocarp (drupes), the pericarp (nutlets) or the testa (strobilus or cone-like fruit). |
| <i>Stone (pit):</i> | inedible part of dried drupes corresponding to the endocarp and the seed of the fruit. |
| <i>Direct consumption:</i> | produce which will reach the consumer in its present state, without undergoing any treatment other than conditioning or packaging; operations such as sorting, selection, sizing and mixing shall not be considered as processing. |
| <i>Processing:</i> | operation distinct from conditioning or packaging which involves a substantial modification of the product or its form of presentation, such as decorticating (shelling), peeling (blanching), grilling or roasting, or the manufacture of sticks, pastes or flour, etc. |
| <i>Food industry:</i> | any other operation involving either the manufacture of derived food products (oils, flavourings, seasonings, etc.) or the use of the produce as an ingredient in the manufacture of various food products. |
| <i>Clean:</i> | produce which is practically free from any adhering foreign material and any visible adhering dirt. |
| <i>Sufficiently dry or dried:</i> | inshell nut, nut kernel or dried fruit which, as a result of its own development or of natural or artificial systems of drying, has attained a moisture content that ensures its keeping quality. {the maximum moisture content should normally be indicated in relation with this subject} |
| <i>Natural drying:</i> | loss of moisture achieved solely by aeration and/or ambient heat, without the use of external heat sources, desiccants or dehydrating substances. |

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|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Ripe:</i> | inshell nut, nut kernel or dried fruit which has reached sufficient maturity, account being taken of its nature and final use. {where appropriate, information concerning minimum sugar content, acidity, minimum coloration, stage of development, etc., may be provided} |
| <i>Preservative:</i> | additive which prolongs the shelf-life of food products by protecting them against deterioration caused by micro-organisms or biological alterations. |
| <i>Sizing:</i> | action and result of grading inshell nuts, nut kernels or dried fruits with reference to its size, weight or volume; it is defined by a range of grades or intervals determined by a minimum size and a maximum size, which may be variously expressed in terms of the diameter of the equatorial section, the maximum diameter, the unit weight, the number of fruits per unit of weight, etc. |
| <i>Screening:</i> | action and result of grading inshell nuts, nut kernels or dried fruits with reference to a predetermined minimum or maximum size; it may be expressed by mentioning the minimum size followed by the words “or above” or the maximum size followed by the words “and less”. |
| <i>Commercial type:</i> | inshell nuts, nut kernels or dried fruits which belong to different varieties that have similar technical characteristics and/or appearance, which belong to a similar varietal type, or which belong to a mix of varieties officially defined by the producing country. {when appropriate, select the more precise specification} |
| <i>Lot:</i> | quantity of a product which, at the time of control, presents uniform characteristics as regards the identity of the packer or dispatcher, the nature of the product and its origin, the commercial grade, type of packaging and presentation of the product and, where applicable, the variety and/or commercial type, the size or screen and the colour. |

2. Definition of defects

(a) Generic definitions

Slight defect or damage: defect or combination of defects which impairs the appearance of the product, including in particular slight superficial defects as blemishes, staining, scars, bruises, areas of discoloration, torn skin, mechanical injuries, sun-scald, etc., provided that they don't affect significantly the edibility, the keeping quality or the commercial quality of the product.

