THE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES INDUSTRY SERIES

14 September 2021

Session N°1

Market trends and prospects of a dynamic sector

COLEACP

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES 2021

OECD

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables

Advantages of applying common standards

Tuesday, 14 September 2021

OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Outline

- Overview of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme
- Main activities of the Scheme
- Key messages

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

Overview of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme

- established in 1962 (inter-governmental organisation)
- self financing
- Voluntary
- Membership open to all UN members & WTO
- 26 participating countries
- Governments
- Consensus
- Observer status

Mandate of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme

to facilitate international trade through the harmonization of implementation and interpretation of marketing standards.

https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables/

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

Core work

- Provides framework for the export **quality inspection system**
  - International Standards
  - Inspection Methods
  - Conformity Certificates

Complementary work

- **Peer reviews**
- Market Analysis
- Guidelines
- **Explanatory Materials**
- **Capacity building**
- Meetings of the Heads of National Inspection Services

https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables/

OECD Inspection Methods

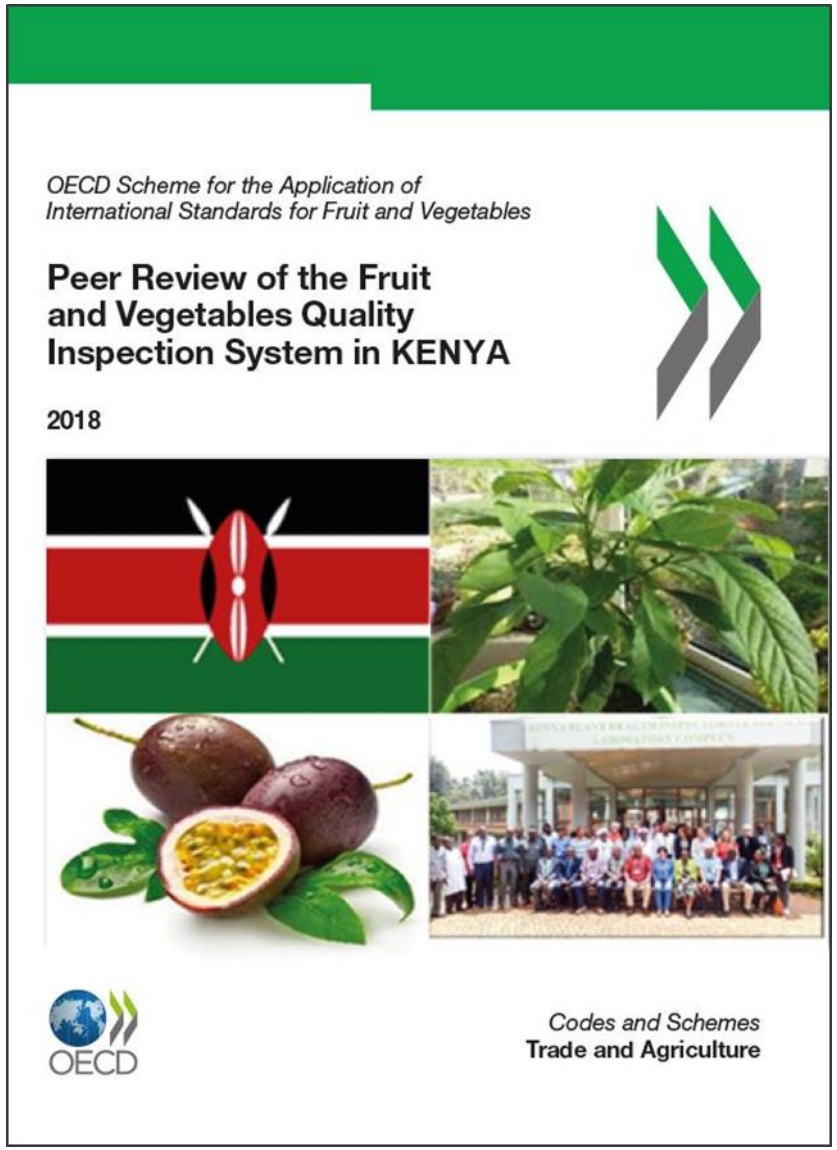
- The basis of the Scheme's activities
- Unique in international trade
- Applied by many countries and EU Member States and recommended by the UNECE
- Operating rules on conformity checks - last revision in 2013 *(Annex II to C(2006)95)*

