Effective: 1 November 2006



PRODUCE: LETTUCE

ТҮРЕ	Cos	VARIETY	Various
CLASS	One	NOTES	Romaine

GENERAL APPEARANCE CRITERIA			
Colour	Mid-green leaves grading to pale green at the base; inner leaves pale yellowish green.		
Visual Appearance	With fresh, bright, outer and inner leaves; slightly crinkly and undulating leaves; firm, wide white or light green mic ribs; firm, compact heads; outer leaves loosely overlapping, not spreading; cleanly trimmed at base; soil traces allowable on outer leaves only; no foreign matter;		
Sensory	Crisp leaves with fleshy mid ribs; moderately strong lettuce type flavour; no 'off' odours or tastes.		
Shape	With upright, elongated heads; spoon-shaped, loosely overlapping leaves.		
Size	Height from base of stem >250 mm, heart >120mm diameter; weight > 600g unless otherwise approved due to seasonal variation; <20% size variation within box; as per pre-ordered requirements.		
Maturity	Crisp, erect leaves; no evidence of stem elongation >50mm at centre of lettuce (bolting).		
MAJOR DEFECTS			
Insects	With obvious live insects (eg. caterpillars, aphids, slugs, snails).		
Diseases	With fungal or bacterial rots (eg bacterial or fungal leaf spot, bacterial soft rot, downy mildew, black spot, Anthracnose, Sclerotinia rot). With stunted or yellowed appearance, yellow mottling or enlarged veins (virus infection).		
Physical/Pest Damage	With cuts, tears, bruises, holes or crushed areas in the inner leaves.		
Skin Marks / Blemishes	With pinkish brown spotting or streaking of the midribs on the inner leaves (CO2 damage).		
Physiological Disorders	With brownish spotting or russeting of the inner leaves (ethylene damage). With soft, wilted or yellowed appearance (dehydrated). With browning of the leaf margins (tip burn) >2mm width on the inner leaves.		
Temperature Injury	With discoloured, watersoaked leaves (freezing injury). With bleached areas on inner leaves (sunburn).		
MINOR DEFECTS			
Physical/Pest Damage	With cuts, tears, holes or crushed areas > 10 sq cm on the outer leaves.		
Physiological Disorder	With >6 yellow, brown or dry outer leaves at lettuce base. With browning of the leaf margins (tip burn) >5 mm width on >2 of the outer leaves.		
Temperature Injury	With bleached areas > 5 sq cm on the outer leaves (sunburn).		
CONSIGNMENT CRITERIA			
Tolerance Per Consignment	Total minor defects (within allowance limit) to be < 2 defects per item Total minor defects (outside allowance limit must not exceed 10% of consignment. Total major defects must not exceed 2 % of consignment. Combined Total not to exceed 10%.		
Packaging & Labelling	Packaging manufactured from new food grade materials or sanitised returnable crates. All labelling must meet the current legislative requirements. Labelling to identify grower's name/brand (plus growers name/code if via a packhouse), address, contents, class, size and/or minimum net weight. Produce to identify Country of Origin (eg. Produce of Australia) on outer container.		
Shelf Life	Produce must provide not less than 14 days clear shelf life from date of receival.		
Receival Conditions	Compliance with Quarantine Treatments (if required) for Interstate Consignment. Stacked onto a stabilised pallet as pre-ordered. Refrigerated van with air bag suspension, unless otherwise approved. Pulp Temperature 1 - 5°C.		
Chemical & Containment Residues	All chemicals used pre/postharvest must be registered and approved for use in accordance with the requirements of the APVMA regulatory system. Residues, Contaminants and Heavy Metals to comply with the FSANZ Food Standards Code MRL's and ML's.		
Food Safety Requirements	Produce is to be grown and packed under a HACCP based food safety program that is subject to an annual third-party audit. A copy of current certification to be forwarded to receiver. Produce that meets the above specifications but is not grown under a HACCP based food safety program must not be labelled Class 1.		

<sup>\*</sup>Specifications reviewable: e.g. to account for specific regional effects or adverse seasonal impacts on quality or early or late seasonal variances as agreed and communicated formally in writing.