Serious defect or damage: defect or combination of defects which seriously impairs the appearance of the product, or which significantly affects its edibility, keeping quality or commercial quality, including in particular defects as mould, decay, insect damage, rancidity, abnormal taste, very apparent dirt, crushing or serious mechanical injuries, excess of moisture, etc.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Intrinsic defect:</i> | abnormality with regard to the characteristics of mature and properly handled fruits, including immaturity, insufficient development, misshapen, germination, aborted fruits, excessive dehydration or desiccation, etc. |
| <i>Blemish:</i> | noticeable and localized imperfection that significantly impairs the external appearance <of the shell, the kernel or the dried fruit>, from any cause or source, either intrinsic or extrinsic, including staining, dark spots, blotches, scars, hail marks, scabs, blisters, bruises and other similar defects, but excluding blemishes caused by a more serious defect such as mould, decay or damage by pests. {where appropriate, add a definition of what is not considered as a defect and indicate the maximum total or aggregate area allowed per unit} |
| <i>Staining:</i> | apparent and localized alteration of the external colour that significantly impairs the external appearance <of the shell, the kernel or the fruit>, from any cause or source, including dark spots, blotches etc. but excluding staining caused by a more serious defect such as mould, decay or damage by pests. {where appropriate, add a definition of what is not considered as a defect and indicate the maximum total or aggregate area allowed per unit} |
| <i>Discolouration:</i> | significant and widespread change of the typical external or internal colour, from any cause or source, either intrinsic or extrinsic, including in particular blackening and the appearance of very dark colours, but excluding discoloration caused by a more serious defect such as mould, decay or damage by pests. {where appropriate, add a definition of what is not considered as a defect and indicate the maximal total area allowed per unit} |
| <i>Mechanical injuries:</i> | cracks, splits, tears, bruising or any injury affecting a significant part of either the skin, the integument or the shell, or the fruit flesh or the kernel flesh. {where appropriate, add a definition of what is not considered as a defect and indicate the maximum total or aggregate area or length allowed per unit} |
| <i>Damage caused by pests:</i> | visible damage or contamination caused by insects, mites, rodents or other animal pests, including the presence of dead insects, insect debris or excreta. |
| <i>Living pests:</i> | presence of living pests (insects, mites or others) at any stage of development (adult, nymph, larva, egg, etc.). |
| <i>Decay (rotten):</i> | significant decomposition caused by the action of micro-organisms or other biological processes; this is normally accompanied by changes in texture (soft or watery appearance) and/or changes in colour (initial appearance of brownish hues and eventually blackening). |
| <i>Mould:</i> | mould filaments visible to the naked eye, either inside or outside of the fruit or of the kernel. |
| <i>Foreign odour and/or taste:</i> | any odour or taste that is not characteristic of the product. |
| <i>Dirt:</i> | very apparent adhering or embedded dirt, soil, mud or dust, producing a smudgy, smeared, flecked or coated effect, that seriously detracts the appearance of the produce. |

Foreign matter: any visible and/or apparent matter or material not usually associated with the product, except mineral impurities.
{see definitions of extraneous vegetable material}

Abnormal external moisture: presence of water, moisture or condensation, on the surface of the product.

Mineral impurities: ash insoluble in hydrochloric acid.

(b) Specific definitions for nuts (inshell nuts and nut kernels)

Defects of the shell:

Any defects which adversely affect the appearance or the quality of the shell, such as:

Broken shell: broken, split or seriously mechanically damaged shell; the absence of a very small part of the shell or a slight crack shall not be considered as a defect provided that the kernel is still protected.

Mechanically damaged: shells with very apparent mechanical injuries, even if superficial, such as pronounced marks caused by hulling equipment.
{where appropriate, add a definition of what is not considered as a defect and indicate the maximum total or aggregate area or length allowed per unit}

Extraneous vegetable material: harmless vegetable matter associated with the product.

Defects of the kernel:

Any defect which adversely affects the appearance, edibility, keeping quality or quality of the kernel, such as:

Empty or hollow nut: nut in which the kernel has aborted.

Mechanically damaged: kernel which has superficial mechanical lesions (chipped or scratched) or which is incomplete (partially broken), plus halved, split or broken kernels; the absence of a small part of the integument and/or very superficial abrasions or lesions <less than ... mm in diameter or length, and/or up to ... mm deep> shall not be considered as a defect.
{where appropriate, insert specific definitions and tolerances for incomplete, halved, split and broken kernels, and exclude them from the mechanically damaged definition}

Chipped: incomplete, partially split or broken kernel, with less than one third of the whole kernel missing.
{where appropriate, indicate a different proportion or reference and/or add a definition of what is not considered as a defect}
{chipped is an optional definition, as chipped or incomplete kernels can be grouped into the mechanically damaged definition}

