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Committee on Trade

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

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Item 4(e) (iv) of the provisional agenda

Revision of UNECE standards

UNECE Standard for Shallots (FFV-56)

Note submitted by the delegation of France

Questions and propositions from France on the interpretation of the standard

Working on the OECD explanatory brochure for shallots, the following questions have been raised to be answered by the UNECE Working Group:

Question:

The “tough stem” defect is regulated in class I only. Does this mean it is allowed in class II or should it be in the minimum requirements of the standard?

Proposition:

This defect could be allowed within the 10% tolerance in class II.

Question:

The defects in colouring are allowed in class II only. What is the limit allowed (size in cm², depth...)?

Proposition:

Only a slight defect in colouring could be allowed in class 1.

Question:

Healed mechanical damage is allowed in class II. What is the limit allowed (size in cm², depth...)?

Proposition:

If the lesions go deeper than the outer skin, they must be small and healed.

Question:

Damage caused by frost or sun. What is the limit allowed?

Proposition:

This type of defect never occurs during production, only during storage. This should not be allowed (limit of 10%).
