

DRIED EDIBLE MUSHROOMS GRADING AND MARKING RULES

1. Short title and application.—(1) These rules may be called Dried Edible Mushrooms Grading and Marking Rules, 1972.

(2) They shall apply to dried edible mushrooms of the varieties produced in India.

2. Definitions.—In these rules:—

(1) "Agricultural Marketing Adviser" means the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India;

(2) "Mushroom" means dried edible mushroom;

(3) "Schedule" means a Schedule appended to these rules.

3. Grade designation.—The grade designations to indicate the quality of dried edible mushrooms shall be as set out in column 2 of Schedule I.

4. Definition of quality.—The quality indicated by the respective grade designations shall be as set out against each grade designation in columns 3 to 6 and the general characteristics applicable to all the grades as set out in column 7 of Schedules I.

5. Grade designation mark.—The grade designation mark shall consist of a label specifying the grade designation and bearing a design (consisting of an outline map of India with the word "AGMARK" and the figures of the rising sun, with the words "Produce of India" and ("भारतीय उत्पाद") resembling the one as set out in Schedule II.

6. Method of marking.—(1) The grade designation mark label shall be securely affixed to each container in a manner approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser and shall clearly show the following particulars namely:—

- (a) Commodity and grade designation.
- (b) Net weight.
- (c) Date and place of packing.

(2) An authorised packer may, after obtaining the prior approval of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser, mark his private trade mark on a container, in a manner approved by the said Officer or an Officer authorised by him in this behalf, provided that the private trade mark does not

represent quality or grade of edible mushrooms different from that indicated by the grade designation mark affixed to the container in accordance with these rules.

7. Method of packing.—(1) Only strong, sound, clean and dry and durable containers, as may be prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser shall be used for packing. They shall be free from any insect or fungus infestation and shall also be free from any undesirable odour.

(2) The containers shall be securely closed and sealed in such manner as may be prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.

(3) Each package shall contain only dried edible mushroom of the varieties mentioned in Schedule I.

8. Special conditions of certificate of Authorisation.—In addition to the conditions specified in rule 4 of the General Grading and Marking Rules, 1937, the following special conditions shall be observed by packers to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser namely:—

- (a) An authorised packer shall make such arrangements for dried edible mushrooms as may be prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
- (b) An authorised packer shall provide all facilities to the Inspecting Officer duly authorised by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser for sampling, testing and such other matters as may be necessary in connection with grading and Agmarking of dried edible mushrooms.

9. Fumigation.—If an Agmarked dried edible mushroom consignment is exported by land or water route, then it shall be necessary to get the consignment fumigated at exporters' cost within 15 days of actual export through the authorised fumigation agencies duly supported by a Fumigation Certificate issued by the said agency. For consignment of dried edible mushroom sent by air, fumigation may be voluntary.

SCHEDULE I

(See Rules 3 and 4)

Grade designations and definition of quality of dried edible mushrooms (*Guech*) (black Indian morels) of the botanical varieties *Morchella esculenta*, *Morchella austroceps* and *Morchella conica*.

Sl. No.	Grade designation	Special characteristics				General characteristics
		Maximum Length of Tail (stalk) In cms.	Maximum (c) broken	Percentage weight	by Pieces (d) Foreign Matter (e)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Extra Special	0.5	5.0	2.0	2.5	1. The produce shall be fully dried and shall not contain moisture in excess of 12 percent by weight
2	Special	1.2	5.0	2.0	2.5	2. The produce shall be free from sand bags, stones, sand, mud, etc.
3	Standard	2.5	5.0	2.0	2.5	3. The produce shall be free from varieties of Mushrooms other than the three varieties mentioned in the heading of this Schedule.
4	General (Sant bag/pockets) clipped quality.	5.0	5.0	2.0	2.5	4. The produce shall be free from apparently visible insects, mould, etc.
5.	Tails (a)	..	..	..	..	5. The produce shall have characteristic flavour of dried edible mushroom and shall be free from off-flavour and the produce shall be of the current harvest year unless specifically mentioned otherwise.
6.	B.S. Grade (b)					

Tolerance.— Dried edible mushroom having a maximum tail length prescribed for the next lower grade shall be allowed upto a maximum of 5 per cent by weight

- (a) **Tail.**— Means stalk of dried edible mushroom above the sand-bags and sand-pocket above the root.
- (b) **B.S. Grade** — Means the produce which does not conform to any of the grades 1 to 5 in this schedule but is in accordance with the specifications of the importer (buyer) contained in a *firm order* (Firm Order means an order given by an importer abroad to an exporter in India which is accompanied by a letter of Credit or to her documentary evidence to show that the exporter has received an order or a grade of Credit edible mushroom different in specifications to the Agmark grades)
- (c) **Broken.**— Means heads which have lost more than one-fourths of the surface but are larger than the pieces. (Head means the honey-combed conical or umbrella shaped structure above the talk or the tail of edible mushroom).
- (d) **Pieces.**— Means pieces of head of any of the above three varieties of mushrooms measure less than 0.5 cm. n length.
- (e) **Foreign matter.**— Means sand, sand-bags, stones, splinters, mud and any other organic or inorganic foreign matter
- (f) **Sand bags pockets.** — Means the bottom portion of the stalk usually filled with earth or sand.
- (g) **Harvest year** — Means the year beginning from 1st April and ending on 31st March coinciding with the Export year beginning from 1st April and ending on 31st March each year.

SCHEDULE II (See Rule 5)

Design for the grade designation mark

{picture as depicted on page 14 (Schedule- I)}