

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STD. No. F-1

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT No. 119 OF 1990)
STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS REGARDING CONTROL OF THE
EXPORT OF FRESH CUT FLOWERS AND FRESH ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE

The Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards has stipulated under section 4(3)(a)(ii) of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990), these standards regarding the quality of fresh cut flowers and ornamental foliage, and the requirements regarding the packing, marking and labelling thereof.

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STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS REGARDING CONTROL OF THE EXPORT
OF FRESH CUT FLOWERS AND FRESH ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE AS STIPULATED
BY GOVERNMENT NOTICE No. R. 1983 OF 23 AUGUST 1991

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PART 1

GENERAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESH CUT FLOWERS AND FRESH ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE

Definitions

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

"abnormal external moisture" means that the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage are distinctly wet, excluding moisture due to condensation;

"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;

"blemishes" means any external defect which detrimentally affects the appearance of Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage and include *inter alia* brown and/or black discolouration and/or dry tips;

"blemishes which markedly detract from the appearance" means blemishes which are in contrast with the background colour;

"clean" means that the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage are free from excessive dirt, dust and visible chemical residues or any other foreign matter;

"chemical residues" means residues of agricultural remedies which in terms of the Fertilizers, Animal Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947), are permissible for the treatment of pests and diseases;

"consignment" means --

- (a) a quantity of Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage of the same species or cultivars, 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 Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage which is divided into different species, cultivars, classes, size groups, bunches, types of packaging, pallet loads or trade marks, every quantity of each of the different species, cultivars, classes, size groups, bunches, types of packaging, pallet loads or trade marks;

"decay" means a state of decomposition or fungus development that causes the tissue to collapse and detrimentally affects the quality of the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage;

"flower bud" means an immature flower of which the petals, or an immature inflorescence of which the bracts, partially or completely enclose the pistil and/or stamen;

"flower" means a single stem with limited longitudinal growth which is specifically adapted to house the sexual reproductive parts of plants;

"flower stem" means the flower bearing stem from the base of the flower/inflorescence up to the harvest cut off point;

"Food Business Operator (FBO)" means the person or persons responsible for ensuring that the prescribed requirements of these standards are met within the food business under his or her control and include both the management of the food business as well as the person with overall authority on site or in the specific establishment;

"foreign matter" means any material not normally present in, on or between the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage, excluding chemical residues and non-toxic colourants which are used to colour flowers;

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

"inflorescence" means a single or branched stem with a number of flowers which houses the sexual reproductive parts of plants;

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

"malformation" means that any species and/or cultivar of Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage has a shape which is not typical of the species and/or cultivar concerned;

"safety" means assurance that a product is acceptable for its intended use;

"sound" means that the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage are free from insects, insect damage, diseases or any visible external or internal physiological disorders or damage which may noticeably affect the quality of the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage;

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

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

"traceability" means the ability to trace and follow a food product or any substance intended to be, or expected to be incorporated into a food product through all stages of production, packing, processing, handling and distribution;

"well-formed" means that the shape of the Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage of any species and/or cultivar is typical of that species and/or cultivar; and

"wilted" means that Cape Flora, Chinkerinchees, Cut Flowers or Ornamental Foliage have lost their freshness or that the petals, sepals or leaves show signs of browning and/or blackening as well as decline.

Scope

2. These standards and requirements shall relate to fresh cut flowers and fresh ornamental foliage in respect of which an approval for the export thereof is required in terms of section 4 of the Act.

Requirements for approval

3. (1) An approval referred to in section 4 of the Act may be issued in respect of a consignment of fresh cut flowers and/or fresh ornamental foliage if --

- (a) the fresh cut flowers and/or fresh ornamental foliage in that consignment comply with the quality standards prescribed in items 4, 13, 22 and 31;
- (b) the fresh cut flowers and/or fresh ornamental foliage are packed in containers which comply with the requirements prescribed in item 5, 14, 23 and 32;
- (c) the fresh cut flowers and/or fresh ornamental foliage comply with the packing requirements prescribed in items 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34 and 35;
- (d) the containers concerned are marked according to the requirements prescribed in items 9, 10, 18, 19, 27, 28, 36 and 37;
- (e) the samples for inspection are drawn according to the requirements prescribed in items 11, 20, 29 and 38;
- (f) the fresh cut flowers and/or fresh ornamental foliage comply with the phytosanitary requirements specified by the Director of the Directorate of Plant Health;
- (g) that consignment has been presented for inspection in accordance with the Regulations regarding Control of the Export of Fresh Cut Flowers and Fresh Ornamental Foliage; and
- (h) an inspector found, after an inspection in terms of the said regulations, that the provisions of these standards and requirements have been complied with in respect of the consignment concerned.

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(2) The Executive Officer may deviate from the stipulated standards and requirements and issue the approval in respect of a quantity of a product that --

- (a) is to be exported as an experiment or under such other special circumstances as may be approved by the Executive Officer; and
- (b) complies with the requirements for such produce in force in the country to which it is to be exported.