

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 543/2011
of 7 June 2011

laying down detailed rules for the application of
Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 in respect of the fruit and
vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables sectors.

CONSOLIDATED TEXT: Annex I; Part 6 of Part B

MARKETING STANDARD FOR PEARS

I. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This standard applies to pears of varieties (cultivars) grown from *Pyrus communis* L. to be supplied fresh to the consumer, pears for industrial processing being excluded.

II. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

The purpose of the standard is to define the quality requirements for pears, after preparation and packaging.

However, at stages following dispatch products may show in relation to the requirements of the standard:

- a slight lack of freshness and turgidity,
- for products graded in classes other than “Extra” Class, a slight deterioration due to their development and their tendency to perish.

A. Minimum requirements

In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, pears 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,
- free from damage caused by pests affecting the flesh,
- free of abnormal external moisture,
- free of any foreign smell and/or taste.

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

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

B. Maturity requirements

The development and state of maturity of the pears must be such as to enable them to continue their ripening process and to reach the degree of ripeness required in relation to the varietal characteristics.

C. Classification

Pears are classified in three classes, as defined below:

(i) "Extra" Class

Pears in this class must be of superior quality. They must be characteristic of the variety¹.

The flesh must be perfectly sound, and the skin free from rough russeting.

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

The stalk must be intact.

Pears must not be gritty.

(ii) Class I

Pears in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety².

The flesh must be perfectly sound.

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,
- slight defects in colouring,

¹ A non-exhaustive list of large fruited and summer pear varieties is included in the appendix to this standard.

² A non-exhaustive list of large fruited and summer pear varieties is included in the appendix to this standard.

- very slight rough russeting,
- slight skin defects which must not extend over more than:
 - 2 cm in length for defects of elongated shape,
 - 1 cm² of total surface area for other defects, with the exception of scab (*Venturia pirina* and *V. inaequalis*), which must not extend over more than 0.25 cm² cumulative in area,
- slight bruising not exceeding 1 cm² in area.

The stalk may be slightly damaged.

Pears must not be gritty.

(iii) Class II

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

The flesh must be free from major defects.

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

- defects in shape,
- defects in development,
- defects in colouring,
- slight rough russeting,
- skin defects which must not extend over more than:
 - 4 cm in length for defects of elongated shape,
 - 2.5 cm² of total surface area for other defects, with the exception of scab (*Venturia pirina* and *V. inaequalis*), which must not extend over more than 1 cm² cumulative in area,
- slight bruising not exceeding 2 cm² in area.

III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined by maximum diameter of the equatorial section or by weight. The minimum size shall be:

(a) For fruit sized by diameter:

	'Extra'	Class I	Class II
Large-fruited varieties	60 mm	55 mm	55 mm
Other varieties	55 mm	50 mm	45 mm

(b) For fruit sized by weight:

	'Extra'	Class I	Class II
Large-fruited varieties	130 g	110 g	110 g
Other varieties	110 g	100 g	75 g

Summer pears included in the appendix to this standard do not have to respect the minimum size.

To ensure the uniformity in size, the range in size between produce in the same package shall not exceed:

(a) For fruit sized by diameter:

- 5 mm for "Extra" Class fruit and for Class I and II fruit packed in rows and layers,
- 10 mm for Class I fruit packed in sales packages or loose in the package.

(b) For fruit sized by weight:

- for "Extra" Class fruit and Class I and II fruit packed in rows and layers:

Range (g)	Weight difference (g)
75 - 100	15
100 - 200	35
200 - 250	50
> 250	80

- for Class I fruit packed in sales packages or loose in the package:

Range (g)	Weight difference (g)
100 - 200	50
> 200	100

There is no sizing uniformity limit for Class II fruit packed in sales packages or loose in the package..

IV. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

At all marketing stages, tolerances in respect of quality and size shall be allowed in each lot for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

A. Quality tolerances

(i) "Extra" Class

A total tolerance of 5 %, by number or weight, of pears not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class I is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 0.5 % in total may consist of produce satisfying the requirements of Class II quality.

(ii) Class I

A total tolerance of 10 %, by number or weight, of pears not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class II is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 1 % in total may consist of produce satisfying neither the requirements of Class II quality nor the minimum requirements, or of produce affected by decay.

(iii) Class II

A total tolerance of 10 %, by number or weight, of pears not satisfying the requirements of the class nor the minimum requirements is allowed. Within this tolerance not more than 2 % in total may consist of produce affected by decay.

B. Size tolerances

For all classes: a total tolerance of 10 %, by number or weight, of pears not satisfying the requirements as regards sizing is allowed, with a maximum variation of:

- 5 mm below the minimum diameter,
- 10 g below the minimum weight.

V. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

A. Uniformity

The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only pears of the same origin, variety, quality, and size (if sized) and the same degree of ripeness.

In the case of the "Extra" Class, uniformity also applies to colouring.

However, a mixture of pears of distinctly different varieties may be packed together in a sales package, provided they are uniform in quality and, for each variety concerned, in origin. Uniformity in size is not required.

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

B. Packaging

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

The materials used inside the package must be 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 or labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

Stickers individually affixed on the produce shall be such that, when removed, they neither leave visible traces of glue, nor lead to skin defects. Information lasered on single fruit should not lead to flesh or skin defects.

