



Head Office: The Old Grammar School, 3-7 Market Square, Amersham, Bucks. HP7 0DF  
Tel: (44) 1494 434600 Email: [foodnettechnical@foodnet.ltd.uk](mailto:foodnettechnical@foodnet.ltd.uk)

### Technical Specification

<b>Product:</b> Strawberry Whole IQF	<b>Last Update:</b> 31/01/2026	<b>Product Code:</b> STR002
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**PACK SIZE** 1 x 10Kg; 4 x 2.5Kg; 5 x 1Kg;

**ORIGIN:** China, Turkey, Poland, Morocco, Egypt

**GENERAL** The product shall be prepared from fresh sound raw material that is free from all toxic residues and taints and shall comply with all current UK/EU Food Legislation. The product is intended to be used as ingredient that is further processed and heat-treated before final consumption (minimum of +75°C for 30 seconds).

**INGREDIENTS** Strawberries 100% Declare as: Strawberries  
(*Fragaria virginiana*)

**PROCESSING** Strawberries are delivered fresh to the factory, each load is quality assurance sampled for foreign material and physical defects. The strawberries are de-stalked, washed, diced, inspected and frozen to -18°C or below.

**PACKING** During packing the strawberries are inspected before being weighed and filled 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.

### **DEFECT TOLERANCES**

#### **Assessed on 1000g sample (frozen)**

<b>Defect</b>	<b>Tolerance</b>
Welding (number)	5%w/w
Foreign Matter (FM)	Nil
Foreign Extraneous Vegetable Matter (FEVM)	Nil
Extraneous Vegetable Matter (EVM)	1
Under-ripe Berries	5%w/w
Major Blemishes	6
Minor Blemishes	12
Damaged/Malformed	5%w/w
Attached Calyx/Stalk	1
Undersize (Dia <20mm)	5%
Oversize (Dia >40mm)	15%

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## **DEFINITIONS OF DEFECTS**

### **Welding**

This is where two or more strawberries are welded together, and which cannot be readily separated without causing damage to the product. The number of the berries affected shall be recorded. These strawberries shall then be separated and assessed for the remainder of the defects.

### **Foreign Matter:**

This includes any material not derived from the strawberry plant nor defined as FEVM. Examples of foreign matter include insects, pieces of insects, wood, glass, mineral stones, metal, slugs etc.

### **Foreign Extraneous Vegetable Matter**

This includes any vegetable material not derived from the strawberry plant, and which is non-toxic.

### **EVM:**

This includes any extraneous vegetable material derived from the strawberry plant, other than the strawberry berry. This includes unattached calyces and part calyces, leaves and leaf pieces.

### **Under-ripe Berries**

This includes berries which are white or green for more than 25% of their surface area, as a result of immaturity.

### **Major Blemishes**

This includes strawberries which are blemished to the extent that the area affected is equal to, or greater than, an equivalent circle of 6mm in diameter, either as a single blemish or an aggregate of blemishes on the same berry.

### **Minor Blemishes**

This includes strawberries which are blemished to the extent that the area affected is equal to an equivalent circle of between 2mm and 6mm in diameter, either as a single blemish or an aggregate of blemishes. Blemishes less than 2mm in diameter shall be ignored. Obviously over-ripe berries shall be included in this category.

### **Damaged**

These are berries which have been broken, or badly squashed, causing a reduction in the diameter of the berry.

### **Malformed**

These are berries which are seriously malformed, for example those with monkey faces (noses) caused by faulty fertilisation (see Figures 1 and 2).

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**Attached Calyx/Stalk**

These are berries where the removal of the calyx is incomplete, and the calyx, part calyx or stalk remains attached to the berry (see Figures 3, 4 and 5).

