GOVERNMENT NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

No. R. 899 **4 November 2011**

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990
(ACT No. 119 OF 1990)

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE GRADING, PACKING AND MARKING OF PLUMS AND PRUNES INTENDED FOR SALE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has under section 15 of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990), -

(a) made the regulations in the Schedule;

(b) determined that the said regulations shall come into operation on date of publication; and

(c) read together with section 3(2) of the said Act, repeal the prohibition published by Proclamation No. R22 of 1973 as amended by No. R. 2859 of 29 December 1989, as well as the regulations published by Government Notice No. R. 2120 of 27 October 1978, as amended by regulations published by Government Notices Nos. R. 622 of 28 March 1980, No. R. 998 of 13 May 1983, No. R. 2578 of 15 November 1985 and No. R. 2676 of 19 December 1986 with effect from the said date of commencement.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations, unless inconsistent with the text, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, shall have a corresponding meaning, and --

"**Arthropoda**" means any stage in the life cycle of an invertebrate member of the Animal Kingdom that is bilaterally symmetrical with a segmented body, with jointed limbs that are paired and a chitinous external skeleton;

"**bladderiness**" means a clear breakdown of the whole mesocarp tissue, which is more prominent at the stem end of the plum and prune and leads to extreme soft and juicy fruit;

"**blemish**" means any external skin defect on the surface of the plum and prune that detrimentally affects the appearance of the plum and prune;

"**bruise**" means any bruise which shows an indentation or results in discoloration directly under the skin;

"**chemical residues**" means residues of agricultural remedies which in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947), are permissible for the treatment of pests and diseases and which do not exceed the prescribed maximum residue limit;

"**consignment**" means --

(a) a quantity of plums and prunes of the same cultivar, belonging to the same owner and delivered at the same time under cover of the same delivery note, consignment note or receipt note, or delivered by the same vehicle; or

(b) in the case of a quantity of plums and prunes that is divided into different cultivars, classes, diameter groups, pallet loads, trademarks or types of packaging, every quantity of each of the different cultivars, classes, diameter groups, pallet loads, trademarks or types of packaging;

"**container**" means the immediate container in which plums and prunes are packed directly and the outer container in which prepacked units are packed, excluding prepacked units and shipping containers in which pallet loads are shipped;

"**decay**" means a state of decomposition, fungus development, internal insect infestation or internal insect damage, with signs of tissue collapse or insect excrement, which detrimentally affects the quality of the plums and prunes;

"**diameter**" means the largest diameter measured at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the plum and prune;

"**dirty fruit**" means plums and prunes that are visibly soiled or marked with foreign matter, excluding chemical residues;

"**dry crack**" means any crack that exposes the flesh and which has dried out and is sealed off;

"**foreign matter**" means any material or substance not normally present in, on or between the plums and prunes;

"**gel breakdown**" means gelatinous decay of the inner mesocarp tissue around the stone (plum and prune still shows a normal external appearance) which changes from a clear to a brown discolouration and spreads rapidly to the outside as the defect progresses;

"**hazard**" means a biological, chemical or physical agent in, or condition of, a food product with the potential to cause an adverse health effect;

"**injury**" means any wound or puncture which has pierced the skin of the plum and prune and exposes the flesh, with the exception of such wounds or punctures which have become completely callused;

"**inspector**" means the Executive Officer or an officer under his or her control, or an Assignee or a qualified employee of an Assignee;

"**internal browning**" means a brown discoloration of the mesocarp tissue which is associated with a loss of juiciness (plum and prune still shows a normal external appearance);

"**internal defect**" means a state of physiological deterioration that detrimentally affects the internal quality of the plum and prune which includes internal browning, gel decay, decay as a result of over-ripeness and bladderiness;

"**plums**" means the fruit of the cultivars which are grown from the species *Prunus salicina*;

"**prepacked unit**" means any single packing unit for presentation as such to the consumer consisting of plums and prunes and the packaging into which the plums and prunes were put before being offered for sale;

"**prunes**" means the fruit of the cultivars which are grown from the species *Prunus domestica*;

"**split stone**" means a condition which appears when the stone of the plum and prune has split along its longitudinal axis;

"**suberised indentation**" means any suberation or discoloration on the surface of the plum and prune that is visible from the outside with suberised underlying tissue that detrimentally affects the appearance of the plum and prune;

"**suitable**" means to be suitable according to the opinion of the Executive Officer;

"**the Act**" means the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990);

"**visible split stone**" means that the stone of the plum and prune is split to such extent that an aperture on the stem end of the plum or prune is visually perceptible.

