

PPP-F-685B  
AMENDMENT-3  
April 12, 1973  
SUPERSEDING  
Int. Amendment-2 (Army-GL)  
May 11, 1972

FEDERAL SPECIFICATION

FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: PACKAGING,  
PACKING, AND MARKING OF

This amendment, which forms part of Federal Specification PPP-F-685B, dated May 1, 1967, was approved by the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, General Services Administration, for use by all Federal agencies.

PAGE 1

1.1, line 2, after "overseas". Insert "and domestic".

2.1, under "Federal Specifications". Insert "PPP-B-1163 - Box, Corrugated, Fiberboard, High Compression Strength, Weather-Resistant, Wax-Resin Impregnated."

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2.2, under "Nongovernmental.". Insert:

"National Motor Freight Traffic Association, Inc., Agent

National Motor Freight Classification

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Trucking Association, Inc., Tariff Order Section, 1616 P Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.)"

3.1, line 1. Delete ", level B. Level B packaging" and substitute "Packaging".

3.1 (a), line 1. Delete "Grapes" and substitute "When specified (see 6.1), grapes".

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3.1 (b), line 1. Delete "polyethylene" and substitute "plastic".  
 line 3, after "film". Insert "or 0.0005-inch thick polypropylene".  
 lines 3 and 4. Delete "with two 1/4-inch holes placed diametrically opposite each other at approximately the center".  
 line 8. Delete "0.00085" and substitute "0.00080".

3.1 (c) Delete in its entirety and substitute:

3.1 (c) Celery intended for shipment to overseas destinations shall be packaged in perforated, gusseted polyethylene or polypropylene bags in accordance with (b) above, except that the depth of the bag shall be 21 inches. For domestic use, the celery shall be wrapped in vegetable parchment or high wet strength, water absorbent paper. The wrap shall be open at both ends.

3.1 (d). Delete in its entirety and substitute:

3.1(d) Carrots shall be packaged in a new perforated plastic bag constructed from nominal 0.002-inch thick polyethylene film.

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3.2 through 3.2.3. Delete in their entireties and substitute:

3.2 Packing. Unless otherwise specified, not more than 55 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables shall be packed in accordance with level B or C as specified (see 6.1 and 6.2).

3.2.1 Level B. The shipping container shall be in accordance with 3.2.1.1, 3.2.1.2, or 3.2.1.3 as specified (see 6.1 and 6.3).

3.2.1.1 Wax-impregnated box. The shipping container shall be a wax-impregnated box constructed in accordance with class I, type SWCFI, of PPP-B-1163. Box style, grade, dimensions, closure, and ventilation requirements for each specific product shall be in accordance with the Freight Container Tariff applicable to the state in which the product is grown. Where the current tariff regulation does not include a wax-impregnated box for the product being procured, box style, grade, dimensions and ventilation requirements authorized by the Uniform Freight Classification Committee under a Test Permit for wax-impregnated containers will be acceptable. The container shall be filled to capacity without bulging.

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3.2.1.1.1 When specified (see 6.1), the shipping container specified in 3.2.1.1 shall be closed and reinforced in accordance with the appendix of PPP-B-636.

3.2.1.1.2 When specified (see 6.1 and 6.3), the shipping container specified in 3.2.1.1 shall be reinforced with pressure-sensitive adhesive, filament reinforced tape in accordance with the appendix of PPP-B-636.

3.2.1.2 Wirebound box. The shipping container shall be a wood-wire-bound box constructed in accordance with the applicable Freight Container Tariff, except that face board and end boards shall be not less than 1/6 inch thick. Boxes for bulk apple packs, and tomato packs shall be lined on all faces with minimum 0.012-inch thick slotted paperboard with slots coinciding with the openings between face boards and end boards. The container shall be filled to capacity without bulging.

3.2.1.3 Weather-resistant box. The shipping container shall be a weather-resistant fiberboard box, constructed, closed, and reinforced in accordance with V3c, V3s, or V4s of PPP-B-636. Box style, dimensions, and ventilation requirements for each specific product shall be in accordance with the Freight Container Tariff applicable to the state in which the product is grown. The container shall be filled to capacity without bulging.

3.2.2 Level C. The shipping container shall be in accordance with the Freight Container Tariff applicable to the state in which the product is grown, or with National Motor Freight Classification Rules, as applicable.

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Table I, component column. Delete entries for "Corrugated member, Kraft facings, Impregnated fiberboard, and Impregnated compound" and all entries opposite these items. Footnote 1. Delete.

4.2.1.2. Delete in its entirety and substitute:

4.2.1.2 Examination of fiberboard shipping container. When fiberboard shipping containers are required to be in accordance with PPP-B-636 or PPP-B-1163, examination of the container shall be in accordance with the quality assurance provisions of PPP-B-636.

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4.2.1.3. Delete in its entirety and substitute:

4.2.1.3 Examination of wire bound containers. Nonconformance with the requirements of 3.2.1.2 shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

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Table IV, seventh defect. Delete. Eighth defect. Delete "3.2.2 and 3.2.3" and substitute "3.2".

4.3.1.2, line 2, after "PPP-B-636". Insert "(including similar style of PPP-B-1163 containers)".

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4.4.1 through 4.4.3. Delete in their entirety.

4.4.4, line 1. Delete "by" and substitute "in accordance with".

6.1 Delete "(b)" in its entirety and substitute:

"(b) Type of shipping container required (see 3.2.1)."

6.1 Insert new subparagraphs:

"(e) When grapes are to be sawdust packed (see 3.1(a)).

"(f) Level of pack required (see 3.2).

"(g) When reinforcement in accordance with 3.2.1.1.1 or 3.2.1.1.2 is required."

6.2 and 6.3. Delete in their entirety and substitute the following:

6.2 For Military agencies based on the conditions known or expected to be encountered during shipment, handling and storage of the specific item being procured, the contracting officer should select the appropriate level of pack in accordance with the criteria established in AR 700-15, NAVSUPINST 4030.28, AFR 71-6, MCO 4030.14D, or DSAR 4145.7, as applicable.

### 6.3 Intended use of shipping containers.

6.3.1 The wax-impregnated box specified in 3.2.1.1 is intended for specific overseas operations involving excessive exposure to the environment, transshipment to remote areas, or extensive handling of individual cases where increased stacking stability and product protection is required.

6.3.2 The wax-impregnated box reinforced as specified in 3.2.1.1.2 is intended for transfer at sea operations.

6.3.3 The wirebound box specified in 3.2.1.2 is intended as an alternative container for conventional overseas shipment unless otherwise exempted above.

6.3.4 The weather-resistant fiberboard box specified in 3.2.1.3 is intended as an alternative container for conventional overseas shipments for commodities not subjected to top icing or hydrocooling.

#### Custodians:

Army - GL  
Navy - SA  
Air Force - 45

#### Preparing activity:

Army - GL  
Project No. 8915-0428

#### Review activity:

Army - MD