

## QUALITY STANDARD FOR PEARS (*Pyrus communis*)

EC Reg. No. 86/04 of 15/01/04

*Pear (Eng.), Poire (Franç), Pera (Esp.), Birne (Deutsch)*



### PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING

1. Name of packer and/or dispatcher.
2. The indication "PEARS" if produce is not visible from the outside.
3. Name of the variety for all classes.
4. Origin of produce (country, nation, region...).
5. Classes: "Extra" Class; Class I; Class II.
- 6a. Minimum and maximum size or, for fruit packed in rows and layers, number of units.
- 6b. Size followed by + (and over) for produce not subject to the uniformity rules (for Class II fruit packed loose in the package).
7. BND00 code (national databank of fruit and vegetable operators).

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Pears must be: intact, sound, clean, sufficiently developed, free from pests and any damage caused by pests, any foreign smell and/or taste, abnormal external moisture.

The development of the pears must be such as to enable them to continue their ripening process; for this purpose, they must display satisfactory ripeness and an adequate degree of soluble solids.

### PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

#### Large fruited varieties

Size is determined by the maximum diameter of the equatorial section of the fruit.

- a. "Extra" Class: minimum size 60 mm – Other varieties 55 mm
- b. Class I: minimum size 55 mm – Other varieties 50 mm
- c. Class II: minimum size 55 mm – Other varieties 45 mm

**Size scale:** number of fruit and fruit size in 30x50 cm packages with rigid pockets.

No. of fruit	Diameter	No. of fruit	Diameter
12	80-85 mm	16-20	65-70 mm
12-14	75-80 mm	20-24	60-65 mm
14-16	70-75 mm		

#### Uniformity

The difference in diameter between fruit shall be limited to 5 mm for "Extra" Class fruit and for Class I and II fruit packed in regular layers; 10 mm for Class I fruit packed loose in the package. There is no sizing uniformity limit for Class II fruit.

### PROVISIONS REGARDING PRESENTATION

In packages with fruit packed either in regular layers or loose, the fruit of the upper layer must be representative of the entire contents.

The pears of the "Extra" Class must be packed in regular layers and must be uniform in colouring and russetting.

**Note:** No minimum size will be laid down for small fruited varieties harvested and dispatched between 10<sup>th</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> July. Marking must indicate the name of the variety.

### PROVISIONS REGARDING TOLERANCES

**"Extra" Class:** pears in this class must be free from defects and deterioration.

**Class I:** the following defects are allowed: slight defects in shape, development and colouring; slight skin defects which must not extend over more than 2 cm in length for defects of elongated shape, 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area for other defects, with the exception of scab (*Venturia pirina* and *inaequalis*), which must not extend over more than 0.25 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area; slight bruising not exceeding 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area and not discoloured. The stalk may be slightly damaged. Pears must not be gritty.

**Class II:** the following defects are allowed: skin defects which must not extend over more than 4 cm in length for defects of elongated shape, 2.5 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area for other defects, with the exception of scab (*Venturia pirina* and *inaequalis*), which must not extend over more than 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area; slight bruising not exceeding 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of total surface area.

### QUALITY TOLERANCES IN THE SAME PACKAGE

**"Extra" Class:** 5% by number or weight of pears not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class I.

**Class I:** 10% by number or weight of pears not satisfying the requirements of the class but meeting those of Class II.

**Class II:** 10% by number or weight of pears satisfying neither the requirements of the class nor the minimum requirements, with exception of produce affected by rotting or any other deterioration rendering it unfit for consumption.