



RULE-MAKING ORDER
(RCW 34.05.360)

3m Order # 6015

CR-103 (4/25/96)

Agency: Department of Agriculture

- Permanent Rule
- Emergency Rule
- Expedited Repeal

(1) Date of adoption: February 17, 1997

(2) Purpose: Improve the marketing of fresh asparagus by upgrading the Washington Consumer pack grade standards.

(3) Citation of existing rules affected by this order: Chapter 16-409 WAC

Repealed:
Amended: xx
Suspended:

(4) Statutory authority for adoption: Chapter 15.17 RCW, Standards of Grades and Packs

Other Authority:

PERMANENT RULE ONLY

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 97-02-098 on 1/2/97 (date).
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- (a) That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- (b) That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding:

EXPEDITED REPEAL ONLY

Under Preproposal Statement of Inquiry filed as WSR _____ on _____ (date)

(5.3) Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?:

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

(6) Effective date of rule:

**Permanent Rules
or Expedited Repeal**

Emergency Rules

- 31 days after filing
- Other (specify) _____*
- Immediately
- Later (specify) _____

*(If less than 31 days after filing, specific finding in 5.3 under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required)

Name (Type or Print)

Jim Jesernig

Signature

Title
Director

Date
February 17, 1997

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER'S OFFICE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

FEB 19 1997

TIME 8:35 AM

WSR 97-05-054 PM

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

The number of sections adopted at the request of nongovernmental entity:

New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:

New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</u>
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____

1000 (117)

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 6008, filed 12/17/96, effective 1/17/97)

WAC 16-409-020 Washington standards--Grades. (1) Washington extra fancy shall consist of:

(a) Clean, fresh stalks of asparagus, fairly uniform in length, well trimmed, fairly straight, not wilted, and which are free from decay and damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects, or mechanical or other means. Stalks shall have at least eighty-five percent green color.

(b) Stalks within individual containers shall meet one of the following designated sizes: Jumbo, large, or standard.

(2) Washington extra fancy tips shall consist of:

(a) Clean, fresh stalks of asparagus, fairly uniform in length, well trimmed, fairly straight, not wilted, and which are free from decay and damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects, or mechanical or other means. Stalks shall be all green.

(b) Stalks within the individual containers shall meet one of the following designated sizes: Jumbo, large, standard, or small.

(3) Washington fancy shall consist of:

(a) Clean, fresh stalks of asparagus, fairly uniform in length, fairly well trimmed, not wilted and not badly misshapen, and which are free from decay and serious damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects, mechanical or other means. Stalks shall have at least eighty-five percent green color.

(b) Each stalk shall have a diameter of not less than four-sixteenths inch.

(4) Washington consumer pack shall consist of:

(a) Clean, fresh stalks of asparagus (~~(and may be of random length)~~), fairly uniform in length, fairly well trimmed, which are fairly straight, not wilted and which are free from decay and damage caused by spreading or broken tips, dirt, disease, insects, mechanical or other means. Stalks shall (~~(show not more than one and one half inches of white)~~) have at least eighty-five percent green color.

(b) Each stalk shall have a diameter of not less than four-sixteenths inch.

(5) Culls.

(a) Asparagus which 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 shall be designated as "culls."

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

(6) Any lot of fresh asparagus, including "culls" marketed within the state of Washington, shall have not more than ten percent of stalks with white in excess of two inches, nor more than ten percent of stalks which are less than four-sixteenths inch in diameter.