



Head Office : The Old Grammar School, 3-7 Market Square, Amersham, Bucks. HP7 ODF  
Tel: (44) 1494 434600 Fax: (44) 1494 434435  
Email: roddy@foodnet.ltd.uk  
Rhys@foodnet.ltd.uk

## Product Specification

### 7mm Sliced Natural Length Red Pepper

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008

Page 1 of 9

**PACK SIZE** 1 x 10kg

**ORIGIN:** Spain / Turkey / Bulgaria / China

**GENERAL** The product shall be prepared from fresh sound raw material that is free from all toxic residues and taints. The final product shall comply with all current U.K. and E.C. Food Legislation.

**INGREDIENTS** Red Peppers 100% Declare as: Red Peppers  
(*Capsicum annuum*)

**PROCESSING** Red peppers are delivered pre-cored and held in chill store at 2°C until required for processing. During processing the peppers are inspected, washed, sliced, washed, blanched, cooled in chlorinated water, inspected, frozen (-18°C or below) and stored in bulk at -23°C or below.

**PACKING** During packing the red peppers are inspected before weighing and filling into blue poly lined cartons. The cartons are Best Before and Production date coded, check weighed, metal detected, palletised and stretch-wrapped before being returned to store at -23°C to await despatch to the UK at -18°C.

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**QUALITY CONTROL** Checks are carried out on the following: -

- Processing: -      Raw material  
                           Final Product  
                           Peroxidase  
                           Temperature
- Packing: -         Metal detection  
                           Check weighing  
                           Final product physical defect levels  
                           Organolepsis  
                           Case quantity  
                           Case sealing  
                           Case coding and print quality

**DEFECT TOLERANCES** Product shall be checked at least hourly against the following tolerances for defects: -

<u>Per 1000g</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Clumps	2% w/w	5% w/w
Foreign Material	Nil	Nil
EVM (excluding seeds)	1	3
Stalk	1	2
Seeds	2	10
Major Blemish	1	10
Minor Blemish	5	15
Colour Variants	2% w/w	5% w/w
Length >60mm	>40% w/w	>35% w/w
Length 35 – 60mm	>50% w/w	>40% w/w
Length 20 – 35mm	<5% w/w	<15% w/w
Length <20mm	<5% w/w	<10% w/w
Width >9mm	<2% w/w	<5% w/w
Width <5mm	<2% w/w	<5% w/w

**DEFINITIONS OF DEFECTS****Clumps**

These are where three or more slice are frozen together which cannot be readily separated without causing damage to the slice.

**Foreign Material**

This includes any material not derived from the pepper plant or defined as EVM, such as insects, pieces of insects, wood, glass, stones, metal, sand, grit, plastic or any other material which will render the product unacceptable.

**Extraneous Vegetable Matter (EVM)**

Vegetable material derived from the pepper plant other than the pepper flesh e.g. pieces of core, leaf etc. Seeds from the pepper plant are counted separately. Vegetable material not from the pepper plant will be counted as Foreign material.

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**Stalk**

Any pieces of pepper calyx or stalk.

**Seeds**

Any pepper seeds.

**Major Blemish**

This includes pepper slice that are blemished to the extent that the area affected is greater than 6mm in diameter, either as a single blemish or an aggregate of blemishes on the same slice.

**Minor Blemish**

This includes pepper slice that are blemished to the extent that the area affected is between 2mm and 6mm in diameter, either as a single blemish or an aggregate of blemishes on the same slice. Blemishes less than 2mm in diameter shall be ignored.

**Colour Variants**

This includes slice that are not a true colour, i.e. flamed.

**Length**

See table for descriptions.

**Width**

See table for descriptions.

**ORGANOLEPSIS****COLOUR**

Fairly bright red but may be slightly non-uniform.

**FLAVOUR**

Slightly weak characteristic pepper flavour, with only slight bitterness.

**TEXTURE**

Fairly uniform, flesh may be slightly soft, skins may be slightly tough.



Average sample

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**MICROBIOLOGICAL**

Organism	Target	Maximum
T V C @ 30°C	1 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	3 x 10 <sup>5</sup>
Total Coliforms	1 x 10 <sup>3</sup>	3 x 10 <sup>3</sup>
E. coli	1 x 10 <sup>1</sup>	1 x 10 <sup>2</sup>
Yeasts & Moulds	1.5 x 10 <sup>3</sup>	1 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
Staph aureus	Absent/g	1 x 10 <sup>2</sup>
Salmonella	Absent in 25g	Absent in 25g
Listeria sp.	Absent in 25g	1 x 10 <sup>2</sup>

**ANALYTICAL**

Product shall be blanched to give a trace positive peroxidase reaction (guaiacol test) between 60 and 90 seconds.