PART I

Control over the sale of plums and prunes

2. (1) No persons shall sell plums and prunes in the Republic of South Africa --

(a) unless such plums and prunes are sold according to the classes set out in regulation 3;

(b) unless such plums and prunes comply with the standards for the class concerned as set out in regulation 4;

(c) unless such plums and prunes are packed in accordance with the packing requirements as set out in regulations 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9;

(d) unless such plums and prunes are contained in containers marked in accordance with the marking requirements as set out in regulation 10;

(e) if such plums and prunes contain a substance/substances that render them unfit for human or animal consumption or for processing into or utilization thereof as food or feed; and

(f) if the plums and prunes contains a substance prescribed as a substance which it may not contain according to Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947).

(2) Imported plums and prunes shall be exempted from the provisions of subregulation (1), provided that the plums and prunes --

(a) comply with either the Codex, UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) or OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) standards;

(b) according to bilateral agreement accompanied by certificate issued by a relevant government authority responsible for quality control of fresh fruit and vegetables and in which it is certified that the quality of the plums and prunes as verified through inspection conforms to the relevant standard;

(c) do not contain a substance prescribed as a substance which it may not contain according to Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947); and

(d) do not contain biological or chemical contaminants in quantities or at levels that exceed the maximum limits prescribed in terms of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972).

(3) The Executive Officer may grant written exemption, entirely or partially, to any person on such conditions as he or she deems necessary, from the provisions of subregulation (1).

QUALITY STANDARDS

These standards shall be complied with at the point of sale upon arrival at the fresh produce market and/or depot or any similar setting and/or conveyance.

Classes of plums and prunes

3. There are three classes of plums and prunes, namely Class 1, Class 2 and Lowest Class.

Standards for classes

4. (1) A consignment of plums and prunes shall be classified as Class 1 if it --

(a) is of good quality;

(b) is characteristic of the cultivar and/or commercial type;

(c) complies with the quality standards for Class 1 set out in Table 1;

(d) does not exceed the maximum permissible deviations by number for Class 1 as set out in Table 2;

(e) is of a cultivar specified in Table 3; and

(f) complies with the ripeness standards for plums and prunes as set out in Table 3.

(2) A consignment of plums and prunes shall be classified as Class 2 if it --

(a) complies with the quality standards for Class 2 set out in Table 1;

(b) does not exceed the maximum permissible deviations by number for Class 2 as set out in Table 2;

(c) is of a cultivar specified in Table 3; and

(d) complies with the ripeness standards for plums and prunes as set out in Table 3.

(3) A consignment of plums and prunes shall be classified as Lowest Class if it --

(a) complies with the quality standards for Lowest Class as set out in Table 1;

(b) does not exceed the maximum permissible deviations by number for Class 2 as set out in Table 2; and

(c) is of a cultivar specified in Table 3.

Physical hazards

(4) No consignment of plums and prunes classified as "Class 1", "Class 2" or "Lowest Class" shall contain:

(a) any foreign matter in excess of the tolerance as set out in Table 1; and

(b) any organisms which may be a source of danger to the human being in excess of the tolerance as set out in Table 2.

Biological and chemical hazards

(5) No consignment of plums and prunes classified as "Class 1" or "Class 2" or "Lowest Class" shall contain biological or chemical contaminants in quantities or at levels that exceed the maximum limits prescribed in terms of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972).

(6) The classes mentioned in subregulations (1), (2) and (3) shall comply with the following specifications:

PART II
PACKING REQUIREMENTS

General

Containers

5. Containers in which plums and prunes are packed shall --

(a) be clean, dry, undamaged and suitable;

(b) not impart a foreign taste or odour to the plums and prunes;

(c) be free from any visible signs of fungus growth;

(d) be free from Arthropoda infestation; and

(e) be strong and rigid enough to ensure that the original shape be retained and not bulge out, dent in, break or tear, to the extent that plums and prunes are damaged or are at risk of being damaged, during normal storage, handling or transport.

6. (1) Only plums and prunes of the same quality, cultivar, ripeness and size shall be packed together in the same container.

(2) Class 1 plums and prunes in the same container must be uniform in colour.

(3) Plums and prunes shall be sized.

(4) Class 1 plums and prunes shall be packed to a suitable pattern or diagonally in one to three layers.

(5) If plums and prunes are packed in prepacked units, such units shall be packed in a suitable manner in an outer container: Provided that the prepacked units are new, clean, dry, undamaged and suitable.

