



PRODUCE:	LEAFY VEGETABLES
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TYPE	Watercress	VARIETY	Various
CLASS	One	NOTES	

GENERAL APPEARANCE CRITERIA

Colour	Bright green to dark green leaves with a purplish tinge on the top surface; lighter green stems.
Visual Appearance	Flexible, multiple branched stems with small, white rootlets attached; rounded leaflets varying in size arranged along slender branchlets; no foreign matter.
Sensory	Crisp, juicy stems; firm leaves; mildly peppery flavour; free from foreign odours or tastes.
Shape	Approximately oval to round leaves with irregular edge on round stems.
Size	Bunch length 200 - 300 mm; bunch weight > 200g.
Maturity	Young, tender shoots; leaves not fully purple coloured.

MAJOR DEFECTS

Insects	With obvious live insects or other pests.
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 per bunch With obvious physical contamination. With wilted, shrivelled 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 (freezing injury).

MINOR DEFECTS

Physical/Pest Damage	With superficial insect or pest damage affecting > 10% of leaves per bunch. With deep abrasion or crushed areas affecting >5% of leaves per bunch.
Physiological Disorder	With >1 stem per bunch fully flowering.
Skin Marks/Blemishes	With superficial abrasion or rub damage affecting > 10% of leaves per bunch. With cuts, holes or splits affecting > 10% of leaves per bunch.

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 & Containment 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.