**WEIGHT CONTROL**

The product shall be packed to minimum weight.

**METAL DETECTION**

All cartons shall be passed through a metal detector. The system shall be tested at least hourly using 3.5mm ferrous and non-ferrous, 4.5mm stainless steel test pieces.

**CODING**

Best Before End shall be twenty four months following the month of packing e.g. if packed in May 2007 then BEST BEFORE END MAY 2009.

Production / Traceability Code Four figure International date code (Year number, Day number) plus factory identification code and shift code e.g. product packed 1 January 2007 = **7001**.

**CARTON LINERS**

Dark blue food grade polythene liner of a **minimum** thickness of 45µm.

**CARTONS**

Corrugated fibreboard of glued construction, no metal staples to be used. Shall be sealed using dark blue adhesive tape.

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION**

This data conforms to the requirements of EC Council Directive 90/496/EEC

100g of uncooked red pepper typically contain: -

Parameter	Value / 100g	Methodology
Energy - kcal	32	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Energy - kJ	136	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Moisture	90.4g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Carbohydrate	6.1g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as sugars	5.8g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as polyols	0.0g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as starch	0.1g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Fat	0.4g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as saturates	0.1g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as mono unsaturates	Trace	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as poly unsaturates	0.2g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Protein	1.0g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Fibre	1.6g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Sodium	4mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Cholesterol	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin A	640µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin B <sub>6</sub>	0.36mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin C	140mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin D	0.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin E	0.80mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Thiamin	0.01mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Riboflavin	0.03mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Niacin	1.3mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Folic Acid	21µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Biotin	0.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Pantothenic Acid	0.08mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Calcium	8mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Phosphorus	22mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Iron	0.3mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Magnesium	14mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Zinc	0.1mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Iodine	1.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Potassium	160mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**GMO DECLARATION**

Does the product, or any of its ingredients contain any genetically modified material (whether viable or not)? YES / NO

Is the product or any of its ingredients not substantially equivalent as a consequence of the use of genetic modification? YES / NO

Is the product or any of its ingredients produced from, but not containing any genetically modified material? YES / NO

Have genetically modified organisms been used as processing aids or additives used in connection with the production of the food or any of its ingredients? YES / NO

Have genetically modified organisms been used to produce processing aids or additives but where such genetically modified organisms are not present in the processing aid as used in connection with the production of the food or any of its ingredients? YES / NO

Name: Alan Gosling Job Title: Technical Consultant

Signature:  Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008

**IRRADIATION POLICY**

I confirm that the product supplied by Foodnet Limited under this specification has not undergone any irradiation treatment or process. I further confirm that no ingredient or processing aid used in conjunction with this product has undergone irradiation treatment.

Name: Alan Gosling Job Title: Technical Consultant

Signature:  Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008

Where any answer is YES, see details below.

Product or Material	Details of Genetic Modification

I confirm I have made any necessary enquiries and obtained relevant written assurances from suppliers to verify the accuracy of the details provided above. I confirm the above data supplied is correct and can be used without reservation to advise customers.

Code Number	Issue Date	Version Number	Issued By	Complied By
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

