

Chapter 16-445 WAC

WASHINGTON STANDARDS FOR ITALIAN PRUNES

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DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

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| 16-445-001 | Promulgation. [Order 1262, § 16-445-001, filed 5/5/72.] Repealed by WSR 05-10-093, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05. Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. |
| 16-445-005 | Non-Italian type prunes. [Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by Order 1262, filed 5/5/72. |
| 16-445-010 | U.S. No. 1 grade—Tolerances. [Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by Order 1262, filed 5/5/72. |
| 16-445-020 | U.S. No. 2 grade—Tolerances. [Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by Order 1262, filed 5/5/72. |
| 16-445-030 | U.S. combination grade—Tolerances. [Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by Order 1262, filed 5/5/72. |
| 16-445-050 | Culls. [Order 1262, § 16-445-050, filed 5/5/72; Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by WSR 05-10-093, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05. Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. |
| 16-445-080 | Definitions of terms. [Order 1262, § 16-445-080, filed 5/5/72; Order 662, effective 7/8/53.] Repealed by WSR 05-10-093, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05. Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. |
| 16-445-090 | Effective date. [Order 1262, § 16-445-090, filed 5/5/72.] Repealed by WSR 05-10-093, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05. Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. |

WAC 16-445-015 What definitions are important to this chapter? The following definitions are important to this chapter and apply only to Italian prunes:

"Badly misshapen" means prunes so malformed or rough that they appear to be seriously damaged. Doubles that have approximately equal sized halves are not considered "badly misshapen."

"Culls" mean prunes that are immature, or seriously damaged by growth cracks, hail, insect pests, mechanical or other means.

"Department" means the Washington state department of agriculture.

"Diameter" means the greatest distance measured through the center of a prune at right angles to a line running from the stem to the blossom end.

"Fairly uniform size" means that the prunes in each packed container must not show a variation of more than one-fourth of an inch in diameter.

"Fairly well colored" means that at least three-fourths of the surface of a prune is purple color.

"Mature" means that a prune has reached the stage of maturity that will insure proper completion of the ripening process.

"Sunscald" means an apparent softening or collapse of a prune's flesh that is caused by the sun.

"Well colored" means that except for the portion of allowed russetting, ninety-five percent of the surface of a prune is purple color.

"Well-formed" means that a prune has the shape characteristic of the variety. Doubles are not considered well-formed.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-015, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05.]

WAC 16-445-025 What does "damage" and "serious damage" mean? The following table explains the differences between "damage" and "serious damage" as the terms apply to Italian prunes:

| "Damage" means: | "Serious damage" means: |
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| (1) Any injury or defect that materially affects the prune's appearance, or its edible or shipping quality. | (1) Any injury or defect that seriously affects the prune's appearance, or its edible or shipping quality. |
| Note: Internal growth cracks, cavities or gum spots are not considered damage. | |
| (2) Any one of the following defects or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, is "damage": | (2) Any one of the following defects, or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, is "serious damage": |
| (a) Broken skins that are unhealed. | (a) Broken skins that are unhealed and more than one-eighth inch in diameter or depth. |
| Note: | Note: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken skins caused by pulled stems where the skin is not torn beyond the stem basin are not damage.• Broken skins that have healed are considered scars. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken skins caused by pulled stems where the skin is not torn beyond the stem basin are not serious damage.• Broken skins that have healed are considered scars. |
| (b) Heat injury that is extensive or not light in color. | (b) Heat injury that causes any softening or dark discoloration of the flesh. |