Packing material

7. If packing material is used inside the containers, such packing material shall be clean, dry, odourless, not transmit to the plums and prunes any harmful substance or any substance that maybe injurious to human health and of a quality such as to avoid causing any external or internal damage to the plums and prunes.

Stacking of containers on pallets

8. If containers containing plums and prunes are palletised --

(a) the pallet shall be clean, undamaged and suitable;

(b) the pallet shall be free from any visible signs of fungus growth;

(c) the pallet shall be free from Arthropoda infestation;

(d) the containers shall be stacked firmly and square with each other and the pallet;

(e) only containers of the same dimensions shall be stacked in the same layer on the pallet; and

(f) the containers shall not be stacked upside-down on the pallet.

Strapping of pallet loads

9. (1) A pallet load of containers shall be strapped in a suitable manner.

(2) If containers without lids are being used, a suitable covering shall be placed on top of the pallet load of containers, before the pallet load is strapped.

PART III
MARKING REQUIREMENTS

10. (1) Each container containing plums and prunes shall be marked clearly, indelibly, legibly and not untidy, upside-down or askew in block letters and numerals on any visible short or long side of the lid or container, where lids are not used, by printing, stamping or by means of specially designed labels with the following particulars: Provided that all particulars shall be grouped on the same side:

(a) The expression "Plums", "Plumcot®", "Pluot" or "Prunes", as the case may be.

(b) The appropriate cultivar/variety.

(c) The appropriate Class in accordance with regulation 3.

(d) The name and physical or postal address of the producer or owner of the contents of the container.

(e) The country of origin: Provided that no abbreviations or the expression "South Africa" on its own shall be used (.e.g. "Products of South Africa", "Produced in South Africa" or any other similar expression).

(2) Subject to the provisions of subregulation (1), each outer container containing prepacked units shall be marked with an indication of the total number of prepacked units per outer container: Provided that if the total number of prepacked units is visible from the outside, it does not have to be indicated on the outer container.

(3) If an indication highlighting a special grading, presentation or size is indicated on the same side as the particulars in subregulation (1), it shall not be used with the expression "Plums" or "Prunes", "Plumcot®", "Pluot", the cultivar name or the class indication.

Prohibited particulars

11. No wording, illustration or other means of expression which constitutes a misrepresentation or which directly or by implication, creates a misleading impression of the contents, shall appear on a container which contains plums and prunes.

PART IV
SAMPLING PROCEDURES

Obtaining a sample from the consignment

12. At least two per cent of the containers in a consignment shall be drawn at random for inspection purposes and an inspector shall be satisfied that the containers so drawn are representative of the consignment concerned.

Obtaining an inspection sample

13. An inspection sample shall be drawn from each container obtained in accordance with regulation 12 and shall, in the case of --

(a) containers with 50 plums and prunes or less, consist of the entire contents of the container; or

(b) containers with more than 50 plums and prunes, consist of 50 adjacent plums and prunes drawn at random from the container.

Deviating sample

14. If an inspector should notice during the process of drawing the random sample or during the inspection, that some of the containers derived from any part of the pallet load, truck load or consignment, contain plums and prunes which are noticeably inferior to or differ from the contents of the containers which represent the remainder of the pallet load, truck load or consignment, the inspection results shall be based only on the containers derived from the deviating portion of the pallet load, truck load or consignment, and further samples required for inspection shall be drawn from this deviating portion.

METHODS OF INSPECTION

Determination of internal defects

15. Internal defects of plums and prunes shall be determined as follows:

(a) Randomly take 10 plums and prunes from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(b) Bisect each of the 10 plums and prunes with a knife through their equatorial axes.

(c) Calculate the number of plums and prunes thus found to be affected by internal defects, as a percentage of the total number of plums and prunes in the inspection sample.

(d) Determine the average percentage of all the inspection samples taken in accordance with regulation 13.

Determination of the declared minimum and maximum size

16. The declared minimum and maximum size shall be determined as follows:

(a) Take as working sample plums and prunes that are noticeably the smallest and/or largest in diameter from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(b) Determine the diameter of the plums and prunes obtained in paragraph (a) with a suitable apparatus.

(c) Calculate the number of plums and prunes thus found to be too small and/or too large as a percentage of the total number of plums and prunes in the inspection sample.

(d) Determine the average percentage of all the inspection samples taken in accordance with regulation 13.

Determination of ripeness

17. (1) For the determination of ripeness of plums and prunes, the following apparatus shall be used:

(a) A calibrated refractometer.

