

Metcash Produce Specification

A. Product Description	
Product	Witlof (also known as Chicory or Endive)
Variety	Various (Red)
Pack Type	Carton 2kg – 250g pre-pack (foam tray and plastic wrapped). Outer cardboard carton, with liner.

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

B. Basic Quality Parameters	
General Appearance	Fresh and crisp in appearance, with a full head. Clean elongated leaves, wrapped tightly, lower leaf area or stem has a polished appearance. No foreign matter.
Colour	Creamy white/yellow leaves, clean cut base, minimal purplish red tinge on leaf tips, tight head.
Shape	Oval, even sized in tray.
Size	Piece 100-150mm length
Sensory / Eating Quality	Firm to touch. Crisp juicy flesh with no off flavour/taint.
Distribution Receipt Temperature	2 – 7 °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/bacterial rots – decaying/slimy area Evidence of discolouration or disfigurement due to viruses.
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of deep bruising or crushed areas Evidence of cuts, splits, insect damage or abrasions that break the outer leaves (> 2mm deep)
Physiological Disorders	Evidence of with wind / tip burn. Evidence of limp, soft leaves (dehydration). Evidence of purple discolouration of veins in leaves (nutrient imbalance).
Temperature Injury	Evidence of shoots showing discoloured / bleached, or greyish-brownish appearance (heat injury) Evidence of soft, water-soaked or discoloured lesions (freezing injury)

E. Minor Defects	
Physical or Pest Damage	Evidence of minor (< 2mm deep) abrasion, scuffing, pest chewing, hail or rub damage/blemish to stems or shoots affecting > 1 sq. cm
Skin marks or blemish	Evidence of minor bruises (< 1 mm deep), abrasions or rub damage affecting > 2 sq. cm.

F. Labelling & Packaging Requirements (Packaging must be clean & sturdy – no damaged / recycled packaging accepted)	
Packaging / Trade Measurement	Loose fill packed cardboard cartons. Net carton weight 2kg No underweight trays / cartons.
Labelling	Each carton or sale unit of stock must be labelled, with the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) • Best Before date / Use By date as applicable for pre-pack

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

