

Grade designation & quality of Processed Black Pepper (Whole)

Grade Designation	Quality										
	Special Characteristics										General Characteristics
	Organic extraneous matter % (m/m) Max.	Inorganic extraneous matter % (m/m) Max.	Light berries % (m/m) Max.	Pinheads & broken berries % (m/m) Max.	Bulk density g/1 Min.	Moisture % (m/m) Max.	Total ash % (m/m) Max.	Non-volatile ether extract % (m/m) Min.	Volatile oil % (ml/100gm) Min.	Piperine content % (m/m) Min.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Special	0.8	0.2	5.0	4.0	490	11.0	6.0	6.0	2.5	4.0	(1) Black pepper shall be dried mature berries of <i>Piper nigrum</i> L. having an unbroken pericarp, brown to black in colour with wrinkled surface;
Standard	1.2	0.3	10.0	4.0	470	12.0	7.0	5.5	2.0	2.0	(2) It shall be cleaned; (3) It shall be free from mould growth and living insects, and practically free from dead insects, insect fragments and rodent contamination; (4) It shall be free from added colouring matter and coating of mineral oil; (5) It shall comply with restrictions in regard to Aflatoxins, Metallic Contaminants; Insecticide or Pesticide residue, Poisonous metals, naturally occurring Contaminants, Microbial load etc. as specified by the Codes Alimentarius Commission or as per buyers requirements for export purposes and the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 for domestic trade;

Definitions:

- “Broken berries” means—berry that has been separated into two or more pieces;
- “ Inorganic extraneous matter” means—includes dust, stones, earth or any other inorganic foreign matter,
- “Light berries” means—berry that has reached an apparently normal stage of development but the kernel does not exist;
- “Organic extraneous matter” means—all materials other than black pepper berries, irrespective of whether they are of vegetable origin;
- “Pinhead” means—berry of very small size that has not developed;
- “Processed black pepper” means—pepper that has been cleaned.

Notes:

- Volatile oil content should be determined immediately after grinding.
- It may be marked ‘Malabar’. It shall have bulk density of 550 gm/litre (Min.). It may also be marked TGEB (Tellichery Garbled Extra Bold) or TGSEB (Tellichery Garbled Special Extra Bold) depending upon size of the berries. The berries shall be retained on sieve having holes of diameter 4.25 mm and 4.75 mm for TGEB and TGSEB respectively. Both shall have bulk density of 530 gm/litre (Min) for Special Grade and 500 gm/litre (Min) for Standard grade.

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Semi-Processed Black Pepper (Whole)

Grade Designation	Quality										
	Special Characteristics										General Characteristics
Organic extraneous matter %(m/m) Max.	Inorganic extraneous matter %(m/m) Max.	Light berries %(m/m) Max.	Pinheads & broken berries %(m/m) Max.	Bulk density g/l Min.	Moisture %(m/m) Max.	Total ash %(m/m) Max.	Non- volatile ether %(m/m) Min.	Volatile oil %(ml/ 100 gm) Min.	Piperine content %(m/m) Min.		
(1)	(2)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	
Special	0.8	0.2	10	5	450	12.0	7.0	6.0	2.0	4.0	(1) Black pepper shall be dried mature berries of Piper nigrum L, having an unbroken pericarp brown to black in colour with wrinkled surface.
Standard	1.5	0.5	15	5	430	13.0	8.0	5.5	1.5	2.0	(2) It shall be uncleaned or partially cleaned. (3) It shall be free from mould growth and living insects, and practically free from dead insects, insect fragments and rodent contamination. (4) It shall be free from coating of mineral oil and added colouring matter. (5) It shall comply with restrictions in regard to Aflatoxins, Metallic contaminants: Insecticide/ Pesticide residue, Poisonous metals, naturally occurring contaminants. Microbial load etc. as specified by the Codex Alimentarius Commission or as per buyers requirements for Export purposes and the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 for domestic trade.;

Definitions:

- (a) "Broken berries" means-berry that has been separated into two or more pieces.
- (b) "Inorganic extraneous matter" means-includes dust, stones, earth or any other inorganic foreign matter.
- (c) "Light berries" means-berry that has reached an apparently normal stage of development but the kernel does not exist.
- (d) "Non-processed pepper" means-pepper that has not undergone any cleaning.
- (e) "Organic extraneous matter" means-all materials other than black pepper berries which are of vegetable origin.
- (f) "Pinhead" means-berry of very small size that has not developed.
- (g) "Semi-processed pepper" means-pepper that has undergone partial cleaning.

- Note:**
- (1) Non-processed or Semi-processed Whole Black Pepper is not meant for direct human consumption.
 - (2) Volatile oil content should be determined immediately after grinding.
 - (3) It may be marked Malabar. It shall have bulk density of 550gm/litre(Min.). It may also be marked TGEB (Tellichery Garbled Extra Bold) orTGSEB (Tellichery Garbled Special Extra Bold) depending upon size of the berries. The berries shall be retained on sieve having holes of diameter 4.25 mm and4.75 mm for and TGSEB respectively. Both shall have bulk density of 530 gm/litre (Min) for Special Grade and 500 gm/litre (Min) for Standard grade.