



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

Technical Specification		
Product: Sage Chopped 1-3mm IQF	Last Update: 31/01/2026	Product Code: SAG001

PACK SIZE 1 x 10kg;

ORIGIN: Belgium

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 Sage 100% Declare as: Sage
(*Savia officinalis*)

PROCESSING Sage is delivered and inspected upon receipt. During processing the sage is inspected, washed, chopped, inspected and frozen (-18°C or below) and stored in bulk at -23°C or below until required for packing.

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

DEFECT TOLERANCES

<u>Per 1000g</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Clumps	5% w/w
Foreign Material	Nil
FEVM	1%w/w
EVM	1%w/w
Stem	5%w/w
units >3mm	20% w/w
Colour Defect	3% w/w

DEFINITIONS OF DEFECTS

Clumps

These are where several pieces are frozen together which cannot be readily separated without causing damage to the product.

Foreign Material

This includes any material not derived from the sage plant nor 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.

Doc Ref: PRO-SPE	Issue date: 31.01.2026	Issue No: 5	Prepared by: Filipe Soares	Authorised by: Gianluca Oberto
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Extraneous Vegetable Matter (EVM)

Vegetable material derived from the sage plant other than the leaf or stalk. Vegetable material not from the sage plant will be counted as Foreign Material.

Stems

Sage stems, with no leaf attached.

Colour Defects

Leaves that show discolouration (Brownish colour).

ORGANOLEPSIS (Carried out on a thawed sample.)

COLOUR

Light to bright green, typical of the product.

FLAVOUR

Good and typical of sage, no off flavours.

TEXTURE

Fairly uniform, nerves and cores may be slightly tough.



Average sample

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MICROBIOLOGICAL

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

ANALYTICAL N/A – Un-Blanched 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 forty-eight months following the month of packing. Minimum BB date on delivery: 12 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 Blue food grade polythene liner of a minimum thickness of 30µm.

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

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NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION

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

100g of uncooked sage typically contains: -

Parameter	Value / 100g	Methodology
Energy – kcal	54	USDA Database
Energy - kJ	224	USDA Database
Carbohydrate	6.90g	USDA Database
- as sugars	6.83g	USDA Database
- as polyols	0.00g	USDA Database
- as starch	0.07g	USDA Database
Fat	2.05g	USDA Database
- as saturates	1.14g	USDA Database
- as mono unsaturates	0.30g	USDA Database
- as poly unsaturates	0.28g	USDA Database
Protein	1.71g	USDA Database
Fibre	2.92g	USDA Database
Sodium	2mg	USDA Database

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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: 31st 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: 31st 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

Food Intolerance Data				
Does the material supplied contain any of the following? (NO) Absent, (YES) Present				
Allergen	NO / YES		Reason for presence if YES	
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	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/Celериac	NO			
Lupins	NO			
*Including any product derived from slaughtered animals, e.g. gelatine, rennet				
**Including wheat, corn, barley, rye, oats, etc.				
<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>				
Is this product Suitable for:				
Vegans	Yes (Not certified)	Vegetarians	Yes	Organic No
Halal	Yes (Not certified)	Kosher	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
None					

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: 31st January 2026

Signed on behalf of the Customer:

Name:

Job Title:

Signature:

Date:

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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.

SAGE CHOPPED

Raw Material Receipt → QA Check



Inspection



Washing



Cutting



Inspection



Freezing → -18°C QA Check



Weighing



Carton Fill → QA Check



Check Weigh



Metal Detection → QA Check



Palletise



Cold Storage → -23°C



Despatch → -18°C

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Issues & Amendments

Issue N°	Amend. N°	Date	Amendments	Compiled by
3	1	31/01/2020	New Entry	G. Oberto
4	1	31/01/2023	3 Year update – general revision	F. Soares
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