Broken: portion of the kernel which is bigger than a piece <but smaller than an incomplete kernel> (<more than one third of the whole kernel is missing but> it does not pass through a ... mm round {or square} meshed sieve).
{where appropriate, indicate a different proportion or reference}

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| <i>Piece:</i> | kernel fragment or small kernel portion of irregular shape that passes through a ... mm round {or square} meshed sieve <but does not pass through a ... mm round {or square} meshed sieve>. {where appropriate, indicate or replace with a different reference} |
| <i>Half:</i> | longitudinally split kernel from which the two cotyledons are separated. {where appropriate, insert specific tolerances for halved or split kernels} |
| <i>Twin or double:</i> | kernel of characteristic shape as a consequence of the development of two kernels in the same shell. {where appropriate, insert specific tolerances for twins or doubles} |
| <i>Insufficiently developed:</i> | kernel which is misshapen, abnormally small or partially aborted, including shrivelled and shrunken kernels. {the shape and size of the kernel may change according to the growing conditions, but not to the extent that the kernel becomes misshapen, shrivelled or shrunken} {where appropriate, insert specific definitions and tolerances for shrivelled or shrunken kernels, and exclude them from the insufficiently developed definition} {for inshell nuts, where appropriate, a reference or specification can be inserted regarding the minimal edible content (edible kernel weight /inshell weight) or the minimal filling of the shell cavity} |
| <i>Shrivelled and shrunken:</i> | kernel which is abnormally wrinkled or flat, and/or desiccated, dried out or tough. |
| <i>Callus:</i> | scar or deformity due to mechanical lesions, viral or bacterial diseases, or physiological causes. |
| <i>Heat damage:</i> | damage caused by excessive heat during drying or processing that significantly affects the flavour, appearance or edibility of the product. |
| <i>Fermentation:</i> | damage by fermenting agents, enzymes or micro-organisms to the extent that the characteristic appearance and/or flavour are substantially affected. |
| <i>Rancidity:</i> | oxidation of lipids or free fatty acid production giving a characteristic disagreeable flavour; an oily appearance of the flesh does not necessarily indicate a rancid condition. |
| <i>Germination:</i> | apparent development of the germ, even if not visible from the outside. |
| <i>Extraneous vegetable material:</i> | harmless vegetable matter associated with the product, such as residues of shell, integument, etc. |

(c) Specific definitions for dried fruit

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| <i>Mechanically damaged:</i> | dried fruit with very apparent mechanical injuries that affect a significant part of the skin or the pulp, such as very noticeable tears or bruises, smashing, crushing, and other similar defects; superficial abrasions or injuries <less than ... mm in diameter or length, up to ... mm deep> shall not be considered as a defect. |
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{in the case of dried fruits from which the stone, pips, peduncle or pedicel have been removed, or cutting into slices, wedges, dices, slabs or pieces, normal mechanical lesions resulting from these operations shall not be considered as defects }

- Heat damage:* damage caused by solar radiation or excessive heat during drying that significantly affects the appearance, flavour or edibility of the product.
- Defect of texture:* dried fruit with non-fleshy parts (hardened, shrivelled or hollow) affecting more than ... of the fruit.
- Callus:* scar or deformity due to mechanical injuries (hail, bruising, abrasion, etc.), viral or bacterial diseases, or physiological causes.
- Fermentation:* damage by fermenting agents, enzymes or micro-organisms to the extent that the characteristic appearance and/or flavour are substantially affected.
- Piece:* fragment or small portion of dried fruit of irregular shape <which passes through a ... mm round meshed sieve> <which is less than ... of the whole dried fruit> {where appropriate, indicate or replace with a different proportion or reference} {where appropriate, standards can consider pieces, cuts, slabs, etc. as types of presentation, and include specifications on its size and shape }
- Extraneous vegetable material:* harmless vegetable matter associated with the product, such as residues of peduncles, pedicels, leaves or seeds.