- Adoption of OECD Guidelines on Quality Inspection (2018) – FEEDBACK FROM THE HEADS OF NATIONAL INSPECTION SERVICES)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

OECD Peer Reviews

- Systematic examination and assessment of the performance of the F&V quality inspection system by experts from other countries under the auspices of the OECD Secretariat
- Conducted on a non-adversarial basis, relies on mutual trust amongst the reviewers
- To improve policy making, adopt best practices and comply with internationally established standards
- 10 OECD Peer Reviews (Hungary, Slovakia, Morocco, Turkey, the Netherlands and Spain, Finland, France, Israel & **Kenya**)



OECD Explanatory Brochures

- Reference guidelines in the OECD quality inspection system
- 60 years experience
- Approval by consensus
- Pragmatic approach (trade facilitation)
- Uniform content and high quality
- OECD Guidelines on Development Explanatory Brochures
- Currently available for 33 products
- Hard copies
- Free E-Versions

Structure of the Explanatory Brochure

- Text
  - Follows the Standard layout
  - Standard + OECD interpretation
  - Classification table
- Illustrations
  - Follow the Standard layout
  - Illustrate all quality parameters (as far as possible)

Text - Overview

Reference to the applied standard

On the following pages, the official text of the tomatoes standard [UNECE FFV- 36, version 2017] is indicated in **blue bold**, the OECD interpretative text of the Standard is indicated in *black italic*.

Official standard text (blue bold)

In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, the tomatoes must be:

- **intact;**

OECD general explanatory notes (black italic) (general and –as needed- product specific)

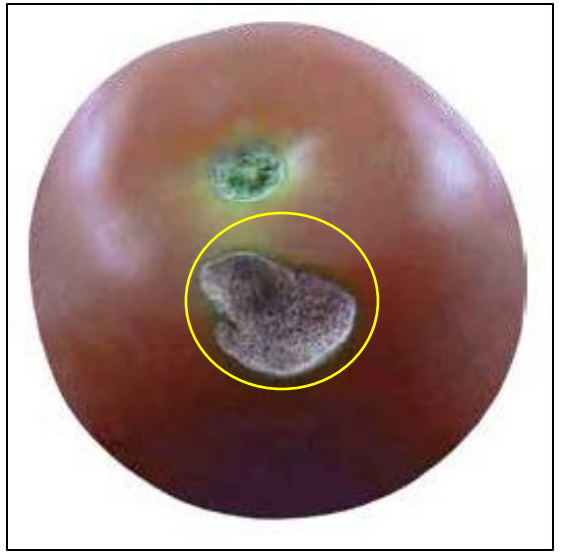
The tomatoes must not have any damage or injury affecting the integrity of the produce.

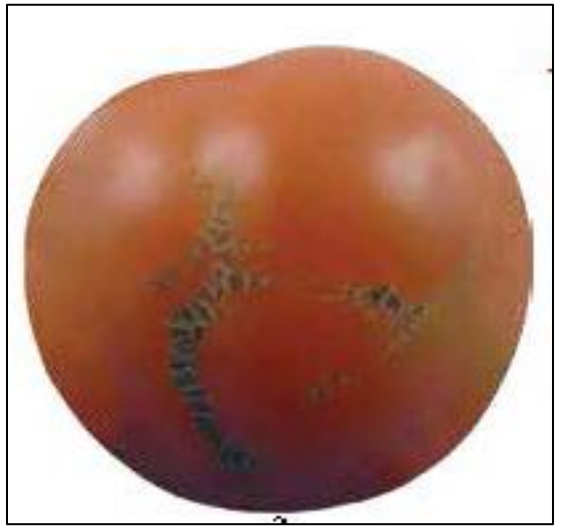
Illustration No.	Name of illustration
5	*Intact*