(b) A handheld penetrometer or a penetrometer mounted on a drill stand with a plunger of 11,2 millimetre in diameter.

(2) If the calibrated refractometer is used to determine the total soluble solids (TSS), the following procedure shall be followed:

(a) Place an equal number of drops (2 or more) of juice onto the prism plate of the refractometer.

(b) Note the reading on the prism scale to one decimal place.

(c) Repeat the steps in paragraphs (a) and (b), after the prism plate was cleaned with distilled water and wiped dry.

(d) Determine the average of the two readings.

(3) If a handheld penetrometer or a penetrometer mounted on a drill stand is used, the following procedure shall be followed:

(a) Remove a thin layer of skin on both cheeks of each plum and prune.

(b) Hold the plum and prune firm with one hand: Provided that if a handheld penetrometer is used, your hand should rest on a rigid surface.

(c) Zero the penetrometer and place the plunger head of 11,2 millimetre in diameter on the spot where the skin was removed.

(d) Aim at the center of the fruit and apply steady downward pressure on the penetrometer until the plunger has penetrated the flesh of the plum and prune up to the depth mark of the plunger.

(e) Remove the plunger and note the reading on the penetrometer, to one decimal.

(f) Repeat the process on the opposite side of the same plum and prune after zeroing the penetrometer.

(g) Calculate the average of the two pressure readings for each plum and prune.

Determining the maximum ripeness

18. (1) Maximum ripeness of plums and prunes is determined as follows in the case of cultivars/variety where --:

(a) the minimum skin colour is prescribed:
[Burbanks, Casselman, Eldorado, Gaviota, Harry Pickstone, Kelsey, Laetitia, Mostert, Redgold, Ruby Nel, Santa Rosa[11], Songold, Wickson]

(i) (aa) Take as working sample 10 plums and prunes randomly chosen from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(bb) Determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes comply with the minimum colour requirements a specified per cultivar/variety as set out in Table 3.

(cc) If one or more of the plums and prunes do not comply with the prescribed minimum colour requirement, further determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes comply with the prescribed maximum pressure as set out in Table 3.

(ii) Further determine if the average of the 10 plums and prunes comply to a minimum total soluble solids content (TSS) as specified per cultivar/variety: Provided that only one fruit has a reading that deviates with more than 2% points lower than the prescribed minimum TSS: Provided further that if the average of the ten readings deviate with a maximum of 0,2% points below the prescribed minimum, that a second sample is taken. Use the average of both samples to determine the final result.

(iii) A higher maximum pressure is allowable in the case of the cultivars/variety Gaviota as set out in Table 3: Provided that the prescribed minimum total soluble solids content (TSS) is at least complied with.

(iv) In the case of all cultivars/variety, the maximum prescribed pressure may increase with 0,5% for every 1% increase in the prescribed minimum total soluble solids content (TSS).

(b) no minimum skin colour is prescribed:
[ARC PR-1 (Sun Supreme®), ARC PR-2 (African Delight®), ARC PR-3 (African Pride®), Sun Kiss (African Pride®), Golden Kiss (African Pride®), Fortune, Golden King, Honeymoon, Honey Star, Lady Red, Lady West, Laroda, Larry Anne, Pioneer, Red Beaut, Roysum, Ruby Red, Sapphire, Simka, Southern Belle, Souvenir, Suplumsix (Angeleno®)]

(i) (aa) Take as working sample 10 randomly chosen plums and prunes from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(bb) Determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes comply with the prescribed maximum pressure as set out in Table 3.

(ii) Further determine if the average of the 10 plums and prunes comply with the minimum total soluble contents (TSS) as specified per cultivar/variety: Provided that only one fruit has a reading that deviates with more than 2% points lower than the prescribed minimum TSS: Provided further that if the average of the ten readings deviate with a maximum of 0,2% points below the prescribed minimum, that a second sample is taken. Use the average of both samples to determine the final result.

(iii) A higher maximum pressure is allowable in the case of the cultivars/variety ARC PR-3 (African Pride®), Golden Kiss (African Pride®) and Simka, as set out in Table 3: Provided that the prescribed minimum total soluble solids content (TSS) is at least complied with.

(iv) In the case of all cultivars/variety, with the exception of ARC PR-2 (African Delight®), the maximum prescribed pressure may increase with 0,5% to every 1% increase in the prescribed minimum total soluble solids content (TSS).

