STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS OF A GENERAL CHARACTER ISSUED IN 1957

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

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MARKETING OF FRUIT

Conditions of Marketing of Apples

MARKETING OF FRUIT RULES (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1957

RULES, DATED 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1957, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931(a).

1957. No. 193 [C]

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section Fifteen of the Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931, and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, orders, and it is hereby ordered as follows:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Marketing of Fruit Rules (Northern Ireland), 1957, and shall come into operation on the first day of October, nineteen hundred and fifty-seven.

Revocation

2. The Marketing of Fruit Rules (Northern Ireland), 1956(b) and the Marketing of Fruit (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland), 1956(c) are hereby revoked.

Definitions

3. In these Rules:—

(1) the expression "Ministry" shall mean the Ministry of Agriculture;

(2) the expression "authorised" shall mean authorised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Application

4. These Rules shall apply to apples only.

Licences

5.—(1) Application for a licence shall be made in the form or to the effect stated in the First Schedule.

(a) 21 and 22 Geo. 5. c. 8.
(b) S.R. & O. 1956 No. 135.
(c) S.R. & O. 1956 No. 209.

(2) A licence shall be in the form or to the effect stated in the Second Schedule.

Permits

6.—(1) Application for a permit may be made in the form or to the effect stated in the Seventh Schedule.

(2) A Permit may be in the form or to the effect stated in the Eighth Schedule.

Conditions to be observed by Licence-holders or Permit-holders when consigning Apples from Northern Ireland under the authority of a licence or permit

7.—(1) A licence-holder shall maintain in Northern Ireland premises including storage and other facilities satisfactory to the Ministry for the handling and packing of apples.

(2) A licence-holder or permit-holder shall:—

(*a*) not send any apples out of Northern Ireland to Great Britain or the Isle of Man save under the authority of his own licence or permit, the number of which shall be clearly marked on each container;

(*b*) be responsible for the grade and quality of the contents of each container;

(*c*) furnish to the carrier or person conveying the apples a Return of Shipment to accompany the consignment in the form or to the effect stated in the Sixth Schedule. Where such consignment is loaded in two or more vehicles, the licence-holder or permit-holder shall furnish a separate Return of Shipment in respect of each vehicle. Where two or more consignments are loaded in one vehicle, the licence-holder or permit-holder shall furnish a separate Return of Shipment in respect of each consignment.

(3) Graded apples sent by licence-holders or permit-holders from Northern Ireland to Great Britain or the Isle of Man under the authority of a licence or permit shall be:—

(*a*) of the grades and quality as laid down in the Third Schedule; and

(*b*) in containers which are of the types specified in the Fourth Schedule and which are packed and marked as laid down in that Schedule.

Consignment of Culinary Apples below "Standard" grade

8. Notwithstanding any provisions of these Rules, culinary apples which fail to reach the requirements for "Standard" Grade as laid down in the Third Schedule but which are "Commercial" (as defined in Part I of the Fifth Schedule) may be sent for the fresh fruit market to Great Britain or the Isle of Man on and after 1st October in each season, subject to the conditions that they shall (*a*) be packed only in Box "Z", in the Non-returnable Bushel Box, or in cartons, the specifications for the construction of which are given in the Fourth Schedule, and (*b*) conform to the other requirements laid down in the Fourth and Fifth Schedules.

Grade Designation

9. The designations Fancy ("F") and Standard referred to in the Third Schedule, shall be the "grade designations" for the purposes of Section 10 of the Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931, and the quality as laid down in the Third Schedule shall be the definition of quality referred to in that Act as "the statutory definition".

Small Consignments

10. The provisions of Part I of the Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931, shall not apply to consignments of apples sent to Great Britain or the Isle of Man from Northern Ireland weighing not more than one and a half hundredweights.

Ungraded Fruit for Manufacture

11. Licence-holders or permit-holders may send ungraded apples from Northern Ireland to Great Britain or the Isle of Man subject to the conditions laid down in the Ninth Schedule.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this eleventh day of September Nineteen hundred and fifty-seven in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. C. Baird,*
Assistant Secretary.

FIRST SCHEDULE

M.F.1

Form of Application for a Licence under the Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931

(1) I/We ..... hereby apply for a Licence under the above-mentioned Act to send fruit to Great Britain or the Isle of Man.

(2) I/We enclose herewith cheque for £1 being the annual fee prescribed by the above-mentioned Act for a Licence.

(3) I/We maintain storage and other facilities for handling and packing of apples at.....

(4) I/We hereby undertake, in the event of a Licence being granted to me/us, to comply with the provisions of the above-mentioned Act and of the Rules made thereunder and with such Rules and directions as the Ministry may from time to time issue.

