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Carob — Specification

Caroube — Spécifications

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 7907 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products*.

Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

Carob — Specification

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies requirements for carob, obtained from the carob tree (*Ceratonia siliqua* Linnaeus) for human consumption or forage, or for industrial use.

NOTE — Carobs broken into pieces for industrial use, and seeded carobs, lie outside the scope of this International Standard.

2 Definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

2.1 pest-infested carobs : Pods damaged by insect infestation and/or mites.

2.2 rodent-damaged carobs : Pods damaged by rodents.

2.3 spoiled carobs : Rotten, mouldy, sun-scalded, overly shrivelled and dried and stained pods.

Light discoloration on some parts of the fruit and especially near the stem does not count as a defect.

2.4 broken carobs : Incomplete pods of length greater than 3 cm of which parts are absent or separated.

Carobs of which small parts near the stem are missing do not count as broken fruit.

2.5 undeveloped carobs : Pods longer than 3 cm but smaller than 5 cm, which are shrivelled and mis-shapen.

3 Description

Carobs are the ripe, dry pods of *Ceratonia siliqua* Linnaeus. The fruits of the carob tree (pods) shall be sound, clean and well developed and dried. They shall have the characteristic shape and shall be at least 5 cm long.

4 Requirements

NOTE — Carobs are not graded.

4.1 Odour and taste

Carobs shall have an odour and taste characteristic of the fruit. They shall be free from foreign odour and taste, particularly rancidity.

4.2 Freedom from living insects and other pests

Carobs shall be free from living insects and/or any other living animal pest.

4.3 Spoiled carobs

The proportion of spoiled carobs, including pest-infested and rodent-damaged fruits, shall not exceed the value given in the table.

4.4 Broken carobs

The proportion of broken carobs shall not exceed the value given in the table.

4.5 Undeveloped carobs

The proportion of undeveloped carobs shall not exceed the value given in the table.

4.6 Extraneous matter

The proportion of extraneous matter such as dirt, stones, stem, leaf and other foreign matter shall not exceed the value given in the table.

Whole pods or broken pods smaller than 3 cm are counted as extraneous matter.