

METRIC

A-A-20120C

February 11, 1999

SUPERSEDING

A-A-20120B

April 16, 1998

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

VEGETABLES, MIXED, CANNED

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has authorized the use of this Commercial Item Description.

1. SCOPE.

1.1 This Commercial Item Description (CID) covers canned mixed vegetables, packed in commercially acceptable containers, suitable for use by Federal, State, local governments and other interested parties.

2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

2.1 In-process ingredients: The mixed vegetables shall be prepared from clean, sound, properly-matured vegetables, which are fresh, fresh-brined, or frozen prior to processing. The quality for each individual vegetable shall be equivalent to U.S. Grade A, if frozen, or U.S. No. 1 or better, if fresh, except that sweet peas and yellow corn, if frozen, shall be equivalent to U.S. Grade B or better for maturity.

2.2 Additional ingredients: In addition to those ingredients specified in paragraph 2.5.1 of this CID, the mixed vegetables may contain added ingredient(s) as a garnish (such as small pieces of onion, sweet red peppers, or green peppers) in an amount less than two percent of the total drained weight.

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc., and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: Head, Food Quality Assurance Program (FQAP), Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, STOP 0243, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0243 or telephone (202) 720-9939 or FAX (202) 690-0102.

FSC 8915

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A. Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

2.3 Liquid packing media: Liquid packing media shall be clear and free from sediment and may contain additives such as onion powder or calcium salts permitted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

2.4 Finished product:

2.4.1 Flavor and odor: The mixed vegetables shall have a characteristic good/normal flavor and odor.

2.4.2 Color: Each type of vegetable shall have good color; characteristic of that vegetable.

2.4.3 Defects: Each type of vegetable shall be reasonably free from, but not limited to peels, stems, pods, eyes, discoloration, fibrous, woody, and cob material.

2.4.4 Foreign material: The mixed vegetables shall be free from foreign material such as, but not limited to, dirt, insect parts, hair, wood, glass, or metal.

2.4.5 Texture/Maturity: Each type of vegetable shall have good texture/maturity, except peas and corn shall be reasonably tender in maturity, or better.

2.5 Drained weight: The average drained weight shall not be less than 258 g (9.1 ounces) for 300 x 407 cans; 284 g (10.0 ounces) for 303 x 406 cans and 1.84 kg (65.0 ounces) for 603 x 700 cans.

2.5.1 The mixed vegetables shall consist of the following types and percentages of the total drained weight of the vegetables:

<u>Type of vegetable</u> ^{1/}	Total average drained weight	
	(Minimum percent)	(Maximum percent)
Carrots (Diced) ^{2/}	33	52
Potatoes (Diced)	17	35
Lima beans, thin seeded	1	12
Peas, sweet	3	12
Beans, green (Short cut, cut, or mixed)	3	12
Corn, yellow (Whole kernel)	4	8
Celery (Cut, 1/2 inch maximum in length)	2	9

^{1/} The combined weight of the carrots and potatoes shall not be more than 72 percent of the average net drained weight.

^{2/} Not larger than 0.95 x 0.95 x 1.91 cm (3/8 x 3/8 x 3/4 inches) or smaller than 0.95 x 0.95 x 0.95 cm (3/8 x 3/8 x 3/8 inches).

3. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.

3.1 The delivered canned mixed vegetables shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sales of the canned mixed vegetables in the commercial marketplace. Delivered mixed vegetables shall conform in every respect to the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS. *Purchaser shall specify 4.1 or 4.2.*

4.1 Product conformance. The canned mixed vegetables provided shall meet the salient characteristics of this CID, conform to the producer's own specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same canned mixed vegetables offered for sale in the commercial market. The purchaser reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

4.2 USDA certification. When the solicitation, contract, or purchase order requires that canned mixed vegetables quality or acceptability or both be determined, the Processed Products Branch (PPB), USDA shall be the certifying activity and shall make the determination in accordance with applicable PPB procedures. The canned mixed vegetables shall be examined or analyzed or both in accordance with applicable provisions in the CID, and when applicable, the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers.

5. PACKAGING.

5.1 Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and case marking. Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and case marking shall be as specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

6. NOTES.

6.1 Purchaser shall specify:

- Product conformance (4.1) or USDA certification (4.2) for canned mixed vegetables.

6.2 USDA certification contact.

For USDA certification, contact the Head, FQAP, STOP 0243, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0243 or telephone (202) 720-9939 or FAX (202) 690-0102.

6.3 Sources of documents.

6.3.1 Sources of information for governmental documents are as follows:

Applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act are contained in 21 CFR Parts 1 to 199. This document may be purchased from: **Superintendent of Documents, New Orders, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.** Credit card (MasterCard or Visa) purchases may be made by calling the Superintendent of Documents on (202) 512-512-1803 or on the Internet at: <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg>.

Copies of the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers are available from: **Chairperson, Condition of Container Committee, USDA, STOP 0243, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0243.**

Copies of the U.S. Standards for Grades of processed vegetables are available from: **Chief, Processed Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Stop 0247, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0247**

Civil agencies and other interested parties may obtain copies of this CID from: **General Services Administration, Federal Supply Service, Specifications Section, Suite 8100, 470 East L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC 20407.**

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITIES:

DOJ - BOP
HHS - NIH, IHS
USDA - FV
VA - OSS

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

USDA - FV

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.