**Illustration of Defects**

**(i) Malformed**

**Figures 1 and 2 illustrate monkey face (nose) malformation**

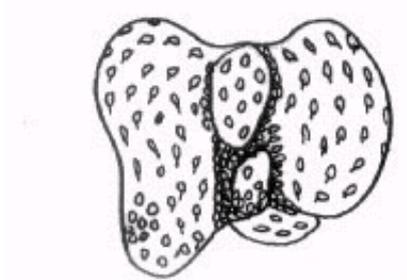


Figure 1

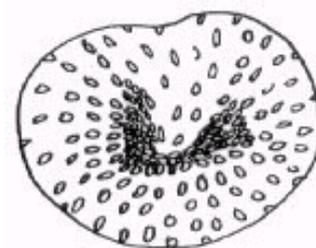


Figure 2

**(j) Attached Calyx/Stalk**

**Figures 3, 4 and 5 illustrate berries from which the calyx has not been completely removed**



Figure 3 - Calyx attached



Figure 4 - Part of Calyx attached

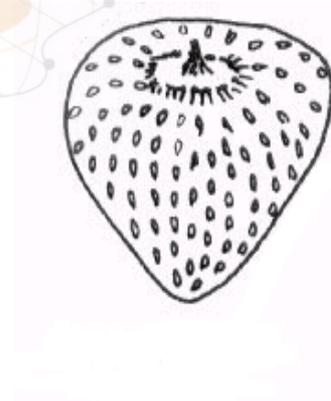


Figure 5 - Stalk point attached



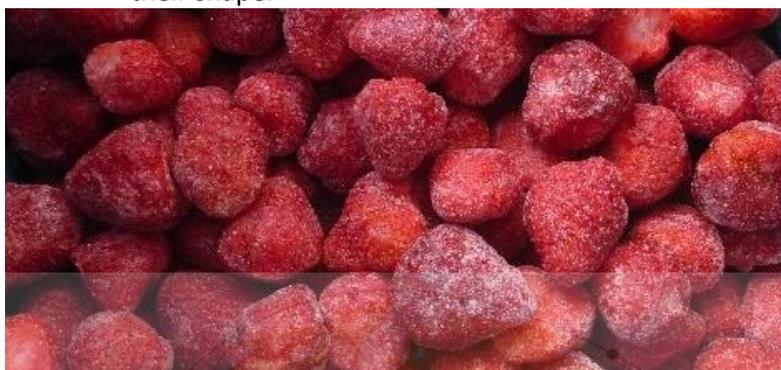
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**ORGANOLEPSIS** (Carried out on a thawed sample.)

**COLOUR** Red, typical of the variety.

**FLAVOUR** Full, natural and characteristic strawberry flavour.

**TEXTURE** Berries shall be firm but tender and shall have substantially retained their shape.



Average sample



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### **MICROBIOLOGICAL**

<b>Organism</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
<i>TVC @ 30°C</i>	$1 \times 10^5$	$1 \times 10^6$
<i>Total Coliforms</i>	$1 \times 10^3$	$1 \times 10^4$
<i>E. coli</i>	$<1 \times 10^1$	$1 \times 10^2$
<i>Listeria mono</i>	Absent in 25g	$1 \times 10^2$
<i>Salmonella</i>	Absent in 25g	Absent in 25g

**ANALYTICAL** N/A – Un-blanching product.

**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 every 2 hours using ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless-steel test pieces.

**BEST BEFORE DATE** The product shall be twenty-four months following the month of packing. Minimum BB date on delivery: 6 months.

**TRACEABILITY INFO** Production date or Lot number printed on the label as well as customer order number and/or delivery date.

**STORAGE CONDITIONS** Keep frozen at - 18°C at all times.

**CARTON LINERS** (10kg) Blue food grade polythene liner of a minimum thickness of 30µm.

**CARTONS** (5, 10kg) Corrugated fibreboard of glued construction, no metal staples to be used. Shall be sealed using blue adhesive tape.

