

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Horticulture

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
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Order No. 558

WASHINGTON STANDARDS FOR CANTALOUPE

(Effective and mandatory for all cantaloupes grown within or marketed within or outside of the state.)

INTRODUCTION

The tolerances for the standards are on a container basis. However, individual packages in any lot may vary from the specified tolerances as stated below, provided the averages for the entire lot, based on sample inspection, are within the tolerances specified.

For a tolerance of 10 percent or more, individual packages in any lot may contain not more than one and one-half times the tolerance specified, except that when the package contains 15 specimens or less, individual packages may contain not more than double the tolerance specified.

For a tolerance of less than 10 percent, individual packages in any lot may contain not more than double the tolerance specified, provided at least one specimen which does not meet the requirements shall be allowed in any one package.

GRADES

U. S. No. 1 shall consist of cantaloupes of one variety which are firm, mature, well formed, well netted and free from aphid honey dew, cracks, sunburn, decay and from damage caused by dirt, moisture, hail, disease, insects or mechanical or other means.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than a total of 10 percent, by count, of the cantaloupes in any container may be below the requirements of this grade, but not over 1/2 of this tolerance or 5 percent, shall be allowed for defects causing serious damage, and not more than 1 percent shall be allowed for cantaloupes affected by soft rot.

U. S. Commercial shall consist of cantaloupes which meet the requirements of U. S. No. 1 grade except for the increased tolerance for defects specified below.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than a total of 20 percent, by count, of the cantaloupes in any container may be below the requirements of this grade, but not more than one-fourth of this amount, or 5 percent, shall be allowed for defects causing serious damage, and not more than 1 percent shall be allowed for cantaloupes affected by soft rot.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

As used in these standards:

"Mature" means that the cantaloupe has reached the stage of development which will insure a proper completion of the ripening process.

"Well netted" means having the netting characteristic of a well developed specimen of the variety.

"Damage" means any injury or defect which materially affects the appearance, or the edible, or shipping quality.

"Serious damage" means any injury or defect which seriously affects the edible or shipping quality. Cantaloupes which are soft, immature, or cracked shall be considered as being seriously damaged.

MARKINGS

The boxes shall be conspicuously and legibly stamped in letters of at least one-half inch type with the name and address of the grower, the variety, grade, net weight or count. It is not obligatory that the shipper's or Association's name and address be stamped on the boxes if they contain the grower's name and address.

*Arthur E. Cox*

Director of Agriculture

*F. E. Duffell*

Supervisor of Horticulture

Signed at Olympia, Washington, this 13th day of May, 1942.