



agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Food Safety and Quality Assurance, Private Bag X343, PRETORIA, 0001

## FAX COVER SHEET

TO: All Manufacturers, Packers, Importers, Exporters and Retailers of Frozen Vegetables

Directorate: Inspection Services

The P.P.E.C.B.

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Subject

### DISPENSATION: USE OF ALTERNATIVE PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS FOR FROZEN GREEN PEAS

#### Background

Regulation 33 of the frozen fruit and frozen vegetables regulations (R.727 of 29/05/1998), as well as item 7 of the export standards and requirements for frozen fruit and frozen vegetables (Notice 1468 of 11/10/996, as amended by Notice 549 of 11/05/2007) currently only make provision for the use of the product description "Whole Green Peas". Frozen peas are also only presented for sale on the local market or for export as the style "whole" and is clearly depicted on the packaging as such.

The Department is of the opinion that the use of only one product description for freshly frozen green peas is too restrictive when compared with (a) the canned fresh peas regulation in R.1532 of 24/10/2003, and (b) item 11 of the export standards and requirements for canned vegetables (Notice 1925 of 10/09/2004), where the use of the description "Garden Peas" or "Green Garden Peas" is also allowed. The following dispensation shall therefore apply to frozen green peas:

#### Dispensation

Permission is hereby granted by the Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards in terms of sections 3(1)(c) and 4(4) of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990), to all manufacturers, packers, importers, exporters and retailers of frozen vegetables to –

- (a) also make use of the alternative product description "**Garden Peas**" or "**Green Garden Peas**";  
and
- (b) omit the style descriptor "whole" in the case of frozen whole green peas.

This permission is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) All other conditions of the relevant regulations and export standards and requirements shall be complied with.
- (b) It may be withdrawn at any time should a valid complaint be received.

- (c) All manufacturers, packers, importers, exporters and retailers of frozen vegetables indemnify this Directorate and this Department from any detrimental effect, financially or otherwise, which may emanate as a result of this permission.
- (d) Termination date: When the amendment to the relevant local regulations and notice of the amendment to the relevant export standards and requirements are published in the Government Gazette.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several vertical strokes followed by a horizontal flourish, is written over the printed text. The signature is enclosed in a hand-drawn oval.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER:**  
**AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT 119 OF 1990)**