

# Product Specification: Fresh Dates

<b>CATEGORY</b>	Dates	<b>PRODUCT</b>	Fresh Dates Pecan, Crown, Almond Rolled, Coconut, Fancy, Medjool, Mazafati
<b>PACK TYPE</b>	Pre-packed, Loose	<b>GRADE</b>	Tag 1

<b>GENERAL APPEARANCE</b>	
<b>COLOUR</b>	Golden to dark brown.
<b>SHAPE</b>	Calyx removed. Oblong shape with slight tapered shape.
<b>SENSORY</b>	Firm flesh, tender skin. Hard internal stone. No off odours or tastes.
<b>MATURITY</b>	Mature, with a level of ripeness that true flavour will be achieved to the expectations of that variety.
<b>CLEANLINESS</b>	Free from dirt, insect stains, residue or other foreign matter.
<b>UNSALEABLE DEFECTS</b>	
<b>FOREIGN MATTER</b>	Evidence of live insects or internal infestation.
	Nil foreign matter (e.g. glass, metal, hard plastics).
<b>PRODUCT COUNT</b>	No undercounts.
<b>PACKAGE SIZE</b>	No underweights.
<b>MAJOR DEFECTS</b>	
<b>DISEASES</b>	Fungal or bacterial rots of skin or flesh.
	Evidence of live insects or internal infestation.
<b>PHYSICAL IMPURITIES</b>	Smashed, severe bruised fruit.
<b>PHYSIOLOGICAL DEFECTS</b>	Free from abnormal external moisture.
<b>TEMPERATURE DAMAGE</b>	With sunburn injury affecting >10% of surface.
<b>MINOR DEFECTS</b>	
<b>PHYSICAL IMPURITIES</b>	Healed injuries due to pest damage affecting >5% of surface.
<b>SURFACE INCONSISTENCIES</b>	Blemishes, skin marks/surface scratches.
<b>TEMPERATURE DAMAGE</b>	With sunburn injury affecting >10% of surface.
<b>SIZE</b>	
<b>PRE-PACK SIZE</b>	<b>LENGTH</b> 40 – 60 mm
<b>RECEIVAL</b>	
<b>TEMPERATURE °C (AT ARRIVAL)</b>	1 – 10
<b>TOLERANCE</b>	Unsaleable defects 0%
	Major defects <5%
	Minor defects <10%
	Combined total limit <10%
	<5% outside of size range
<b>PACKAGING &amp; LABELLING</b>	Packaging manufactured from new food grade materials or sanitised returnable crates.

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	<p>Packaging to adhere to <b>Foodstuffs North Island Produce Packaging Guidelines</b>.</p> <p>All labelling must meet the current legislative requirements.</p> <p><b>Crate card</b> must include the product description, SKU number (in large font), supplier name, grower/packer's name, product grade, count/weight, and delivery date.</p> <p><b>Pre-packaged</b> produce must display the grower's name, the packed on date, best before date or used by date (batch code optional).</p>
<b>SHELF LIFE</b>	<p>Produce must have a shelf life of <b>at least 30 days</b> upon arrival at the Distribution Centre, or direct to the store from the supplier.</p> <p>Produce must have a packed on date of <b>no more than 4 days</b> upon arrival at the Distribution Centre, or direct to the store from the supplier.</p>
<b>TRANSPORT CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Stacked to Ti Hi specifications onto a stabilised pallet as per-ordered. Refrigerated van with air bag suspension, unless otherwise approved. Goods must be received in accordance with <b>Foodstuffs North Island Receiving and Carrier Guidelines</b> (refer to reference materials for more information).</p> <p>Of note are pallet size, stacking standards and crate cards.</p>
<b>CHEMICAL CONTAMINATE RESIDUE</b>	<p>Relevant growers and/or producers, hold, will maintain, and will comply with all necessary certificates, licenses, permits, and other approvals required by Laws or the Policies and Compliance Requirements for the manufacture, packing, supply, and storage of the groceries. This includes NZGAP (including the Social Practice Standards add-on) and/or GLOBALG.A.P (including GRASP) certification.</p>
<b>ORGANICS</b>	<p>BioGro certificate, or equivalent, is required to supply organic products into both Foodstuffs stores and Distribution Centres. The current certificate should be available on the Foodstuffs Exchange.</p>