(c) the minimum flesh colour is prescribed:
(President)

(aa) Take as working sample 10 randomly chosen plums from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(bb) Determine if each of the 10 plums comply with the minimum flesh colour for the cultivar/variety concerned, as set out in Table 3.

(cc) Further determine if the average of the 10 plums comply to a minimum total soluble solids content (TSS) as specified per cultivar/variety: Provided that only one fruit has a reading that deviates with more than 2% points lower than the prescribed minimum TSS: Provided further that if the average of the ten readings deviate with a maximum of 0,2% points below the prescribed minimum, that a second sample is taken. Use the average of both samples to determine the final result.

(2) Maximum ripeness of plums and prunes are determined as follows in the case of cultivars/variety where –

(a) the maximum skin colour is prescribed:
[Burbanks, Casselman, Eclipse, Eldorado, Gaviota, Harry Pickstone, Kelsey, Laetitia, Mostert, Red Gold, Ruby Nel, Santa Rosa]

(i) (aa) Take as working sample 10 randomly chosen plums and prunes from the inspection sample obtained in regulation 13.

(bb) Determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes comply with the prescribed colour requirements as set out in Table 3.

(cc) If one or more of the plums and prunes do not comply to the prescribed minimum colour requirements, further determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes comply to the prescribed maximum pressure as set out in Table 3.

(ii) Further determine if the average of the 10 plums and prunes comply to the minimum total soluble contents (TSS) as specified per cultivar/variety: Provided that only one fruit has a reading that deviates with more than 2% points lower than the prescribed minimum TSS: Provided further that if the average of the ten readings deviate with a maximum of 0,2% points below the prescribed minimum, that a second sample is taken. Use the average of both samples to determine the final result.

(b) no maximum skin colour is prescribed:
[Honeymoon, Honey Star, Laroda, Larry Anne, ARC PR-4 (African Rose®), Pioneer, President, Red Beaut, Roysum, Sapphire, Simka, Songold, Southern Belle, Souvenir, Suplumsix (Angeleno®), Wickson]

(i) Take as working sample 10 randomly chosen plums and prunes from the inspection sample obtained in accordance with regulation 13.

(ii) Determine if each of the 10 plums and prunes does not exceed the prescribed maximum pressure requirement for the cultivar/variety concerned, as set out in Table 3.

(iii) Further determine if the average of the 10 plums and prunes comply to the minimum total soluble contents (TSS) as specified per cultivar/variety: Provided that only one fruit has a reading that deviates with more than 2% points lower than the prescribed minimum TSS: Provided further that if the average of the 10 readings deviate with a maximum of 0,2% points below the prescribed minimum, that a second sample is taken. Use the average of both samples to determine the final result.

(3) Calculate the number of plums and prunes according to subregulations (1) and (2) that were found not to comply with the requirements set out in Table 3, as a percentage of the total number of plums and prunes in the inspection sample.

PART V

Offence and penalties

19. Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of these regulations, shall be guilty of an offence and may upon conviction be liable to a fine or to imprisonment in terms of section 11 of the Act.

Appeal

20. (1) Any person who appeals in terms of section 10(1) of the Act against a decision or direction of an inspection, shall submit a written notice of appeal to an inspection within one day after he/she has been notified of the said decision or direction unless that day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in which case the appeal shall be submitted on the first following working day.

(2) Such person shall pay the prescribed fee with the Inspection or at any office of the Executive Officer, as the case may be: Provided that such fee shall be paid in terms of each separate consignment, and provided further that if the notice of appeal and the fee are not submitted and paid within the period specified in subregulation (1), the appellant shall lose his right of appeal.

(3) An inspection may apply any mark or marks which he/she may deem necessary for identification purposes to the plums and prunes in respect of which an appeal has been submitted, or to the containers thereof, and such plums and prunes shall not without his/her consent, be removed from the place where they were inspected or where they are stored.

(4) The Executive Officer shall designate at least three persons to serve as an appeal board.

(5) Such an appeal board shall give the appellant or his/her representative at least two hours notice of the time and place determined for the hearing of the appeal and may, after the plums and prunes concerned have been produced and identified and all interested parties have been heard, instruct all persons to leave the place where the appeal is being considered: Provided that the appeal board make use of persons to assist in an advisory capacity.

(6) An appeal board shall decide an appeal within 48 hours (excluding Sundays and public holidays) after it was submitted, and its decision shall be final.

(7) If the plums and prunes concerned are not produced at the time and place determined by the appeal board, the amount paid in respect thereof shall be forfeited.