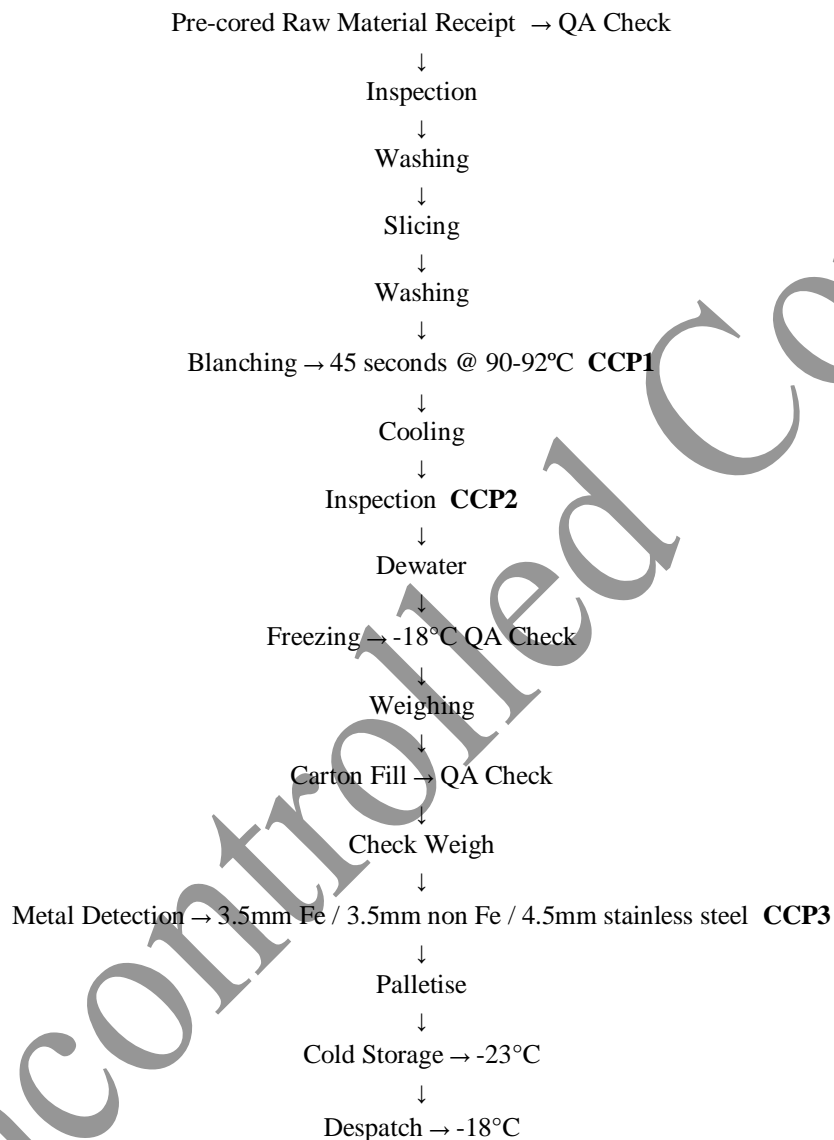
**FOOD INTOLERANCE**

<b>Food Intolerance Data</b>		
Does the material supplied contain any of the following? (NO) Absent, (YES) Present		
<b>Allergen</b>	<b>NO / YES</b>	<b>Reason for presence if YES</b>
Milk & Milk Derivatives	NO	
Egg & Egg Derivatives	NO	
Animal Products (*)	NO	
Fish/Shellfish/Crustaceans/Molluscs	NO	
Cereals (**)	NO	
Gluten	NO	
Yeast/Yeast Extract	NO	
Soya/Soya Derivatives	NO	
Fruit & Fruit Derivatives	NO	
Beef & Beef Products	NO	
Pork & Pork Products	NO	
Lamb & Lamb Products	NO	
Poultry & Poultry Products	NO	
Legumes	NO	
Peanuts	NO	
Sulphite >10ppm	NO	
MSG	NO	
BHA / BHT	NO	
Benzoates	NO	
Glutamates	NO	
Azo & Coal Tar Dyes	NO	
Added Colour	NO	
Added Flavour	NO	
Preservatives	NO	
Antioxidants	NO	
Added Salt	NO	
Nuts/Nut Oils	NO	
Caffeine	NO	
Sesame Products	NO	
Garlic	NO	
Poppy Seeds	NO	
Mustard	NO	
Celery/Celariac	NO	
Lupins	NO	
*Including any product derived from slaughtered animals, e.g. gelatine, rennet		
**Including wheat, corn, barley, rye, oats, etc.		
Is the material suitable for:		
Vegetarians?	Y / N	
Vegans?	Y / N	
Kosher?	Y / N	
Halal?	Y / N	
Organic?	Y / N	

**FOOD ADDITIVES**

<b>E. Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>In Which Ingredient</b>	<b>Function in Ingredient</b>	<b>Function in Final Product</b>	<b>% In Final Product</b>
None					

<b>Code Number</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Issued By</b>	<b>Complied By</b>
FN1002	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007	Four	Foodnet Ltd	Alan Gosling

**PROCESS INFORMATION****PROCESS FLOW CHART****SLICED PEPPERS****CRITICAL CONTROL POINTS:**

to include time / temperature / frequency / target and sensitivity of all process steps.

CCP Number	Process Step	Controls in place
CCP1	Effective blanching to minimise microbiological loading. Half hourly checks.	Continuous chart recording of temperature and guaiacol test for adequate blanching.
CCP2	Inspection of the product. Continuous control	To remove foreign material via manual inspection.
CCP2	Metal detector efficiency. Hourly checks.	Testing of detector using certified test pieces of 3.5mm Ferrous and non-Ferrous, 4.5mm stainless steel.

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## **COSHH Data For Frozen Vegetables**

Treat as you would any frozen material i.e. if engaged in prolonged handling of the vegetables wear gloves.

Care should be used when lifting full cases of frozen vegetables.

There are no other perceived COSHH implications regarding the use of frozen vegetables.

**THE CONTENTS OF THIS SPECIFICATION ARE CONFIDENTIAL TO FOODNET LTD AND THE CUSTOMER, AND MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO ANY OTHER PARTY.**

Signed on behalf of Foodnet Ltd:-

Name: Alan Gosling Job Title: Technical Consultant

Signature:  Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008

Signed on behalf of the Customer:-

Name: Job Title:

Signature: Date:

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