

Hibiscus Dry Flower

1. Product and Definition:

This product is the cup-like portion of the hibiscus flower known as *Hibiscus Sabdariffa*. The flowers are ready and intended for human consumption.

2. Product Categories:

- 2.1. Complete flower top (Complete Calyx): The complete part of which the flower is picked off.
- 2.2. Whole loose flower sepals: Removed flower petals.
- 2.3. Sifting (Nekhala): Mixture of complete flowers and petals.
- 2.4. Broken Hibiscus sepals: Broken down or grounded electrically and processed through Primary Processing.

3. Product Gradient:

3.1. Whole Calyx

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade
Complete Flower Heads	95%	80%	65%	50%
Impurities Allowed	1%	2%	3%	3%

***Impurities meaning parts of plant other than Hibiscus flower.**

3.2. Whole Loose Flower Sepals

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade
Complete Sepal Heads	90%	80%	70%	50%
Impurities Allowed	3%	3%	4%	4%

***Impurities meaning parts of plant other than Hibiscus flower.**

3.3. Sifting (Nekhala)

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade
Complete Flower Heads	40%	30%	20%	20%
Impurities Allowed	4%	4%	5%	5%

***Impurities meaning parts of plant other than Hibiscus flower.**

3.4. Broken Down Hibiscus

To be completely free from dirt and other foreign materials – packed in sealed containers against dust and moisture.

4. General Requirements:

- 4.1. All consignments are to be free of Hibiscus seeds.
- 4.2. All hibiscus flowers are to be free of foreign objects, cleaned and free from impurities and dust.
- 4.3. All hibiscus flowers are to be free from bacteria, fungus, insects, insecticides and any other harmful material.
- 4.4. Level of radiation is not to exceed the set limits.
- 4.5. Heavy minerals are not to exceed levels set in the Global Constitution of Nutrition.
- 4.6. To be consumed within two years from date of production.

5. Requirements:

Property	Amount Permitted	Method of Analysis
Moisture	Max 10%	AOAC
Cold Water Extraction	Min 35%	AOAC
Hot Water Extraction	Min 40%	AOAC
Dust	Max 3%	AOAC
Total Ash	Max 10%	AOAC
Acidity (pH)	Max 3.5	AOAC

6. General Health:

The specifications for this product are to be followed according to the Global Constitution on Nutrition with respect to general well-being of health foods.

7. Packaging:

Hibiscus flowers are to be packaged in appropriate clean packages that have not been used before. There are to be no changes in health benefits and nutritional value of the product, and have to be worthy of standards set in every country. All containers and packages are to be of materials safe and appropriate for each use.

8. Storage and Transportation:

Hibiscus flowers to be transported in ways that will preserve the product and prevent damage and spoilage.

9. Identification Badge:

Every package to have a clear badge according to the Sudanese standards no. 099/2002, labels should not be susceptible to damage, and should identify the following:

- Product Name
- Product Type
- Date of Production (Month/Year)
- Code
- Country of Origin
- Place of Manufacture
- Brand name
- Net Weight (kg)

10. References:

Codex Alimentarius Commission Vol. 7 (1994)
Association of official Analytical Chemists (1990)