TABLE 1
QUALITY STANDARDS

Quality factor	Class 1	Class 2	Lowest Class
(a) General appearance	Sound and intact	Sound and intact	Sound and intact
(b) Shape	Well-formed	Fairly well-formed	Reasonably well-formed
(c) Colour	Shall comply with the colour as set out in Table 3	Shall comply with the colour as set out in Table 3	Reasonably well coloured
(d) Minimum diameter (mm)			
(aa) Prunes	30 mm	30 mm	30 mm
(bb) Plums	60-65 AAA (L) 55-59 AA (L) 50-54 A (M) 45-49 B (M) 40-44 C $^{\$*}$ (S)	60-65 AAA (L) 55-59 AA (L) 50-54 A (M) 45-49 B (M) 40-44 C $^{\$*}$ (S)	> 54 Large 46 - 54 Medium 35 - 45 Small
(e) Maturity	Mature according to Table 3	Mature according to Table 3	Eatable and ripe
(f) Injuries or insect puncture marks	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	-
(g) Bruises	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	-
(h) Blemishes	May not exceed a total surface area of 200 mm^2	May not exceed a total surface area of 250 mm^2	May not exceed 50% of surface area
(i) Decay	May deviate to the	May deviate to the	May deviate to the

			extent as set out in Table 2	extent as set out in Table 2	extent as set out in Table 2
(j)	Cavities in the flesh and around the stone		A cavity around the stone is allowable if no decay, discoloration, gum pockets or aperture that externally exposes the cavity, is visible	A cavity around the stone is allowable if no decay, discoloration, gum pockets or aperture that externally exposes the cavity, is visible	
(k)	Foreign matter				
	(aa)	Chemical residues	No conspicuous drop marks	No conspicuous drop marks	No conspicuous drop marks
	(bb)	Visible chemical residues	(i) No conspicuous drop marks; or	(i) No conspicuous drop marks; or	(i) No conspicuous drop marks; or
			(ii) other continuous; or	(ii) other continuous; or	(ii) other continuous; or
	(cc)	Act No. 36 of 1947	(iii) localised deposits shall be allowed	(iii) localised deposits shall be allowed	(iii) localised deposits shall be allowed
			(iv) Less conspicuous deposits which are limited to the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities shall be allowed	(iv) Less conspicuous deposits which are limited to the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities shall be allowed	(iv) Less conspicuous deposits which are limited to the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities shall be allowed
	(dd)	Dust deposits	Free from external signs: Provided that dust deposits shall be allowed only in the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities	Free from external signs: Provided that dust deposits shall be allowed only in the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities	Free from external signs: Provided that dust deposits shall be allowed only in the deepest half of the stem and calyx-end cavities
	(ee)	Leaves and spurs	May deviate to the extent set out in Table 2	May deviate to the extent set out in Table 2	-
	(ff)	Unattached stems (in containers)	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	-
	(gg)	Other	Shall not occur	Shall not occur	Shall not occur
(l)	Bladderiness		May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	May deviate to the extent as set out in Table 2	-
(m)	Uniformity of size in the same container		Uniform: Provided that individual plums and prunes may not differ with more than 5 mm in diameter from one another between the smallest and largest plum and prune in the	Uniform: Provided that individual plums and prunes may not differ with more than 8 mm in diameter from one another between the smallest and largest plum and prune in the	Minimum per S, M, L category

		same container	same container	
(n)	Hail marks	(aa) Smooth superficial dry hail marks with a blemish appearance with no signs of indentations and of which the diameter of a single hail mark does not exceed 4 mm and the total surface area does not exceed 200 mm², are allowable	(aa) Smooth superficial dry hail marks with a blemish appearance with no signs of indentations and of which the diameter of a single hail mark does not exceed 6 mm and the total surface area does not exceed 220 mm², are allowable	25% of surface area
		(bb) Other hail marks: One dry hail mark not exceeding 4 mm in diameter, with a maximum depth of 3 mm or multiple hail marks of which the total surface area does not exceed 40 mm² are allowable	(bb) Other hail marks: One dry hail mark not exceeding 5 mm in diameter, with a maximum depth of 4 mm or multiple hail marks of which the total surface area does not exceed 100 mm² are allowable	25% of surface area
(o)	Dry cracks	Not more than one dry crack on the shoulder or tip of the plum and prune that has become completely dried and sealed and complies with the specifications set out in Table 4	Not more than one dry crack on the shoulder or tip of the plum and prune that has become completely dried and sealed and complies with the specifications set out in Table 4	
(p)	Rub marks (All cultivars/varieties)	As depicted in colour plate no. PL.21 colour print no. A5 and B4	As depicted in colour plate no. PL.21 colour print no. A6 and B5	50% of surface area
(q)	Suberised, excluding sunburn with a red outline at the cultivar Songold	All cultivars: A maximum depth of 3 mm per fruit: Provided that it does not detract from the appearance of the fruit and the total surface area of the spots does not exceed 42 mm²	All cultivars: A maximum depth of 3 mm per fruit: Provided that it does not detract from the appearance of the fruit and the total surface area of the spots does not exceed 49 mm²	All cultivars: Total surface area of the spots does not exceed 100 mm²
(r)	Malformation	Maximum allowable up to A5/B4 of PL.26	Maximum allowable up to A6/B5 of PL.26	-