Signature of Applicant(s).....

Full Postal Address.....

.....

.....

Date.....

To the Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Stormont,
Belfast.

SECOND SCHEDULE

M.F.2

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

Licence

Licence Number.....
This is to certify that.....
of .....
in the County of.....is/are licensed under the above-mentioned Act to send fruit to Great Britain or the Isle of Man, subject to compliance with the provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder and with such Rules and directions as the Ministry may from time to time issue.

This licence is valid up to and including the.....day of .....19.....

Dated this.....day of.....19.....

.....
Authorised Officer

THIRD SCHEDULE

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

Grading and Quality

FANCY ("F")

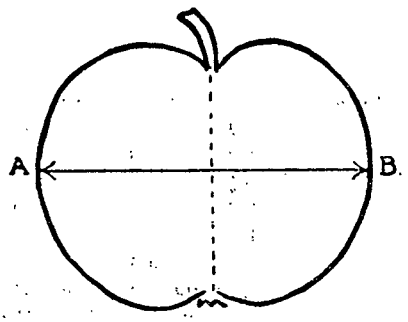
Grading	*Quality*
For apples of a shape and colour characteristic of the variety. The diameter of any apple in this grade shall not be less than 2½ inches for culinary apples and not less than 2 inches for dessert apples.	Apples shall be clean and in good condition, and shall be free from such blemishes or mechanical injuries as are calculated to impair their keeping qualities. Skin blemishes shall not exceed a total area of ½ inch square on any one culinary apple or ⅜ inch square on any one dessert apple.

STANDARD

Grading	*Quality*
For apples of a reasonably uniform shape. The diameter of any apple shall not be less than 2¼ inches for culinary apples and not less than 2 inches for dessert apples.	Apples shall be clean and in good condition, and shall be free from such blemishes or mechanical injuries as are calculated to impair their keeping qualities. Skin blemishes shall not exceed a total area of ¾ inch square on any one culinary apple, or ⅜ inch square on any one dessert apple.

N.B.1. "Clean" means free from dirt, spray residue and other foreign material.

N.B.2. The diameter as referred to above means the longest transverse dimension taken at right angles to a line running from the eye (blossom) to the stem as shown in the following illustration:—



The diameter of the apple in above sketch is the distance between the points A and B.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

PART I

Packages and Packing Material for "Fancy" and "Standard" Grades

1. Apples shall be packed in any of the following containers, specifications for the construction of which are given below:—

(1) British Standard apple box
(2) Box "Z"
(3) Non-returnable Bushel Box
(4) Carton No. 1
(5) Carton No. 2

2. No packing materials may be used other than those specified in Part II of this Schedule.

3. All packages and packing materials shall be clean and free from odours likely to affect the flavour of the apples.

Specification for Containers

4. "B.S.A." Box

Internal Dimensions	...	18″ × 11½″ × 10½″
Ends	2 pieces ...	11½″ × 10½″ × ¾″ *
Sides	4 „ ...	19½″ × 5″ × 5/16″ *
Top and Bottom	4 „ ...	19½″ × 5½″ × 3/16″ *
Cleats	4 „ ...	11″ × ¾″ × ¼″ *

* These measurements must be actual, not nominal.

All timber must be clean, dry and free from bark, wane and feather. The internal dimensions must be adhered to precisely. In assembling the box the boards shall be fitted close together at the centre and spaces left along the edges of the box. For nailing the pieces together 1½″ cement-coated 14 gauge wire nails shall be used. The nails shall be inserted between ½″ and 1″ from the edges of the boards forming the sides, top and bottom of the box. Two nails are sufficient to fix the end of each board to the end of the box.

5. Box "Z"

Internal Dimensions ...	20″ × 13½″ × 10″
Two Sides	21⅛″ × 10″ × 7/16″ in two pieces
Bottom	21⅛″ × 13½″ × 7/16″ in three pieces
Four Posts	10¾″ × 2″ × 2″ diagonally cut
Two Ends	13½″ × 9″ × 9/16″ in three pieces

The space between any two boards must not exceed ½″. In addition a further opening must be cut at an equal distance from each end at the top of each middle board ½″ deep and approximately 3½″ wide. Alternatively, 1″ space may be left between the middle and top boards at each end provided that a smooth chamfer is made

along the whole of the inside edge of each of the four boards (two at each end). The chamfer must leave a thickness at the edge of not more than $\frac{5}{16}$" or less than $\frac{1}{4}$" and have a face not more than $\frac{5}{8}$" or less than $\frac{3}{8}$". The space between the middle and bottom boards at each end must not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$".

