

WAC 16-409-022 Asparagus grades. (1) The following table identifies and describes the asparagus grades used in Washington state:

Washington Asparagus Grades:					
Stalk Characteristics:	"Extra Fancy Grade Asparagus"	"Extra Fancy Grade Asparagus Tips"	"Fancy Grade Asparagus"	"Consumer Pack Asparagus"	"Culls"
Stalks must be:					
(a) Clean;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(b) Fresh;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(c) Fairly uniform in length;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(d) Well trimmed;	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
(e) Fairly well trimmed;	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
(f) Fairly straight;	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
(g) Not wilted;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(h) Not badly misshapen;	No	No	Yes	No	No
(i) Free from decay;	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(j) Free from damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects, or mechanical or other means;	Yes	Yes	See subsection (3) of this section	Yes	No
(k) At least eighty-five percent green in color;	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
(l) All green.	No	Yes	No	No	No

(2) "Culls" describes asparagus that:

(a) Is not graded in conformity with Washington extra fancy, Washington extra fancy tips, Washington fancy, Washington consumer pack, or U.S. No. 1, or U.S. No. 2; and

(b) Must not be marketed if more than ten percent by count of the stalks show white in excess of two inches.

(3) "Fancy grade asparagus" is free from serious damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects or mechanical or other means.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 15.17.030, 15.17.050, and chapter 34.05 RCW. WSR 15-12-015, § 16-409-022, filed 5/21/15, effective 6/21/15. Statutory Authority: Chapters 15.17 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 07-06-047, § 16-409-022, filed 3/1/07, effective 4/1/07; WSR 05-10-092, § 16-409-022, filed 5/4/05, effective 6/4/05.]