

## **India**

### **Guidelines for Methods of Sampling for Pepper**

#### **1. Scope**

This method prescribes the sampling procedure for black pepper and white pepper in different forms, such as whole, seeds and powder. It covers the material in bulk as packed containers.

#### **2. Terminology**

For the propose of this standard the following definitions shall apply

##### **2.1 Consignment**

The quantity of pepper despatched or received at one time and covered by a particular contract or shipping document. It may be composed of one or more lots.

##### **2.2 Lot**

A stated quantity of the material in a consignment presumed to be of uniform characteristics and offered for inspection at one time.

##### **2.3 Increment**

A small quantity of pepper taken from a single position in the lot

##### **2.4 Gross sample**

The quantity of pepper obtained by combining and mixing the increment samples taken from a specified lot

##### **2.5 Laboratory sample**

The quantity of pepper obtained from gross samples for analysis

##### **2.6 Composite sample**

The quantity of pepper obtained by mixing thoroughly an approximately equal quantity of material taken from each of the laboratory sample. The quantity of material in composite samples shall be four times the quantity of the laboratory sample.

#### **3. General requirements**

Sampling shall be carried out by an authorised experienced person, unless otherwise provided by the law. In taking, preparing, storing and handling the samples, care shall be taken that the properties of the product are not affected. Sample shall take in a protected area

and free from foul smell and not exposed to damp air, dust or soot. The sampling apparatus should be clean and dry. Precautions shall be taken to protect the samples the product being sampled and the samples containers from contaminations.

#### 4. Sampling Instrument

A suitable instrument, depending on the nature of the material shall be used.

#### 5. Scale of Sampling

**5.1** All the containers in a single consignment of pepper pertaining to the same variety, year of production and grade and not exceeding 1000 containers shall constitute a lot. If a consignment is declared or is known to include different varieties, different classes or different years of production, or if it appears that the lot is heterogeneous, the containers holding products of similar characteristics shall be grouped together, and each group obtained shall constitute a separate lot. For ascertaining the conformity of the material in a lot to the requirements given in the individual material specification, samples shall be tested from each lot separately.

**5.2** The number of containers to be taken from a lot shall depend on the size of the lot and shall be in accordance with

Lot size			Sample size
Up	to	50	5
51	to	100	8
101	to	300	13
301	to	501	20
501	to	1000	32

**5.2.1** These containers shall be selected at random from a lot. When the product is in movement samples may be taken at the time of loading or unloading of the containers.

**5.2.2** Increments shall be taken by means of appropriate sampling instrument from different parts of each container selected.

#### 6. Gross sample and Laboratory Sample

**6.1** From each of the containers selected from the lot according to 5.2, equal number of increments shall be taken and thoroughly mixed so as to get the gross sample. The increments from each of the containers sampled from the lot, shall be taken from different sides and depths so as to obtain the representative gross sample. One sample for the buyer, another sample for supplier, third for the reference and fourth sample sent to laboratory for analysis. The reference sample bearing the seals of the buyer and seller shall be kept at proper place and ideal conditions so as to be used in case of dispute.

**6.2** If the containers are packed in case, 5% of the cases subject to min. of 2 shall be selected and approximately equal number of containers selected from each so as to constitute

the requisite sample size. The quantity obtained in the gross sample shall be suitably reduced by the procedure on coning and quartering so as to obtain the laboratory sample. The quantity of material in the gross sample and laboratory sample shall be in accordance with 6.1 (recommended quantity of black pepper for gross and laboratory samples are 1kg and 1kg (whole); 250g (ground) respectively)

## **7. Packaging and labelling of laboratory samples**

### **7.1 Packaging**

The laboratory sample shall be placed in clean, dry and airtight suitable containers, which have no effect on the properties of the product. The sample containers shall be of such a size that they are almost completely filled by the sample and get sealed properly.

### **7.2 Labeling**

The Laboratory Sample shall be labeled to indicate:

- a) Name of the product
- b) Grade
- c) Variety
- d) Date and Place of Sampling
- e) Code No. of Lot / Batch
- f) Source
- g) Date of Packing, Date of Expiry
- h) Signature and Seal of Sampling Officer

**7.2.1** If any infestation/contamination is found at the time of sampling, the record of this shall be included

## **8. Storage and Dispatch of Samples**

The laboratory samples shall, be stored in such manner that the temperature of the product does not vary drastically from normal temperature. Samples, which are required to be kept for a long time, shall be stored in a cool and dark place and also free from of contamination. Laboratory samples on which the analysis is carried out shall be dispatched to the testing laboratory immediately after sampling.

## **9. Sampling report**

If a sampling report is prepared, besides giving the usual information it shall make reference to the condition of the pepper sampled, technique applied, if this is other than that described and to any circumstances that may have influenced the sampling.

**10. References**

- IS 1795: 1985 - Methods of test for pepper and condiments.
- IS 4905: 1968 - Methods for random sampling