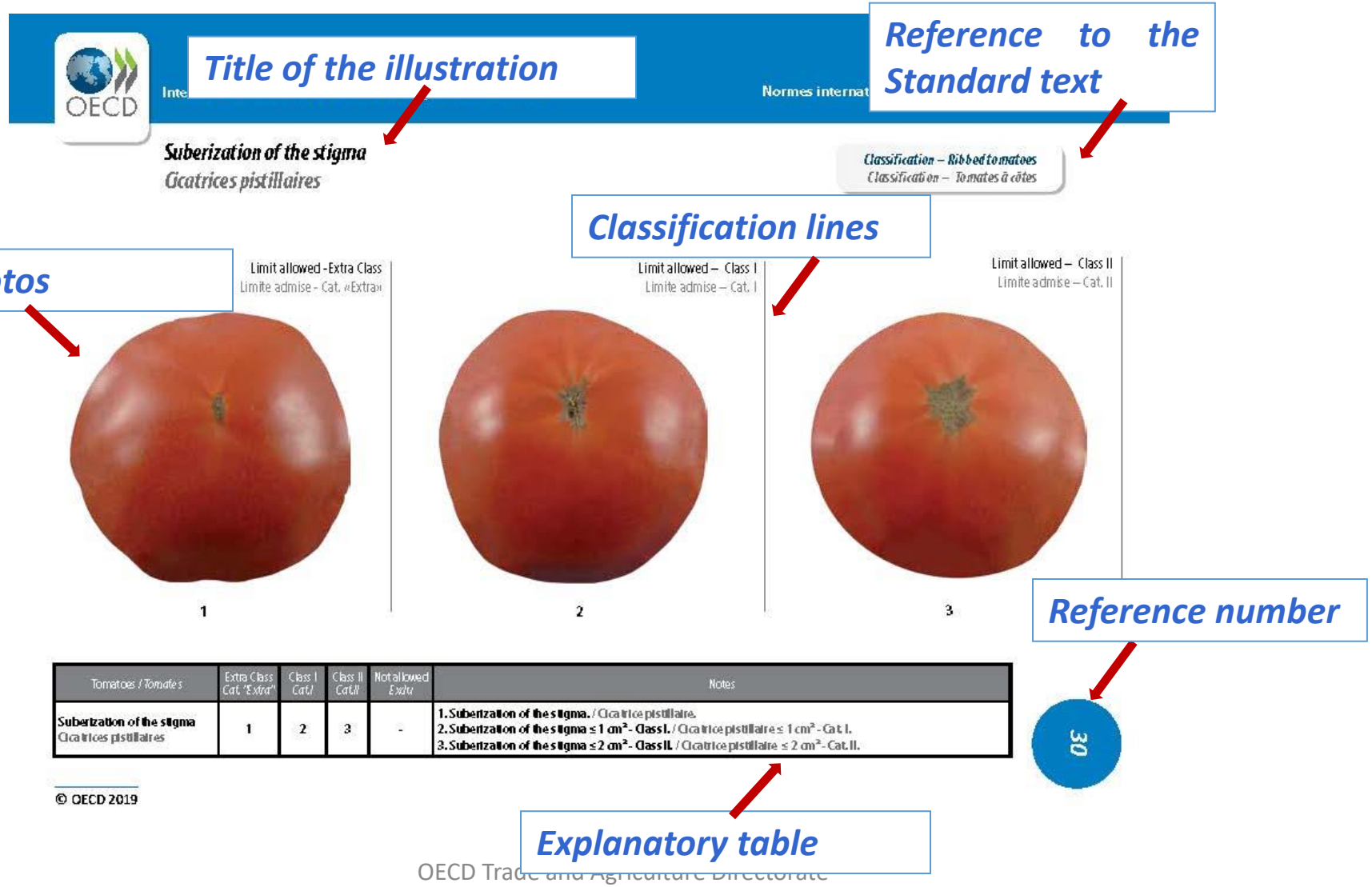
Reference to the illustrations

Illustrations - Principles

- Quality parameters and defects are determined at export stage after preparation and packaging
- '2D interpretation' – all defects are shown on the visible part of the product – other side is perfect
- 1 type of defect per photo
- Minimum requirements – 'not allowed' photos ('limit for practically free – allowed in all classes)
- Classifications – Limit allowed photos







Tomatoes / Tomates	Extra Class Cat. "Extra"	Class I Cat.I	Class II Cat.II	Not allowed Exclu	Notes
Suberization of the stigma Cicatrices pistillaires	1	2	3	-	1. Suberization of the stigma. / Cicatrice pistillaire. 2. Suberization of the stigma ≤ 1 cm² - Class I. / Cicatrice pistillaire ≤ 1 cm² - Cat. I. 3. Suberization of the stigma ≤ 2 cm² - Class II. / Cicatrice pistillaire ≤ 2 cm² - Cat. II.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

Capacity building activities

- International Training Course (annual), Slovakia – next 16-17 September 2021
- Harmonisation meeting 2018, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands - 12-14 June 2018 - Next June 2022
- International Meeting on Quality Control of Fruit and Vegetables, Bonn, Germany – 3rd 16-18 March 2021 (remote)- next 14-16 March 2023
- Asia - Est Africa – Latin America (Brazil 2018 - Costa Rica 2019)
- Cooperation with other international org
- **To come: eLearning with COLEACP**

Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service

MINISTERSTVO PÔDOHOSPODÁRSTVA A ROZVOJA VIDIEKA SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY

UNECE

International Meeting Quality Control Fruit & Vegetables

UNITED NATIONS ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Ministerio de Comercio Exterior Costa Rica

