Quality requirements
- Size (diameter and length)
- Colour
- Blemishes, bruises and damage
- Cracks
- Ripeness
- Water content
- Insect infestation or damage
- Decay

Packing requirements
- Only fresh vegetables of the same quality, cultivar and size must be packed together in the same container, although different types of fresh vegetables may be packed together in the case of consumer packages.
- Class 1 in the same container must be uniform with regard to colour and ripeness, unless determined otherwise.
- Class 2 and Class 3 in the same container must be uniform with regard to colour, unless determined otherwise.
- The visible part of the content of the container must be representative of the entire content.
- Each container must be packed firmly and to capacity.

Container requirements
Containers in which fresh vegetables are packed must:
- Be intact, clean, suitable and strong enough for the packing and normal handling of fresh vegetables
- Not impart a taste or odor to the fresh vegetables (it must be free of any matter other than the fresh vegetables packed therein and the packing material in which fresh vegetables are customarily packed)

In the case of containers that are reused, the container should be:
- Made of such a material that the container can be cleaned and disinfected prior to reuse
- Thoroughly clean before fresh vegetables are packed therein;
- Free of all marks and labels (these should be removed or be covered by new labels):

A carrier container must be strong enough not to bulge out or dent in during normal handling and transporting practices.

Marking requirements
- Each container with fresh vegetables destined for sale must be marked in clear and easy-to-read letters and figures
- All particulars must be grouped on the same side and must consist of:
  (a) The name or trademark and physical or postal address of either the producer or owner or importer or packer of the fresh vegetables packed into that container
  (b) The producer’s code or packhouse code, which is registered with the Executive Officer by the producer or packhouse
  (c) Name of the product

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Size/Count</th>
<th>Chemical treatment</th>
<th>Expiry date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class 1</td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>February 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 2</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>March 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 3</td>
<td>Small</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>April 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Operational Act
- National/import regulations for agricultural products sold in the Republic of South Africa

Objectives of the Act
- To provide for control over the sale and export of certain agricultural products
- To provide for control over the sale of certain imported agricultural products
- To provide for control over other, related products, and for matters connected therewith

Fresh vegetables regulated by Regulation No R69 of Feb 2009
- Beetroot, carrots, horse radish, parsnips, radishes, sweet potatoes, turnips, ginger, wittoloof/chicory
- Green onions
- Capsicum, aubergines, chillies, cucumbers, courgettes, okra, butternut, gem squashes, pumpkins
- Sweet corn
- Cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Chinese cabbage
- Lettuce, spinach, endives, parsley
- Green beans, green peas
- Asparagus, celery, fennel, artichokes, leeks, rhubarb
- Mushrooms
- Cultivated mushrooms, scorzonera
- Unspecified fresh vegetables

Restrictions
- No consignment of fresh vegetables classified as Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, and Lowest class fresh vegetables may contain:
  - (a) Plant injurious organisms of phytosanitary importance, e.g. thrips & red spidermites
  - (b) Any organisms which may be a source of danger to human beings e.g. snakes
  - (c) Arthropoda infestation should not be more than three free running per pallet e.g. ants

Requirements
- Fresh vegetables must be unclassified or sold according to the stipulated classes.
- A fresh vegetable consignment must comply with the quality standards.
- Fresh vegetables must be packed into containers which comply with the requirements.
- Fresh vegetables must comply with the packing requirements.
- The containers concerned must be marked according to the requirements.
- Samples for inspection must be drawn according to the requirements.
- Fresh vegetables must be fit for human consumption as prescribed in terms of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972); and fresh vegetables which are classified as Class 1, Class 2, Class 3 or Lowest class must comply with the specifications.

Classes of vegetables
- Fresh vegetables must be sold as either classified fresh vegetables or unclassified fresh vegetables.
- Vegetables can be classed under either one of the following classes
  - Class 1
  - Class 2
  - Class 3
  - Lowest class

CONTACT DETAILS
Directorate: Food Import and Export Standards
Address: Private Bag X343, Pretoria, 0001
Tel: 0123197894/6247

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Address: Private Bag X343, Pretoria, 0001
Tel: 0123197894/6247