

PRODUCE: **HERBS**
TYPE: **Bay Leaf**
VARIETY: **Various**
CLASS: **One**

GENERAL APPEARANCE CRITERIA	
COLOUR	Dark green leaves with olive green underside; dark green to purplish brown stems.
VISUAL APPEARANCE	Solid, woody stems, glossy leaves with slightly wavy edges on short stems and with strongly defined midrib.
SENSORY	Crisp stems, with firm leaves. Leaves have a spicy aromatic aroma, and a bitter flavour.
SHAPE	Large oval leaves with pointed tips arranged alternately along round stems.
SIZE	Sprigs < 300 mm long. Leaves up to 80 mm long.
MATURITY	Young leaves, not very tough or woody.
MAJOR DEFECTS	
INSECTS	With obvious live insects or other pests eg. scale, aphids.
DISEASES	With bacterial or fungal infection (eg bacterial soft rots, mould, leaf spots)
	With distortion or yellow mottling due to viral infection.
PHYSICAL / PEST DAMAGE	With deep abrasion or crushed areas affecting > 10% of leaves
	With obvious physical contamination.
	With wilting or yellowing leaves (dehydrated, senescent).
TEMPERATURE INJURY	With bleached areas on the surface of the leaf or stem (sunburn).
	With dark areas, water-soaked stems or leaves (chilling injury).
MINOR DEFECTS	
PHYSICAL / PEST DAMAGE	With superficial insect or pest damage affecting > 10% of leaves
SKIN MARKS / BLEMISHES	With superficial russetting, abrasion or rub damage affecting > 10% of leaves
	With cuts, holes or splits affecting > 10% of leaves
PHYSIOLOGICAL DISORDERS	With unevenly coloured leaves.
CONSIGNMENT CRITERIA	
TOLERANCE PER CONSIGNMENT	Total minor defects (within allowance limit) to be < 2 defects per item Total minor defects (outside allowance limit) must not exceed 10% of consignment. Total major defects must not exceed 2 % of consignment. Combined Total not to exceed 10%
PACKAGING & LABELLING	Packaging manufactured from new food grade materials or sanitised returnable crates. All labelling must meet the current legislative requirements. Labelling to identify grower's name/brand (plus growers name/code if via a packhouse), address, contents, class, size and/or minimum net weight. Produce to identify Country of Origin (eg. Produce of Australia) on outer container.
SHELF LIFE	Produce must provide not less than 14 days clear shelf life from date of receipt.
RECEIVAL CONDITIONS	Compliance with Quarantine Treatments (if required) for Interstate Consignment. Stacked onto a stabilised pallet as pre-ordered. Refrigerated van with air bag suspension, unless otherwise approved. Pulp Temperature 4 - 10° C.
CHEMICAL & CONTAMINANT RESIDUES	All chemicals used pre/postharvest must be registered and approved for use in accordance with the requirements of the APVMA regulatory system. Residues, Contaminants and Heavy Metals to comply with the FSANZ Food Standards Code MRL's and ML's.
FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS	Produce is to be grown and packed under a HACCP based food safety program that is subject to an annual third-party audit. A copy of current certification to be forwarded to receiver.
Specifications reviewable: eg. to account for specific regional effects or adverse seasonal impacts on quality or early or late seasonal variances as agreed and communicated formally in writing.	