Lid	$21\frac{3}{8}$" × $13\frac{1}{2}$" × $\frac{3}{16}$" in three pieces with corners diagonally cut or alternatively a cardboard cover may be used.
Two Cleats for wooden lid	$9\frac{1}{2}$" × $\frac{3}{4}$" × $\frac{1}{4}$"
Two Battens on the ends as hand grips ...	6" to 10" × $1\frac{1}{2}$" × $\frac{1}{2}$"

All the above measurements must be actual, not nominal.

All timber must be clean, dry and free from bark, wane and feather. Timber which is not liable to split when nailed must be used in the corner posts, the lid, the cleats and in the top board in each end. Fourteen gauge $1\frac{1}{2}$" cement-coated wire nails only must be used throughout, save for fixing battens.

6. NON-RETURNABLE BUSHEL BOX

Internal Dimensions ...	20" × $13\frac{1}{2}$" × $8\frac{1}{2}$"
Two Sides	$20\frac{3}{4}$" × $8\frac{1}{2}$" × $\frac{3}{16}$" in two pieces
Bottom	$20\frac{3}{4}$" × $12\frac{3}{4}$" × $\frac{3}{16}$" in three pieces
Four Posts	$9\frac{1}{2}$" × $1\frac{1}{2}$" × $1\frac{1}{2}$" diagonally cut
Two Ends	$13\frac{1}{2}$" × $8\frac{1}{2}$" × $\frac{3}{8}$" in three pieces

All the above measurements must be actual, not nominal.

Softwood timber only to be used and all timber must be clean, dry and free from bark, wane and feather.

The space between the top and middle boards in the ends must be $\frac{3}{4}$" and the space between the middle and bottom boards in the ends must not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$".

7. CARTON No. 1

Internal Dimensions ...	18" × $12\frac{1}{2}$" × $10\frac{1}{2}$"
Construction	Case to be a metal stitched case made from one sheet of double faced corrugated fibreboard, outer facing ·017 Kraft Liner, inner facing ·017 Kraft Liner, outside flaps to overlap. The completed case must have been accepted by the British Transport Commission as a Fibreboard Container suitable for a 40 to 45 lb. weight of goods.
Dividing Pieces ...	Two dividing pieces of double faced corrugated fibreboard with both facings of ·014 Chipboard shall be used to separate the carton into two equal compartments. Each piece shall be 43" long by $10\frac{1}{2}$" deep, scored and folded at $4\frac{1}{2}$" and 17" from both ends, and the corrugations shall run parallel to the $10\frac{1}{2}$" end.
Fastening the Bottom ...	The outside bottom flaps of the case must be sealed before packing with sodium silicate or an equally suitable substance.

These specifications must be regarded as fixed for size and method of construction but may be regarded as minimum so far as quality of fibreboard is concerned.

8. CARTON No. 2

Internal Dimensions ...	14½″ × 9″ × 9″
Construction	Case to be a metal stitched case made from one sheet of double faced corrugated fibreboard, outer facing ·014 Kraft Liner, inner facing ·014 Kraft Liner, outside flaps to overlap. The completed case must have been accepted by the British Transport Commission as a Fibreboard Container suitable for a 20 to 25 lb. weight of goods.
Liner	One Liner shall be used of double faced corrugated fibreboard with both facings of ·014 Chipboard. It shall be 47″ long by 9″ deep, scored and folded at 9″, 23½″ and 32½″ from one end, and the corrugations shall run parallel to the 9″ end.
Fastening the Bottom ...	The outside bottom flaps of the case must be sealed before packing with sodium silicate or an equally suitable substance.

These specifications must be regarded as fixed for size and method of construction but may be regarded as minimum so far as quality of fibreboard is concerned.

PART II

Packing

1. Only apples of one variety shall be packed in any one container.

2. Apples packed in any container shall be so packed that any fruit exposed to view, or which would be exposed to view if the container were opened in the ordinary manner, fairly represents in size, maturity and condition the entire contents of the container.

3. All packages and packing materials shall be clean and free from odours likely to affect the flavour of the apples.

4. "B.S.A." Box

A sheet of corrugated cardboard 17½″ by 11″ shall be placed on the bottom of the box with the smooth side next the fruit. Two sheets of good quality lining paper, 17½″ to 18″ wide and not less than 23″ or more than 32″ long shall be placed in the box in such a way that they cover the bottom and sides of the box and extend sufficiently far above the mouth of the box to cover over the top of the fruit when the box has been filled. In the same way two sheets 11″ wide and 18″ long shall be used to cover the ends of the box. The apples shall be packed in the box by the method known to the trade as the "diagonal pack". When the box has been filled, the lining papers shall be folded over the top of the apples and a sheet of corrugated cardboard 17½″ by 11″ placed over the lining papers with the smooth side next the fruit. The lid should then be affixed by means of nails driven through the cleat at each end.

