

Technical Bulletin #100:

Elongated Eggplant Quality Standards for the Local Market

Introduction

Producing elongated eggplant with the quality standards required by the market is important for Cambodia HARVEST producer groups and clients.

The basic quality requirements for elongated eggplant are:

- Smooth, glossy/shiny black or deep purple skin color;
- Fully formed, firm flesh, cylindrical shaped fruit with a square shoulder and blunt blossom end; and
- Petals and stem are attached to the fruit.

Cambodia HARVEST recommends growing two high yielding varieties that produce these qualities and are tolerant to pests and diseases. To date, the best varieties fulfilling this criteria are **East West Seeds company HAOCHI FI** (black color variety) and **Chia Tai company Violet King 252** (deep purple variety).

Elongated Eggplant Standards

Elongated eggplant should:

- Be harvested early in the morning preferably under dry conditions, using scissors or a sharp knife;
- Range from 4.5 to 6.0 cm in diameter (the same size as water bottle volume 500 ml);
- Range from 25 cm to 40 cm in length;
- Be uniform in size and shape, fruit that is either straight or curved is acceptable;
- Not be covered in any foreign matter such as dust, debris, or leaves;
- Not contain any insect or pest damage;
- Not be rotting; and
- Be packaged uniformly (packages should contain fruit of the same grade, variety, and color).

Fruit will be rejected if it is bruised, spongy, deformed, or the petals and stem are detached.

Elongated Eggplant Sizes Required by the Market:

Elongated eggplant			
Characteristic	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Freshness required	95 -100%	90 - 95%	80 - 90%
Stem length (should be attached to fruit)	2.5 – 3.5 cm	≤ 2.5 – 3.5 cm	≤ 2.5 cm
Fruit diameter	4.5 - 6 cm	≤ 4.5 – 6 cm	≤ 4.5 – 6 cm
Glossy fruit	Yes	Yes	Either Yes or No
Fruit shape	Straight	Straight	Straight or a bit curved
Skin color	Shiny black	Shiny black or deep purple	Purple
Number of fruit per kg	2 - 3 fruits	3 - 5 fruits	3 - 5 fruits
Fruit length	30 - 40 cm	25 - 40 cm	≤ 25 - 35 cm



Elongated Eggplant Grading Based on Characteristic:



Grade 1



Grade 2



Grade 3

Rejected Fruit:



Insect Spoilage



No Petal attached



Spongy



Bruised

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