UNECE
COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL QUALITY STANDARDS

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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE Commercial Agricultural Quality Standards

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
- Who develops standards?
- How are they developed and for which products?
- Who uses them?
UNECE Commercial Agricultural Quality Standards
UNECE Commercial Agricultural Quality Standards

• Working Party + Specialized Sections
  - Dry and Dried Produce
  - Seed Potatoes
  - Meat
  - Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

• Equal rights for all UN Member States

• 60 years of work
UNECE Commercial Agricultural Quality Standards

- Fruit, vegetables
- Dry produce
- Potatoes
- Meat
- Eggs
- Flowers
Purpose of standards

• Facilitate international trade
• Create market transparency
• Promote quality agricultural products
• Keep unsatisfactory produce out of market
• Improve profitability
• Protect consumers
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Users of standards

- Traders
- Producers
- Consumers
- Inspection services
- Voluntary vs obligatory
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UNECE standards are used by

- EC Regulation 1580/2007
- Codex Alimentarius Committee on FFV
- OECD Scheme
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2008
• 36 UNECE standards in EC regulations

2009
• 10 UNECE standards in EC regulations
• General marketing standard
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Minimum quality requirements (GMS)

- Intact
- Sound; products affected by rotting are excluded
- Clean
- Free from pests
- Free from damage caused by pest
- Free of abnormal external moisture
- Free of any foreign smell and/or taste
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OECD and UNECE Interpretative Brochures

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

- intact:”

Tomatoes must not have any mutilation or injury spoiling the integrity of the produce.

Damaged tomato - Not allowed
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- Help grading
- Reduce risk of rejection
- Resolve disputes

- Countries invited to contribute
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UNECE STANDARD

OVINE MEAT CARCASSES AND CUTS

2006 EDITION
UNECE Commercial Agricultural Quality Standards
Standard for Seed Potatoes

• Unique reference covering all aspects of seed potato certification

• List of Diseases and Pest
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### List of Diseases and Pests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Status in UNECE Standard</th>
<th>Recommended diagnostic method</th>
<th>General disease description</th>
<th>Tuber symptoms</th>
<th>Plant symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potato wart disease</td>
<td>Synchytrium endobioticum</td>
<td>Zero tolerance</td>
<td>Visual observation of tubers and stem base</td>
<td>Tuber: tumours Plant: tumours and galls on stolons and stem base</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Tuber Symptoms" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Plant Symptoms" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **35 Diseases**
- **85 Pictures**

[www.unec.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/PestPicturesE.htm](http://www.unec.org/trade/agr/standard/potatoes/PestPicturesE.htm)
Promotion and capacity-building

- UN Development Account Fund
- Russian Voluntary Contribution Fund
- Other sources of financing

Interested partners
List Servers