**INNER BAGS** (1kg, 2.5kg) Clear food grade polybag with a minimum thickness of 30 micron.

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## **NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION**

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

100g of uncooked Strawberries typically contains: -

Parameter	Value / 100g	Methodology
Energy - kcal	27	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Energy - kJ	116	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Moisture	88.9g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Carbohydrate	6.2g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as sugars	6.2g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as polyols	0.0g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as starch	0.0g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Fat	Trace	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as saturates	Trace	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as mono unsaturates	Trace	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
- as poly unsaturates	Trace	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Protein	0.6g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Fibre	2.0g	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Sodium	2mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin A	30µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin B <sub>6</sub>	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin C	60mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin D	0.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Vitamin E	0.2mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Thiamin	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Riboflavin	0.03mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Niacin	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Folic Acid	20µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Biotin	1.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Pantothenic Acid	0.0mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Calcium	22mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Phosphorus	23mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Iron	0.7mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Magnesium	12mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Zinc	0.1mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Iodine	0.0µg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
Potassium	160mg	McCance & Widdowson 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition

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### **GMO DECLARATION**

I confirm that this product is not genetically modified or produced from genetically modified organisms. No genetically modified organisms have been used as processing aids or additives. This product does not require specific GM labelling as per Regulation (EC) 1829/2003.

Name: Gianluca Oberto

Job Title: Technical Manager

Signature: 

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026

### **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: Gianluca Oberto

Job Title: Technical Manager

Signature: 

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026

### **COSHH Data**

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

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

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

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## **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/Crustations/Molluscs	NO			
Cereals (**)	NO			
Gluten	NO			
Yeast/Yeast Extract	NO			
Soya/Soya Derivatives	NO			
Fruit & Fruit Derivatives	YES		100% Strawberries	
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/Celериac	NO			
Lupins	NO			
*Including any product derived from slaughtered animals, e.g. gelatine, rennet				
**Including wheat, corn, barley, rye, oats, etc.				
<b><u>Please be aware the manufacturing sites we supply this item from may handle allergens in production. Procedures are in place to prevent cross-contamination.</u></b>				
<b>Is this product Suitable for:</b>				
<b>Vegans</b>	Yes (Not certified)	<b>Vegetarians</b>	Yes	<b>Organic</b> No
<b>Halal</b>	Yes (Not certified)	<b>Kosher</b>	Yes (Not certified)	

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**FOOD ADDITIVES**

E. Number	Name	In Which Ingredient	Function in Ingredient	Function in Final Product	% In Final Product

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: Gianluca Oberto

Job Title: Technical Manager

Signature: 

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026

Signed on behalf of the Customer:

Name:

Job Title:

Signature:

Date:

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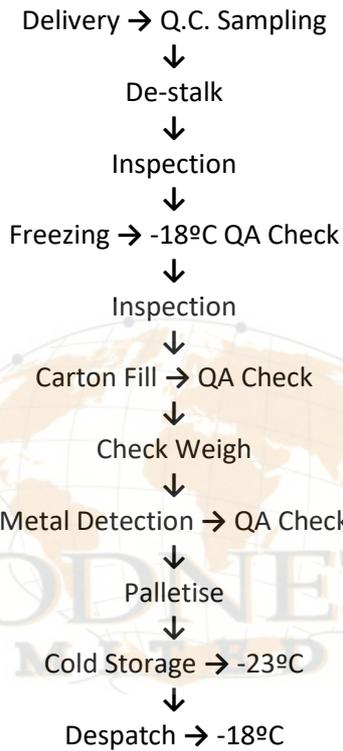
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## PROCESS INFORMATION

### PROCESS FLOW CHART\*

\*Note: this is a generic flow chart which does not refer to any specific production site.

#### STRAWBERRIES



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**Issues & Amendments**

Issue N°	Amend. N°	Date	Amendments	Compiled by
1	1	01/02/2016	New entry	G. Oberto
2	1	01/05/2017	Defect tolerances – minimum ref samples; Reviewed BB and Traceability info. Added Storage Conditions. Reviewed Food Intolerance table, Flow Chart and Amendment table.	G. Oberto
3	1	31/01/2020	3 Year update – general revision	G. Oberto
4	1	31/01/2023	3 Year update – general revision	F. Soares
5	1	31/01/2026	3 Year update – general revision	F. Soares

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