5. Box "Z"

(*a*) A sheet of corrugated cardboard, of a quality not less than 30 lb. to the roll, shall be placed smooth side next the fruit below the bottom layer and at each end of the box and another sheet above the top layer of apples, and no substitute for corrugated cardboard shall be used.

(*b*) A wood wool, excelsior or cellulose pad not exceeding 1" in thickness may be placed under and/or over the apples in addition to the sheet of corrugated cardboard. Where a cardboard lid is used the sheet of corrugated cardboard above the top layer of apples may be dispensed with. The sides of the box may be lined with plain paper, if so desired.

(*c*) The apples shall be firmly packed in the box and there shall be sufficient bulge on the top of the box to ensure that when the wooden lid is nailed down the apples are held firmly in position. This lid must be nailed through the cleat at each end of the box and be further secured by wire round the box at each end. Where a cardboard lid is used, it must be secured by means of at least two staples at each end and at each side of the box.

6. Non-returnable Bushel Box

(*a*) A sheet of corrugated cardboard, of a quality not less than 30 lb. to the roll, shall be placed smooth side next the fruit below the bottom layer and at each end of the box. No substitute for corrugated cardboard shall be used.

(*b*) A wood wool, excelsior or cellulose pad not exceeding 1" in thickness, may be placed over and/or under the apples in addition to the sheet of corrugated cardboard. The sides of the box may be lined with plain paper, if so desired.

(*c*) The apples shall be firmly packed in the box, and the cardboard lid must be secured by means of at least two staples at each end and at each side of the box.

7. Carton No. 1 and Carton No. 2

(*a*) A wood wool, excelsior or cellulose pad not exceeding 1" in thickness may be placed under and/or over the apples.

(*b*) The apples shall be so packed that when the two flaps constituting the lid are secured the fruit is held firmly in position.

(*c*) The outside top flaps must be folded over, secured by means of adhesive tape or two wires or two bands, one at each end of the carton. Each wire or band shall, in the case of Carton No. 1, be not less than 2" and not more than 4" from the end of the carton and, in the case of Carton No. 2, not less than 2" and not more than 3" from the end of the carton.

Part III

Marking

1. Each "B.S.A." box shall have a stick-on label approximately 11 inches by 10 inches affixed to one end clearly printed with letters and figures ½ inch high with:—

(*a*) the number of the licence or permit held by the consignor;

(*b*) the variety;

(*c*) the description "F" or "Standard";

(*d*) the net weight of apples in lb. or the actual number of apples.

In addition the words "Produce of Northern Ireland" shall be clearly printed on the label with "Northern Ireland" in letters ¾ inch high and "Produce of" in whatever size of letters desired, provided they are legible.

2. Each "Z" box when covered with a cardboard lid, shall be clearly printed or stamped on the lid with letters and figures ½ inch high with:—

(*a*) the number of the licence or permit held by the consignor;

(*b*) the variety;

(*c*) the description "F" or "Standard";

(*d*) the net weight of apples in lb.

In addition the words "Produce of Northern Ireland" shall be clearly printed or stamped on the lid with "Northern Ireland" in letters ¾ inch high and "Produce of" in whatever size of letters desired, provided they are legible.

In the case of the "Z" box when covered with a wooden lid, the above particulars in the same size of letters and figures shall be clearly printed or stamped on a label (approximately 6 inches by 4 inches) securely affixed to one end of the box.

3. Each non-returnable bushel box shall be clearly printed or stamped on the lid with letters and figures ½ inch high with:—

(*a*) the number of the licence or permit held by the consignor;

(*b*) the variety;

(*c*) the description "F" or "Standard";

(*d*) the net weight of apples in lb.

In addition the words "Produce of Northern Ireland" shall be clearly printed or stamped on the lid with "Northern Ireland" in letters ¾ inch high and "Produce of" in whatever size of letters desired, provided they are legible.

4. Each carton (No. 1 or No. 2) shall either:—

(i) have securely affixed to one or BOTH ENDS a stick-on label* clearly printed or stamped with letters and figures ½ inch high with:—

(*a*) the number of the licence or permit held by the consignor;

(*b*) the variety;

(*c*) the description "F" or "Standard";

(*d*) the net weight of apples in lb.

