

Quality Standards (QS) Review 2020-21
Quality Standards Consultative Group Meeting, 16 March 2020.

Submission Summary

	Name	Organisation	Reason for submission	Clause in current QS Manual	Proposed change and rationale	Consultative Group Review Feedback 1	Adopted	Rejected								
1	Chris Frost	JP Exports Limited	To save resources and money for growers and marketers.	Quality Manual 4.6.3	Amend 'all other markets' to 'for China'. This requirement is not actionable for all other markets. It is costly for growers and a time was for grower reps and packhouses.	Action: Review and come back with alternative statement or deletion proposal to next meeting.	Pending									
2	Ross Mutton and Ivan Stanicich	Individual	Request that Maluma Hass be accepted for harvest clearance at a lower dry matter across the industry.	Part 10 Section 3.0 New Zealand Market Maturity	Maluma has an eating maturity at a lower dry matter - it is harvested for local market only. It is harvested at a lower dry matter everywhere else in the world i.e. 19% Maluma begins to drop off the tree early in its life before reaching 23% clearance.	To be handled via dispensation process.		Rejected								
3	Graham Cater	Seeka	Seeka are in favour of the existing quality standards for water blaster pressure use, and support that these remain as per the current standard. Before any change to the existing standard the collated data from trials across several seasons and assessment of the results be presented for discussion and agreement.			Acknowledge that there has been no submission to change the current standards as of this review process.	Adopted									
4	Hugh Moore	Individual	Poor quality presentation of fruit in the international market place which means we are not meeting the NZ Avocado position of premium fruit. In the last decade repeated quality standards meeting has received a call to tighten up on our grade standards as the NZ fruit is scruffy in market compared to our competitor in Australia and Asian marketplace. Full submission available on request.	Part 5. 7.0 Export Grade Standards Clause 7.1.8- change to tolerances to more acceptable limits to meet our international market partners requirement and quality expectations.	That the reject category be changed to reduce the tolerance levels to be something similar as the examples below- <table><tr><td><u>Defect category</u></td><td><u>Tolerance</u></td></tr><tr><td>Major</td><td>4 or 5 % MGD</td></tr><tr><td>Minor</td><td>7 or 8 %MGDL</td></tr><tr><td>Cumulative</td><td>8 or 9 % MGD</td></tr></table>	<u>Defect category</u>	<u>Tolerance</u>	Major	4 or 5 % MGD	Minor	7 or 8 %MGDL	Cumulative	8 or 9 % MGD	Two issues: increase in audits and change in tolerance level. Requires further review to substantiate. Needs to be discussed with all stakeholders. Action: Review grade standards scale and come back with a framework for endorsement by the Group.	Pending	
<u>Defect category</u>	<u>Tolerance</u>															
Major	4 or 5 % MGD															
Minor	7 or 8 %MGDL															
Cumulative	8 or 9 % MGD															
5	Hugh Moore	Individual	Follow on from submission 1 (above) to meet market quality expectations as over the last 2 decades’ growers fruit presented for packing has decreased in visual quality considerably. This has happened as trees have deteriorated in health and gotten taller along with reduced height of boundary shelter along with inappropriate shelter species.	7.0 Export Grade Standards Class 1 Clause 7.2.2 Allowances for minor defects. Ridging Area= less than 50% in any one longitudinal view etc.	Less than 25% in any one longitudinal view.	Need to consult on the longitudinal view. Action: Agreed that the wording on colour should change, submit proposed wording to next meeting.	Pending									
6	Hugh Moore	Individual		Blemish Superficial healed surface scar less than 2mm deep, colour may be light brown to black etc.	A complete rewrite by removing any lentice or nodule damage to its own section and define it as a view like ridging and not an area as most people cannot measure or calculate scattered damage quickly or effectively. Also refer to Thrip damage by name in the blemish section. Produce a new category for Lential damage in the wall grade posters.	As above.	Pending									
7	Hugh Moore	Individual		Clause 7.2.1 Major Defects- Colour Again better presentation of a premium quality pack	A reduction in the allowance for red and yellow fruit as the current grade does not present well. Remove the words "mostly" and "green background" and change to green foreground. Also add the words solid/permanent colour less than 0.1cm2	As above.	Pending									
8	Kate Trufitt	Apata Group Limited	Water testing	3.13	Testing too onerous and didn't achieve outcome.	Feedback received from industry and research with other industries.	Pending									

