

Avocados Australia Best Practice Resource

Packaging for export

Packing avocado for export must comply with [Export Control \(Plants and Plant Products\) Order 2011](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2011L02005) (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2011L02005>).

Packing

After avocados are loaded into air/sea containers, these containers must be inspected by an authorised officer. An authorised officer must inspect packaging to confirm it is sufficient to protect the goods. Packaging must be unused or suitably cleaned to the satisfaction of an authorised officer. Sea/air containers must get a written approval by an authorised officer and the Secretary. A container approval is valid for 28 days after the date on which it was given. Refrigerated container with fresh air supply or controlled atmosphere is recommended for avocados.

Container size

There are different container sizes for exporting avocados, including several sea and air freight options. Here is a guide table for common container size when exporting avocados:

Type	Size	Unit	No. of trays in container	No. of bulk packs in container
Air	AV containers	5.5kg tray pack	250	140 bulk packs
	Air pallet	5.5kg tray pack	720	400 bulk packs
Sea	20 foot	5.5kg tray pack	1440	
		4kg tray pack	1930 + floor stacks	
		bulk pack		792
	40 foot	5.5kg tray pack	3588 or 3120	
		4kg tray pack	5520 or 4800	
		bulk pack		2028 or 1716

You should first determine whether you will export avocados by sea or air. When packing, you should refer to container sizes regulation from your transport company and decide which kind of container to choose. Then arrange your fruit to fit the container size. Handle and treat avocados carefully when packing trays/pallets into containers (see XYZ as guide).

Avocados are highly pressure and impact-sensitive and appropriate care must therefore be taken during cargo handling. The cold chain must be maintained at all costs to avoid unnecessary loss in quality. In damp weather (rain, snow), the cargo must be protected from moisture to prevent premature spoilage.



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Avocado Export Tray Packs



Count 18



Count 20



Count 23



Count 25



Count 28



Count 30

Carton size – 429x361x100mm (external)

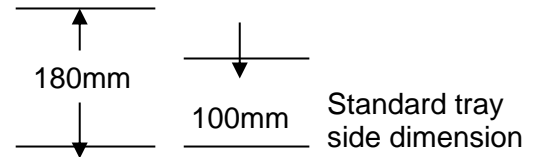
Count	Minimum carton net weight	Net carton weight range	Fruit weight range
18	5.5	5.5 to 5.9	305 – 330
20	5.5	5.5 to 5.9	275 – 295
23	5.5	5.5 to 5.9	240 - 255
25	5.5	5.5 to 5.9	220 – 235
28	5.5	5.5 to 5.8	195 – 210
30	5.5	5.5 to 5.7	185 - 190

Note: Moisture loss of 2-3% will occur during ripening



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Avocado Export Bulk Packs



Carton size: 429x361x180mm (external)

Net weight range: 9.5 - 10.5kg

Note: Moisture loss of 2-3% will occur during ripening

Tray size Equiv.		
28	Bulks	L
30	Bulks	M
32	Bulks	S
<32	Bulks	XS

This resource was prepared by QDAF for an April 2018 update of the BPR Packhouse section.