NOTE:

\- No specification
$ 40 mm from week 40-50 thereafter 43 mm

40 mm only applicable to cultivars Eclipse, Eldorado, Golden King, Golden Kiss, Honeymoon, Honey Star, Kelsey, Laroda, Methley, Mostert, President, Redgold, Roysum, Satsuma, Simka, Sundew, Sunkiss (African Pride®), Pioneer, ARC PR-4 (African Rose®) and Wickson

TABLE 2
MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE DEVIATIONS BY NUMBER

The maximum permissible deviations by number per container are as follows:

Quality factor	Class 1	Class 2	Lowest Class
(a) Arthropoda infestation			
(aa) Arthropoda infestation of plums and prunes, excluding organisms mentioned in item 1 and paragraph (b)	3% or three free-running Arthropoda per pallet load or part thereof in the consignment: Provided that it does not exceed a maximum of one Arthropoda per container	3% or three free-running Arthropoda per pallet load or part thereof in the consignment: Provided that it does not exceed a maximum of one Arthropoda per container	3% or three free-running Arthropoda per pallet load or part thereof in the consignment: Provided that it does not exceed a maximum of one Arthropoda per container
(bb) Organisms which may be a source of danger to the human being	One on average per inspection sample	One of average per inspection sample	One of average per inspection sample
(b) Decay	2%	4%	10%
(c) Serious cold damage	2%	4%	10%
(d) Injuries	8%	10%	20%
(e) Visible spray residues	2%	2%	6%
(f) Visible split stones, bruises or unspecified progressive defects	10%	15%	25%
(g) Internal breakdown including gel breakdown, internal browning and bladderiness	10%	12%	20%
(h) Blemishes, dry cracks, hail marks, sunburn, suberised indentations or superficial cold da-	10%	15%	25%

	mage, individually			
(i)	Appearance, leaves and spurs, unattached stems (in containers), plant seeds, cavities in the flesh and around the stone or dirty plums and prunes, dust deposits, foreign matter, individually	10%	15%	-
(j)	Malformation	12%	20%	-
(k)	(aa) Unripe	10%	10%	10%
(l)	Deviations from packing requirements	10%	15%	25%
(m)	(aa) Minimum diameter (too small)	10%	15%	25%
	(bb) Lack of uniformity in size in the same container	10%	15%	Minimum per S, M, L category
(n)	Deviations in items (a)(aa), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (k) and (l) of this table, including unspecified defects, collectively: Provided that such deviations are individually within the specified limits	15%	20%	30%

Note:

- No specification

TABLE 3
PERMISSIBLE CULTIVARS, RIPENESS STANDARDS AND MINIMUM DIAMETER FOR PLUMS/PRUNES (CLASS 1 AND 2)

Fruit type and cultivar	Minimum TSS (%)	Maximum pressure -11.2 mm point (kg)	Colour	
			Colour chart	All Classes
1. Plums				
ARC PR-1 (Sun Supreme®)	10,5	11,0		Full yellow
ARC PR-2 (African Delight®)	13,5	8,0		Red
ARC PR-3 (African Pride®)	10.5	7,0		Bright yellow
ARC PR-4 (African Rose®)	8,5	8,0		Full red
Casselman	10,5	7,0	PL.23	Minimum no. 6 on both sides and maximum no. 10 on both sides
Crocodile Dundee	10,5	7,0	-	Green
Eclipse	8,5	-	-	Greenish yellow with suture distinctly yellow or pink with a tint of red at the tip of the fruit
Eldorado	8,5	-	PL. 6	Minimum no. 4 and maximum no. 7
Fortune	10,5	7,0	-	Dark red
Gaviota	9,5	7,5	PL. 24	Minimum no. 4 irrespective of the colour on the opposite side and maximum no. 7 on both sides
Golden King	8,5	6,5	-	Yellow: Provided that it may not show any green appearance
Golden Kiss (African Pride®)	10,5	7,0	-	-
Green Red	10,5	7.0		Green
Harry Pickstone	10,5	7,5	PL. 27	