						Noted no radical changes to be made until research is reviewed. Action: Proceed with review and bring findings back to the next meeting.		
9	Kate Trufitt	Apata Group Limited	Water blaster	Appendix 6/7	General review.	As above.	Pending	
10	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited		NZ MARKET Consolidating NZ Market grade standards	Appendix with recommendations attached	Terminology around the grades used to describe fruit in the domestic market (class vs. tag). For the purposes of our documentation suggested we call all fruit by the term ‘class’. Action: Bring roadmap back the next meeting – work on this and pre-circulate to packer and NZ marketers.	Pending	
11	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited		Maturity Standards Maluma Hass	GP to supply further data and rationale for this			Rejected
12	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 2 GROWER: Grower 6.1	Harvesting fruit off the ground Should not to must not	6.1 Harvest Conditions Fruit must not be harvested when: EMS Requirement 6.1.1 It is on the ground or it has fallen to the ground in the process of harvesting. 6.1.2 The Grower must ensure that under no conditions are windfall fruit collected and packed for export. 6.1.3 Under no circumstances are drop bags to be used as this contravene Health and Safety.	Action: Noted that elevated work platforms must be used within their design limitations. Review clause 6.1.3 and amend to ensure everyone understands the intent.	Adopted	
13	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 2 GROWER: 9.5 Flow diagram	Harvest conditions	No drop bags to be used by Grower harvesters		Adopted	
14	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 3 AGRICHEMICAL: Agrichemical Section	No Clause Industry – NZ GAP Global GAP will be worse	Articulate what is the appropriate timing for calibration of spray units for Growers who are only doing their own spraying. ? Every second year If they do it themselves – passes Auditors – taking Growers word that done Can it be done in between What are you fining % nozzle outputs are not right – blocked – so pressure puts out the same Check the nozzles Sustainability Every 2 years for private Growers and every year for contractors – regardless of whether there is a controller or not as controller just pushesout		Pending	
15	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 3 AGRICHEMICAL: 1.3.1 Applying Sprays	Add in Pilot Chemical Rating	All persons including Growers and/or Spray Contractors applying sprays to each export registered PPIN, without supervision must hold a current applicable Growsafe® Standard Certificate or Pilot Chemical Application Rating . This will be verified by industry audit.		Adopted	
16	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 3 AGRICHEMICAL: 2.4.3	Justified Approval for dispensation	2.4.3 Written Justified Approval for dispensation for use of non-registered chemicals or off label use of products may be granted by NZ Avocado under exceptional circumstances. Any conditions pertaining to this dispensation must be met, and a copy of the dispensation supplied by the grower along with the spray diary.		Adopted	

17	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 4 CONTRACT HARVESTERS: 2.1 Compliance	Food Safety requirements	Noting the current for FS is “Where required. Should this be an EMS expectation? Where required, the Contract Harvester must provide evidence of accreditation to an independent third party audited, recognised food safety programme or other Global Food Safety International Standards for avocados such as GlobalGAP, NZGAP, to the Grower and the Packer.		Adopted	
18	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 4 CONTRACT HARVESTERS: 2.3 Harvest conditions	Clarification from should to must not and further clarification of windfall fruit	Fruit must not be harvested: 2.3.1 It is on the ground or it has fallen to the ground in the process of harvesting. 2.3.2 The Grower must ensure that under no conditions are windfall fruit collected and packed for export		Adopted	
19	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 4 CONTRACT HARVESTERS: 2.4.2 Drop bags	Drop Bags	Health and Safety and fruit quality Under no circumstances are drop bags to be used from a health and safety perspective and from a fruit quality perspective.		Adopted	
20	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 4 CONTRACT HARVESTERS: 2.8	Align diagram to working	Health and Safety and fruit quality No harvesting with drop bags		Adopted	
21	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 5 PACKER	Water Quality Testing	What does this look like?	Action: Submit plan/process/wording to next meeting.	Pending	
22	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 5 PACKER: 2.4 Pick to load out	Remove and/or and keep only or	Container Shipping 6 days to container loading, or 7 days to scheduled sailing		Adopted	
23	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 5 PACKER: 7.2.1	Grades Standards Colour	Clarification: Colour is allowable only where there is colour with a green background.		Adopted	
24	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 5 PACKER: 7.2.1	Remove reference to firmometer as no longer applicable	Soft Fruit; allowance = nil Fruit that is soft to the touch and has a firmometer reading greater than 25 using a 300g weight.		Adopted	
25	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 5 PACKER: 7.2.2. Minor defects Blemish and Peel Handling Damage	Nodule Damage	Update and clarification: Remove any mention of lenticel damage from the blemish section. Replace Peel Handling damage with Nodule Damage and wording as follows: Nodule damage includes any visible damage to the nodule, and likely to fall under one of the following descriptions: Lenticel Damage: Superficial damage to the lenticels/nodules which are sunken and have turned black and glossy. Peel Handling Damage: A dark grey diffuse area around the nodule and spreading beyond individual nodules. Abrasion Damage: The tops of the nodules have been removed or cut. Generally visible as superficial corky-coloured would where the nodule was.	Action: Reflect on this – to be considered at next meeting.	Pending	
26	Glenys Parton	NZ Avocado Industry Limited	PART 6 EXPORTER: Residue acceptance policy	MRL and PHI Policy	Add the essence of the agreed Board /organisational policy into the exporter section	Action: Circulate draft policy to Group.	Pending	