Turmeric, whole or ground (powdered) — Specification

Curcuma, entier ou en poudre — Spécifications

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Foreword

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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.

International Standard ISO 5562 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, Agricultural food products, and was circulated to the member bodies in June 1981.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries:

- Austria
- Brazil
- Canada
- Czechoslovakia
- Egypt, Arab Rep. of
- Ethiopia
- France
- Hungary
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Kenya
- Korea, Rep. of
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- South Africa, Rep. of
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- Yugoslavia

The member body of the following country expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds:

- USA
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1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies requirements for turmeric (Curcuma longa Linnaeus), whole or ground (powdered).

Recommendations relating to storage and transport conditions are given in the annex.

2 References

ISO 927, Spices and condiments — Determination of extraneous matter content.
ISO 928, Spices and condiments — Determination of total ash.
ISO 930, Spices and condiments — Determination of acid insoluble ash.
ISO 948, Spices and condiments — Sampling.
ISO 1208, Spices and condiments — Sampling.
ISO 2825, Spices and condiments — Preparation of a ground sample for analysis.
ISO 3588, Spices and condiments — Determination of degree of fineness of grinding — Hand sieving method.
ISO 5566, Turmeric — Determination of colouring power — Spectrophotometric method.

3 Description

Whole turmeric is constituted by cured primary or secondary rhizomes, called commercially bulbs or fingers, of Curcuma longa Linnaeus.

The rhizomes shall be dry, well developed and shall have the shape and typical colour of the variety. The rhizomes are cured by soaking them in boiling water and then drying them to avoid regeneration. They may be in the natural state or machine polished.

Ground (powdered) turmeric is obtained by grinding whole turmeric.

4 Requirements

4.1 Odour and flavour

Turmeric, whole or ground (powdered), shall have the characteristic odour and flavour of the spice. It shall be free from mustiness or other foreign flavours.

4.2 Freedom from insects, moulds, etc.

Whole turmeric shall be free from living insects and moulds, and shall be practically free from dead insects, insect fragments and rodent contamination visible to the naked eye (corrected, if necessary, for abnormal vision), with such magnification as may be necessary in any particular case. If the magnification exceeds X 10, this fact shall be stated in the test report.

In the case of ground turmeric, filth shall be determined by the method specified in ISO 1208.

4.3 Extraneous matter

4.3.1 Whole turmeric

Extraneous matter in whole turmeric includes:

a) chaff, dried leaves, stones, particles of soil, dust and mud, etc.;

b) all vegetable matter other than the rhizomes.

The proportion of extraneous matter, when determined by the method specified in ISO 927, shall not exceed 2 % (m/m).

4.3.2 Ground (powdered) turmeric

Ground (powdered) turmeric shall be examined by microscopy. It shall not contain any morphologically extraneous matter.

4.4 Defective rhizomes

Shrivelled fingers and/or bulbs, internally damaged, hollow or porous rhizomes, rhizomes scorched by boiling and other types of damaged rhizomes shall be considered as defective.

The proportion of defective rhizomes shall not exceed 5 % (m/m).