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General quality standard for nut and seed food

坚果与籽类食品质量通则

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General quality standard for nut and seed food

1 Scope

This document specifies the terms and definitions of nut and seed food (hereinafter referred to as products). It stipulates the classification, technical requirements, test methods, inspection rules, labeling, marking, packaging, transportation and storage requirements.

This document applies to the production, sale and inspection of nut and seed food.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

GB/T 191, *Packaging and storage marks*

GB 5009.3, *National food safety standard -- Determination of Moisture Content in Foods*

JJF 1070, *Rules of metrological testing for net quantity of products in prepackages with fixed content*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 nuts

The edible part of the seed of a woody plant with a hard outer shell.

NOTE 1: Including walnuts, chestnuts, apricot kernels, almond kernels (almonds), pecans (including pecans), pistachios, torrefied almonds, macadamia nuts, pine nuts, hazelnuts, dried coconut, etc.

NOTE 2: Coconut jerky generally refers to the finished product that is made by cutting coconut flesh into slices, strips, blocks, cubes, etc. and then drying them.

3.2 seeds

The edible parts of seeds of plants such as melons, fruits, vegetables, and oilseeds.

NOTE: Including sunflower seeds, watermelon seeds, pumpkin seeds, peanuts, broad beans, peas, soybeans, corn, sesame, chia seeds, flax seeds, etc.

3.3 kernel

The part of a nut or seed after the shell is removed.

3.4 nut and seed food

Foods that are processed from nuts, seeds or their kernels as the main ingredients.

3.5 spoiled kernel

Kernels that are moldy, worm-eaten, rotten, have oily skin on the cross section, or have a rancid smell, which affects their edible value.

3.6 injured kernel

Nuts and seeds with worm holes on the surface and damage to the kernel.

3.7 empty withered seed

Empty shells (including broken shells) without kernels or nuts or seeds with shriveled kernels.

NOTE: Among them, shriveled kernels of almonds, walnuts and pecans refer to kernels that are wrinkled and account for less than 30% of the weight of the whole kernel; shriveled kernels of other varieties refer to kernels that are wrinkled and the kernel length is less than one-third of the whole kernel.

4 Classification

4.1 According to different processing methods, they are divided into: roasted nut and seed foods (roasted category), fried nut and seed foods (fried category), and other nut and seed foods (other categories).

- a) Roasted foods: Foods made from nuts, seeds or their kernels as the main ingredients, with or without auxiliary ingredients, which are cooked through frying or baking (including baking after steaming or boiling).
- b) Fried foods: Foods made from nuts, seeds or their kernels as the main ingredients, with or without auxiliary ingredients, and fried.
- c) Others: Foods made from nuts, seeds or their kernels as the main ingredients, with or without auxiliary materials, through boiling or other processing techniques, such as ready-to-eat raw and dried nut and seed foods (ready-to-eat raw and dried category), mixed nut and seed foods (mixed category), etc.

Inspection of injured kernels: Take a sample of 200~300 intact kernels and count the number of kernels. For shelled products, peel the shells for inspection. Pick out the injured kernels and count their number of kernels. Ratio to the total number of kernels in the sample. Calculate by kernel number percentage.

Inspection of spoiled kernel index: Take samples for injured kernel inspection. Pick out the spoiled kernels. Cut the cross section of the fruit with oil seepage for inspection and confirmation. Count the total spoiled kernels. Compare the total number of kernels in the sample. Calculate the percentage of kernels.

NOTE: When testing coated products, it is advisable to remove the coating before testing.

6.1.3 Empty withered seed

Take more than 500 g of shelled sample, pick out the empty withered particles and weigh them. Ratio the mass of the empty withered particles to the mass of the total sample. Calculate the mass percentage.

6.2 Physical and chemical indicators

6.2.1 Moisture

Determine according to the method specified in GB 5009.3.

6.2.2 Nut and seed kernel content

Take more than 500 g of mixed nut and seed foods. Weigh them as the total sample mass. Pick out the nut and seed kernels and weigh them. Ratio the mass of nut and seed kernels to the total sample mass. Calculate by mass percentage.

6.3 Determination of net content

According to the relevant provisions of JJF 1070.

7 Inspection rules

7.1 Exit-factory inspection

The exit-factory inspection items are sensory requirements and net content indicators.

7.2 Type inspection

Type inspection items include all the indicators in 5.2~5.4. Under normal circumstances, the inspection is carried out twice a year. If any of the following conditions occurs, type inspection shall be carried out:

- a) When there is a major change in the process or raw materials;

- b) Before the product is put into production for appraisal;
- c) When the product is discontinued for more than 6 months and then resumed for production;
- d) When the national regulatory authorities make a request.

7.3 Inspection batches and sampling

The same variety produced in the same shift or with the same batch of raw materials is considered one inspection batch. Randomly sample no less than 500 g and no less than 200 grains from different parts of each batch of products.

For products of the same variety but in different packages, the inspection items that are not affected by the packaging specifications and packaging forms can be inspected together.

7.4 Judgment rules

7.4.1 Judgment rules for exit-factory inspection: If all exit-factory inspection items comply with this document, the batch is judged to comply with this document. If there are unqualified items in the exit-factory inspection, sampling can be re-inspected. If it is still unqualified after re-inspection, the batch is judged to be unqualified.

7.4.2 Judgment rules for type inspection: If all the type inspection items comply with this document, the type inspection is judged to comply with this document. If there are unqualified items in the type inspection, sampling can be re-inspected. If it is still unqualified after re-inspection, the type inspection is judged to be unqualified.

8 Labeling, marking, packaging, transportation and storage

8.1 Labeling, marking

8.1.1 The net content may not be indicated on the label of products sold by weight.

8.1.2 The signs of storage and transportation diagrams shall comply with the provisions of GB/T 191.

8.1.3 The classification name shall be indicated on the label in accordance with the provisions of 4.1.

8.2 Packaging

8.2.1 Packaging materials shall be clean, non-toxic, odorless, and meet the requirements of relevant standards and regulations.

8.2.2 All packages shall be complete and undamaged.

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