Packages must be free of all foreign matter.

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

Name and physical address of the packer and/or the dispatcher (for example: street/city/region/postal code and, if different from the country of origin, the country).

This mention may be replaced:

- for all packages with the exception of pre-packages, by the officially issued or accepted code mark representing the packer and/or the dispatcher, indicated in close connection with the reference "Packer and/or Dispatcher" (or equivalent abbreviations). The code mark shall be preceded by the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the recognising country, if not the country of origin;
- for pre-packages only, by the name and the address of a seller established within the Union indicated in close connection with the mention "Packed for:" or an equivalent mention. In this case, the labelling shall also include a code representing the packer and/or the dispatcher. The seller shall give all information deemed necessary by the inspection body as to the meaning of this code.

B. Nature of produce

- "Pears", if the contents of the package are not visible from the outside.
- Name of the variety. In the case of a mixture of pears of distinctly different varieties, names of the different varieties.

³ These marking provisions do not apply to sales packages presented in packages. However, they do apply to sales packages presented separately.

- The name of the variety can be replaced by a synonym. A trade name⁴ can only be given in addition to the variety or the synonym.

C. Origin of produce

Country of origin⁵ and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties of pears of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the variety concerned.

D. Commercial specifications

- Class.
- Size, or for fruit packed in rows and layers, number of units.
- If identification is by the size, this should be expressed:
 - (a) for produce subject to the uniformity rules, as minimum and maximum diameters or minimum and maximum weights,
 - (b) optionally, for produce not subject to the uniformity rules, as the diameter or the weight of the smallest fruit in the package followed by "and over" or equivalent denomination or, where appropriate, the diameter or the weight of the largest fruit in the package.

E. Official control mark (optional)

Packages need not to bear the particulars mentioned in the first subparagraph, when they contain sales packages, clearly visible from the outside, and all bearing these particulars. These packages shall be free from any indications such as could mislead. When these packages are palletised, the particulars shall be given on a notice placed in an obvious position on at least two sides of the pallet.

⁴ A trade name can be a trade mark for which protection has been sought or obtained or any other commercial denomination.

⁵ The full or commonly used name shall be indicated.

APPENDIX

Non-exhaustive list of large-fruited and summer pear varieties

Small-fruited and other varieties which do not appear in the list may be marketed as long as they meet the size requirements for other varieties as described in section III of the standard.

Some of the varieties listed in the following may be marketed under names for which trade mark protection has been sought or obtained in one or more countries. The first and second columns of the table do not intend to include such trade names. References to known trade marks have been included in the third column for information only.

Legend:

L = Large-fruited variety

SP = Summer pear, for which no minimum size is required.

Variety	Synonyms	Trade marks	Size
Abbé Fétel	Abate Fetel		L
Abug o Siete en Boca			SP
AkVa			SP
Alka			L
Alsa			L
Amfora			L
Alexandrine Douillard			L
Bambinella			SP
Bergamotten			SP
Beurré Alexandre Lucas	Lucas		L
Beurré Bosc	Bosc, Beurré d'Apremont, Empereur Alexandre, Kaiser Alexandre		L
Beurré Clairgeau			L
Beurré d'Arenberg	Hardenpont		L
Beurré Giffard			SP
Beurré précoce Morettini	Morettini		SP
Blanca de Aranjuez	Agua de Aranjuez, Espadona, Blanquilla		SP
Carusella			SP
Castell	Castell de Verano		SP
Colorée de Juillet	Bunte Juli		SP
Comice rouge			L
Concorde			L
Condoula			SP
Coscia	Ercolini		SP

Variety	Synonyms	Trade marks	Size
Curé	Curato, Pastoren, Del cura de Ouro, Espadon de invierno, Bella de Berry, Lombardia de Rioja, Batall de Campana		L
D'Anjou			L
Dita			L
D. Joaquina	Doyenné de Juillet		SP
Doyenné d'hiver	Winterdechant		L
Doyenné du Comice	Comice, Vereinsdechant		L
Erika			L
Etrusca			SP
Flamingo			L
Forelle			L
Général Leclerc		Amber Grace™	L
Gentile			SP
Golden Russet Bosc			L
Grand Champion			L
Harrow Delight			L
Jeanne d'Arc			L
Joséphine			L
Kieffer			L
Klapa Mīlule			L
Leonardeta	Mosqueruela, Margallon, Colorado de Alcandre, Leonarda de Magallon		SP
Lombacad		Cascade®	L
Moscatella			SP
Mramornaja			L
Mustafabey			SP
Packham's Triumph	Williams d'Automme		L
Passe Crassane	Passa Crassana		L
Perita de San Juan			SP
Pérola			SP
Pitmaston	Williams Duchesse		L
Précoce de Trévoux	Trévoux		SP
Président Drouard			L
Rosemarie			L
Santa Maria	Santa Maria Morettini		SP
Spadoncina	Agua de Verano, Agua de Agosto		SP
Suvenirs			L
Taylors Gold			L
Triomphe de Vienne			L

Variety	Synonyms	Trade marks	Size
Vasarine Sviestine			L
Williams Bon Chrétein	Bon Chrétien, Bartlett, Williams, Summer Bartlett		L