| "Damage" means: | "Serious damage" means: | "Damage" means: | "Serious damage" means: |
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| | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat injury may cause internal or external discoloration, and may or may not be serious. • Heat injury should not be confused with sunscald, which causes softening or collapse of the tissue, and which is always classed as serious damage. | (g) Drought spots or external gum spots that are more than 1/4 inch in diameter. | (g) Drought spots or external gum spots that total more than 1/2 inch in diameter. |
| (c) External growth cracks , when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are more than one on a prune; or • One is deep; or • One is not well healed; or • One is more than 1/4 inch in length. | (c) External growth cracks that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not well healed; or • More than 3/16 inch in depth; or • More than 1/2 inch in length. | (h) Russetting that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not excessively rough but totals more than 1/10 of a prune's surface; or • Excessively rough and totals more than 1/4 inch in diameter. | (h) Russetting that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not excessively rough but totals more than 1/3 of a prune's surface; or • Excessively rough and totals more than 1/2 inch in diameter. |
| (d) Sunburn that has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materially changed the normal color of a prune; or • Caused the skin to blister or crack. | (d) Sunburn that causes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decided flattening of a prune; or • Blistering, cracking, or noticeable brownish discoloration of the skin. | (i) Scars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark, rough or depressed scars totaling more than 1/4 inch in diameter. • Fairly smooth, superficial scars that total more than 1/2 inch in diameter. An example is fairly light discoloration such as that caused by handling or packing or by prunes rubbing against each other while on the tree. | (i) Scars that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very dark or excessively rough and total more than 1/2 inch in diameter; or • More than 3/16 inches deep. |
| (e) Split pit that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes a readily apparent crack at the stem end; or • Affects a prune's shape so it is not well-formed. | (e) Split pit that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes a crack at the stem end more than 3/16 inch in length, including any part that may be covered by the stem; or • Affects the shape to the extent that the fruit is badly misshapen. | [Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-025, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05.] | |
| (f) Hail marks , or other similar depressions or scars that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are not shallow or superficial; or • Total more than 3/8 inch in diameter; or • Break the skin. | (f) Hail marks that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are more than 3/16 inch deep; or • Total more than 1/2 inch in diameter. | <p>WAC 16-445-040 What is a "Washington No. 1 grade" Italian prune? To be labeled "Washington No. 1 grade," Italian prunes must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Of one variety; (2) A purplish color over at least 2/3 of their surface; (3) Well-formed; (4) At least 1-1/4 inches in diameter unless otherwise specified; (5) Mature but not overripe, soft or shriveled; (6) Free from decay and sunscald; and (7) Free from damage caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Broken skins; (b) Heat injury; (c) Growth cracks; (d) Sunburn; (e) Split pits; (f) Hail marks; (g) Drought spots; (h) Russetting; (i) Scars; or | |

(j) Dirt, other foreign material, disease, insects or mechanical or other means.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-040, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05. Statutory Authority: Chapter 15.17 RCW. WSR 78-04-061 (Order 1549), § 16-445-040, filed 3/31/78; Order 1262, § 16-445-040, filed 5/5/72; Order 698, (1), effective 6/15/54; Order 662, effective 7/8/53.]

WAC 16-445-045 What tolerances apply to Italian prunes? The following tolerances apply to prunes in any container and are adopted to allow for variations that are incidental to proper grading and handling:

| (1) Tolerances that apply at the shipping point: | (2) Tolerances that apply to the destination or en route to the destination: |
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| (a) Other than color and size, no more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet the grade requirements for defects. | (a) No more than eighteen percent, by count, may fail to meet grade requirements. |
| (b) No more than five percent, by count, may have serious damage defects. | (b) No more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet grade requirements due to other permanent defects. |
| (c) No more than one percent, by count, may be decayed. | (c) No more than seven percent, by count, may have defects that cause serious damage, including no more than five percent for permanent defects and no more than two percent for decay. |
| (d) No more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet the color requirements. | (d) No more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet color requirements. |
| (e) No more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet the size specifications. | (e) No more than ten percent, by count, may fail to meet minimum size requirements. |
| (f) The combined tolerance for all defects must not exceed fifteen percent by count. | |

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-045, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05.]

WAC 16-445-060 How does the department apply its Italian prune tolerances during an inspection? If the averages for an entire lot are within the specified tolerances, the following limitations apply to the contents of the individual containers in the lot. Based upon sample inspections, the individual containers in the lot:

- (1) May contain at least one defective and one undersized prune.
- (2) Must have no more than one and one-half times the tolerance specified when a tolerance is ten percent or more.
- (3) Must have no more than double the tolerance specified when a tolerance is less than ten percent.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-060, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05; Order 1262, § 16-445-060, filed 5/5/72; Order 662, effective 7/8/53.]

WAC 16-445-070 What are the "standard pack" requirements for Italian prunes? (1) A standard pack of Italian prunes must:

- (a) Contain prunes of fairly uniform size;
- (b) Be tightly packed according to industry-approved methods; and
- (c) Contain prunes in the top layer that are not noticeably superior in quality or size to those below the top layer.

(2) In order to allow for variations incident to proper packing, no more than ten percent of the containers in any lot, by count, may fail to meet the standard pack requirements of this section.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-10-093, § 16-445-070, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05; Order 1262, § 16-445-070, filed 5/5/72; Order 662, effective 7/8/53.]