Metcash Produce Specification

A.	Product Description
Product	Buk Choy
Variety	Various
Pack Type	Wax carton, x 10 bunch

Product supplied to MF&G Fresh Branches must satisfy the Metcash Supplier Delivery Standards & the following requirements:

B.	Basic Quality Parameters
General Appearance	Whole plants composed of multiple thick stems branching from the base; smooth green leaves; thick and fleshy leaf stems (petioles); plants cleanly cut at base flush with outer stems; free from soil and other foreign matter. Young plants which may have some small yellow flowers present.
Colour	Dark green leaves with white veins and stems (petioles)
Shape	Thick, broadly oval to diamond shaped leaves.
Size	Bunches to contain 2 - 3 individual plants; each plant 180 - 280 mm long, bunch diameter at base 60-80mm. Bunch length >200mm Base diameter >100mm
Sensory / Eating Quality	Juicy, crunchy stems, which snap easily when flexed; leaves and stems with slightly sweet, peppery flavour; not coarse textured or bitter; free from foreign odours or tastes.
Distribution Receipt Temperature	2 – 7 ^{0}C.

C.	FOOD SAFETY PARAMETERS *(Any detection or evidence is cause for immediate rejection)*
Foreign Matter	Free from foreign matter / contamination / mould or surface residues. No foreign or off odours indicating breakdown.
Infestation	No evidence of insect infestation, alive or dead.
Chemicals and Contaminants	Produce shall comply with FSANZ Food Standards Code Standard 1.4.2 – Maximum Residue Limits and Standard 1.4.1 – Contaminants and Natural Toxicants.

D.	Major Defects
Diseases	Evidence of fungal or bacterial rots (Erwinia soft rot, Alternaria, leaf spots) Evidence of viral infection (yellow mottling). Evidence of black spots on the leaf midribs and / or blackened areas on the leaf margins. Evidence of deformed leaves and white, powdery growths on the leaf undersides (white blister)
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of holes, deep bruises cuts or splits in the stems or leaves > 20 % of bunch Evidence of limp, wilted or shrivelled leaves (dehydration). Evidence of excessive soil deposits around leaf bases. Evidence of obvious live insects or other pests e.g. Aphids, slugs, caterpillars.
Physiological Disorders	Evidence of yellowing or discoloured leaves (overstored / senescent).
Temperature Injury	Evidence of bleached, shrivelled areas (sunburn). Evidence of dark, water-soaked areas (freezing injury).

E.	Minor Defects
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of superficial insect or pest damage affecting > 2 sq. cm per stem. With evidence of bleached areas on leaves affecting > 10 sq. cm per bunch.
Skin marks or blemish	Evidence of superficial bruises (< 2 mm deep) in stems. Evidence of superficial marks (< 2 mm deep), abrasion or rub damage affecting > 2 sq. cm. Evidence of rub damage affecting > 4 sq. cm. Evidence of deformed leaves affecting > 10 % of consignment.

F.	Labelling & Packaging Requirements (Packaging must be clean & sturdy – no damaged / recycled packaging accepted)
Packaging / Trade Measurement	Loose fill packed cardboard cartons. Wax carton x 10 bunch No undercount cartons.
Labelling	Each carton or sale unit of stock must be labelled, with the following details: - Grower's name & address. Packer's name & address (if different from grower details) - Supplier name (if different) - Product description - Count, size & grade - Net pack weight (where applicable) - Lot identification (packed on date etc.) - Country Of Origin - DC delivery date (all bulk items)

Assessment Summary		Tray Packed & Bulk Carton Items
B.	Basic Quality Parameters	Product outside spec must not exceed **5%**
D.	Major Defects	Product outside spec must not exceed **1%**
E.	Minor Defects	Product outside spec must not exceed **5%**
Total	**B+D+E Combined**	**Total product outside spec must not exceed 8%**

This specification may be revised in consideration of seasonal / climatic conditions. In that instance a Variance To Specification must be issued for a specified period of time, as per procedure HA11-11.

Product Image