In addition the words "Produce of Northern Ireland" shall be clearly printed or stamped on the label with "Northern Ireland" in letters ¾ inch high and "Produce of" in whatever size of letters desired, provided they are legible.

or (ii) be clearly printed or stamped with letters and figures ½ inch high on BOTH ENDS with the requirements at (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) in this paragraph.

In addition the words "Produce of Northern Ireland" shall be clearly printed or stamped on BOTH ENDS with "Northern Ireland" in letters ¾ inch high and "Produce of" in whatever size of letters desired, provided they are legible.

* The stick-on label for carton No. 1 shall be 11 inches by 10 inches and for carton No. 2 shall be 8 inches by 8 inches. The labels may be to the shipper's design provided they comply with the requirements of this Schedule.

FIFTH SCHEDULE

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

PART I

Definition of "Commercial" in the case of Culinary Apples

Apples referred to in Article 8 of these Rules as "Commercial" shall be regarded as apples which are not less than 2¼ inches in diameter, are free from decay, are in sound marketable condition, do not have skin blemishes exceeding a total area of 2 square inches on any one apple, or any cracks greater in depth than ⅛ inch.

PART II

Packages and Packing Material

1. "Commercial" shall be packed only in box "Z", in the Non-returnable Bushel Box, or in cartons, the specifications for the construction of which are given in the Fourth Schedule.

2. No packing materials may be used other than those specified for box "Z" the Non-returnable Bushel Box, or cartons respectively, in Part II of the Fourth Schedule.

3. All packages and packing materials shall be clean and free from odours likely to affect the flavour of the apples.

PART III

Packing

The packing shall be as laid down in Part II of the Fourth Schedule.

PART IV

Marking

Each box "Z", Non-returnable Bushel Box and Carton (No. 1 or No. 2) shall be marked as laid down in Part III of the Fourth Schedule except that the description shall be "Commercial".

PART V

Tolerances

Each box "Z", Non-returnable Bushel Box or carton in which "Commercial" are packed may contain:—

(*a*) not more than 5 per cent. by count of apples which are less than 2¼ inches in diameter, and

(*b*) not more than 5 per cent. by count below the quality requirements for "Commercial".

SIXTH SCHEDULE

M.F.10

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

Return of Shipment

Sir,

I/We have this day despatched by road/rail from.....

Station, under $\frac{\text{my licence/permit}}{\text{our licence/permit}}$ No.....a consignment of Northern Ireland apples packed as described hereunder:—

Type of Container	No.	Grade
B.S.A. Box		
Carton No. 1		
„ „ 2		
Box Z		
Non-returnable Bushel Box		
Bag		

Destination .....

Via the Northern Ireland port of .....

Signature .....

To the Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Stormont,
Belfast.

Date.....

This form is to be handed to the person or carrier conveying the apples with the consignment to which it refers.

SEVENTH SCHEDULE

M.F.3

Form of Application by Grower for Permit to send Graded Fruit to Great Britain or the Isle of Man under Section 4 of the Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931

I hereby apply for a Permit to send to Great Britain or the Isle of Man fruit grown and consigned by myself.

Signature of Applicant.....

Full Postal Address.....

.....

.....

Date.....

EIGHTH SCHEDULE

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

Permit

Permit No.....

M..... of .....

.....

is hereby granted permission to send apples from Northern Ireland to Great Britain or the Isle of Man. The conditions of this Permit are that each consignment of fruit sent thereunder shall:—

(1) consist only of apples grown by the above-mentioned person;

(2) be of the grades and quality, packed, marked and accompanied by a Return or Returns of Shipment as prescribed for permit-holders in Article 7(2) and 7(3) of the Rules made under the above-mentioned Act.

Signed.....
Authorised Officer.

Date.....

NINTH SCHEDULE

MARKETING OF FRUIT ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1931

Shipment of Ungraded Fruit

Licence-holders or permit-holders may send ungraded apples from Northern Ireland to Great Britain or the Isle of Man on the following conditions:—

(1) that the apples are in marketable condition;

(2) that the apples are packed in bags or such other containers as may be approved by the Ministry;

(3) that where bags are used the weight of apples in each bag shall not exceed 1 cwt.;

(4) that each bag is clearly and indelibly labelled and each other container clearly and indelibly marked with the words "Ungraded apples for manufacture";

(5) that the fruit is consigned direct to a manufacturing concern;

(6) that the number of the licence or permit is clearly shown on each container in the consignment;

(7) that each consignment is accompanied by a Return or Returns of Shipment as prescribed in Article 7(2)(*c*) of the Rules made under the above-mentioned Act;

(8) that where apples are packed in containers other than bags the consignment note must be produced to an authorised officer on request by him.