Fruit type and cultivar	Minimum TSS (%)	Maximum pressure -11.2 mm point (kg)	Colour	
			Colour chart	All Classes
Hiromi Red	9,5	-	-	-
Honeymoon	8,5	8,0	-	-
Honey Star	9,5	8,0	-	-
Kelsey	8,5	-	PL. 16	Minimum no. 2 and maximum no. 4
Lady Red	10,5	8,0	-	
Lady West	10,5	8,0	-	Dark red
Laetitia	9,5	8,0	PL. 25	Minimum no. 9 on both sides and maximum no. 13 on both sides
Lamoon	10,5	7,0		Yellow
Laroda	8,5	8,0	-	-
Larry Anne	10,5	8,0	-	-
Late Lamoon	10,5	7,0		Yellow
Mostert	8,5	5,0	PL. 20	Minimum no. 7 and maximum no. 11
Pioneer	8,5	8,0	-	-
President	8,5	-	PL. 13	Flesh colour: Min. no. 2
Purple Majesty	8,5	8,0	-	-
Red Beaut	8,5	6,5	-	-
Redgold	8,5	-	PL. 19	Minimum no. 5 and maximum no. 7
Reubennel (Ruby Nel)	10,5	7,5	PL. 20	Minimum no. 5 and maximum no. 7
Roysum	9,5	8,0	-	-

Fruit type and cultivar	Minimum TSS (%)	Maximum pressure -11.2 mm point (kg)	Colour	
			Colour chart	All Classes
Ruby Red	10,5	8,0	-	Dark red
Ruby Star	11,5	8,0	-	Red
Santa Rosa	9,5	-	PL. 2	Surface Transport; Minimum no. 3 and maximum no. 6 Air Transport: Minimum no. 5 and maximum no. 8
Sapphire	9,5	5,5	-	-
Satsuma	8,5	-	-	Skin: greenish red (more red than green). Flesh: blood red
Simka	10,5	7,5	-	-
Solar Eclipse	10,5	8,0		Black
Songold	9,5	5,0	PL. 19	Minimum no. 4 on the worst coloured side
Southern Belle	10,5	8,0	-	-
Souvenir	10,5	8,0	-	-
Sun Breeze	9,5	7,0	-	-
Sundew	10,5	7,0	-	-
Sun Kiss (African Pride®)	10,5	7,0	-	-
Suplumeleven (Black Diamond®)	10,5	8,0	-	-
Suplumtwentyeight (Black Diamond®)	10,5	7,0		-
Suplumtwentyfive (Black Giant®)	8,5	7,0	-	-
Sunset	9,5	-	-	-

Fruit type and cultivar	Minimum TSS (%)	Maximum pressure -11.2 mm point (kg)	Colour	
			Colour chart	All Classes
Suplumsix (Angeleno®)	10,5	8,0	-	-
Teak Gold	9,5	8,5	-	-
Wickson	8,5	-	PL. 10	Minimum no. 2
2. Prunes				
Burbanks	-	-	PL. 14	Minimum no. 2 and maximum no. 8
Sugar Prune	-	-	-	Half red
3. Pluots				
Flavor Fall	10,5	8,5		Red
Flavor King™	14	8,5	-	-
Blue Gusto	12,5	11,0	-	-
4. Plumcots				
Any suitable cultivar not mentioned and which has been approved by the Executive Officer	8,5	8	-	-

™ Indicates a trademark
® Registered trademark
▪ The maximum prescribed pressure may increase with 0,5 kg for each 1% increase in the prescribed minimum total soluble solids content (TSS)
- No specification
Trademarks may only be used with the permission of the owner of those trademarks

TABLE 4
PERMISSIBLE DRY CRACKS

Position	Maximum length (mm)		Maximum width (mm)		Maximum depth (mm)	
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 1	Class 2	Class 1	Class 2
1. On the tip	7,0	10,0	2,0	3,0	2,0	3,0
2. On the shoulder	12,0	15,0	2,0	3,0	2,0	3,0
3. On the cheek	-	15,0	-	2,0	-	2,0

Note:
- Shall not occur