

## Metcash Produce Specification

A. Product Description	
Product	Eggplant (Ai Kwa)
Variety	Thai
Pack Type	Loose, carton pack. 1kg or as specified.

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

B. Basic Quality Parameters	
General Appearance	Smooth, glossy skin; colour mainly around calyx area; cream; small, soft, flattened seeds embedded in flesh; short, clean-cut stem retained; coarse, bristly calyx.
Colour	White, green or white and purple streaked skin depending on variety; cream to white flesh; white seeds
Shape	Round to oval.
Size	30 – 50 mm diameter; or as per Buyers requirements. Uniform size within carton
Sensory / Eating Quality	Firm to slightly spongy texture with no wrinkling of the skin when pinched (dehydration); mild flavour with little aroma before cooking; No strong, bitter flavour or dark brown seeds (over-mature). Free from foreign and 'off' smells or tastes.
Distribution Receipt Temperature	7 – 15°C.

C. FOOD SAFETY PARAMETERS <i>(Any detection or evidence is cause for immediate rejection)</i>	
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/bacterial rots or discolouration or disfigurement due to viruses.
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of deep/soft bruising. Evidence of unhealed insect damage.
Physiological Disorders	Evidence of distorted shape.
Temperature Injury	Evidence of dark, water-soaked areas (freeze damage)

E. Minor Defects	
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of minor bruises, e.g. flat or sunken areas, slightly darker than skin colour, affecting >1 sq. cm.
Skin marks or blemish	Evidence of hail marks, or healed limb rubs, e.g. healed depression in skin, affecting in aggregate >1 sq. cm.

F. Labelling & Packaging Requirements <i>(Packaging must be clean &amp; sturdy – no damaged / recycled packaging accepted)</i>	
Packaging / Trade Measurement	Loose fill packed cardboard cartons. Carton pack weight as per state requirements. No underweight cartons.
Labelling	Each carton or sale unit of stock must be labelled, with the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grower's name &amp; address. Packer's name &amp; address (if different from grower details)</li> <li>• Supplier name (if different)</li> <li>• Product description</li> <li>• Count, size &amp; grade</li> <li>• Net pack weight (where applicable)</li> <li>• Lot identification (packed on date etc.)</li> <li>• Country Of Origin</li> <li>• DC delivery date (all bulk items)</li> </ul>

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