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

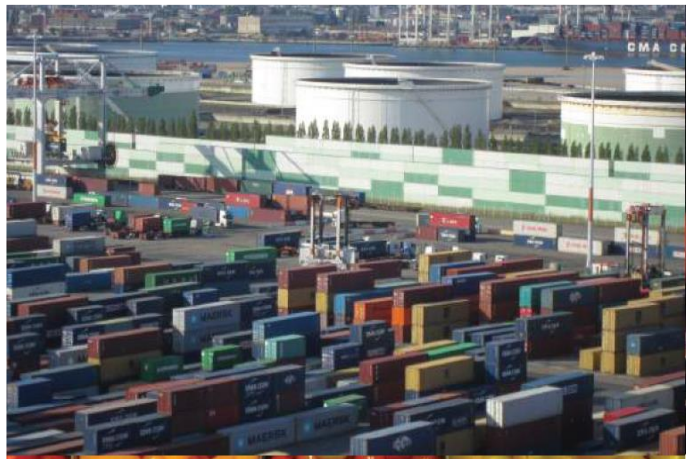
World Health Organization

COLEACP

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME

Key Messages

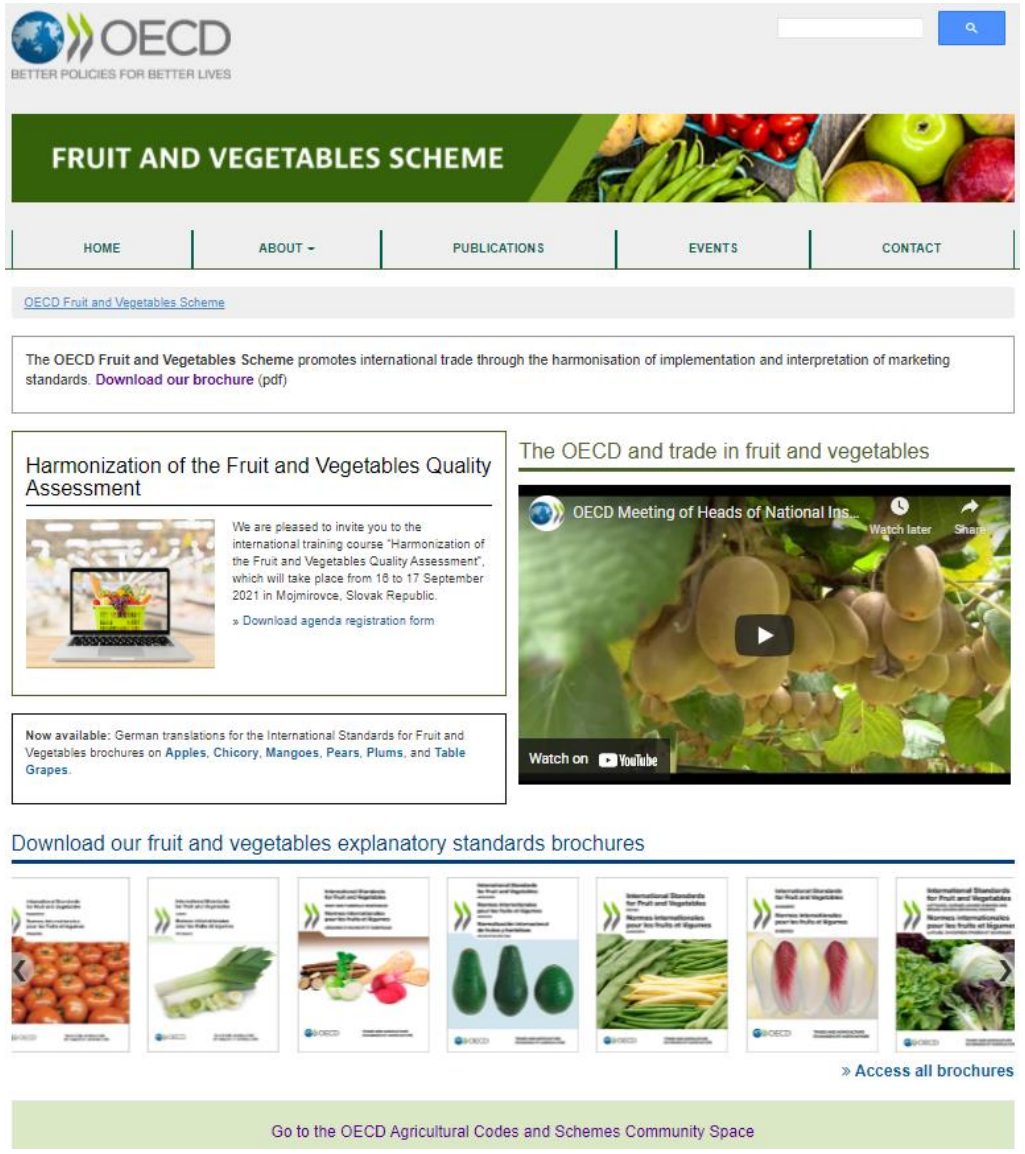
Quality assurance	Harmonization	Trade Facilitation
	➢ Common procedures ➢ Common regulations	➢ Clear origin of Fruits and Vegetables ➢ Clear classification of product quality.



Key Beneficiaries

Government	Farmers	Consumers
Ensure that Marketing Standards are interpreted homogenously amongst member countries	*Farmers benefit from harmonized inspection methods and clear quality classification that promote fair trade.*	*Quality assurance for the final Fruit and Vegetables consumers.*

https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables/



For more information

- Visit our website at www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables
- Contact us at **tad.contact@oecd.org**
- Follow us on Twitter **@OECDtrade**

Thank you for your attention

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Thank you

This series of events is organised by the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme and COLEACP. COLEACP operates within the framework of development cooperation between the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the European Union (European Development Fund – EDF), with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD).