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# **United States Standards for Grades of Currants for Processing**

**Effective September 6, 2016**

This issue of the United States Standards for Grades of Currants for Processing (81 FR 51297) supersedes the previous issue which has been in effect since May 18, 1952.

Voluntary U.S. grade standards are issued under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, which provides for the development of official U.S. grades to designate different levels of quality. These grade standards are available for use by producers, suppliers, buyers, and consumers. As in the case of other standards for grades of fresh and processed fruits, vegetables, and specialty crops these standards are designed to facilitate orderly marketing by providing a convenient basis for buying and selling, for establishing quality control programs, and for determining loan values.

The U.S. grade standards and inspection instructions for all fresh and processed fruits, vegetables, and specialty crops are available on the internet and upon request at the address below. These documents provide detailed interpretations of the grade standards and provide step-by-step procedures for grading the product.

Grade standards are issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) after careful consideration of all data and views submitted during rulemaking. The Department welcomes suggestions for improving the standards in future revisions. Comments may be submitted to, and copies of standards and inspection instructions obtained from:

Director, Specialty Crops Inspection Division  
Specialty Crops Program,  
USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0240  
Washington, D.C. 20250

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**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

**Note:** Compliance with the provisions of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, or with applicable State laws and regulations.

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## United States Standards for Grades of Currants for Processing

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## **Grades**

### **§51.1950 U.S. No. 1.**

**U.S. No. 1** consists of currants of similar type which are not separated from the stems and which are well colored, free from mold and decay and free from damage resulting from being distinctly immature, overmature, crushed, dried and shriveled, and free from damage caused by leaves or pieces of leaves, dirt or other foreign matter, disease, insects, mechanical or other means.

- (a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper handling, not more than a total of 10 percent, by weight, of the currants in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade: *Provided*, That, not more than one-tenth of this amount, or 1 percent, shall be allowed for currants affected by mold or decay or which are seriously damaged by insects.

### **§51.1951 U.S. No. 2.**

**U.S. No. 2** consists of currants which meet the requirements for U.S. No. 1 grade except for the increased tolerances for defects specified as follows:

- (a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper handling, not more than a total of 20 percent, by weight, of the currants in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade: *Provided*, That, not more than one-tenth of this amount, or 2 percent, shall be allowed for currants affected by mold or decay or which are seriously damaged by insects.

## **Application of Tolerances**

### **§51.1952 Application of tolerances and determination of grade.**

The tolerances for the preceding grades are to be applied to the entire lot. Scoring of defects shall be on a bunch basis except that the percentage of loose berries shall be calculated on the basis of weight and added to the percentage of other defects.

## **Reserved**

### **§51.1953 Reserved.**

## **Definitions**

### **§51.1954 Similar type.**

“**Similar type**” means that the currants are similar in color. For example, red varieties shall not be mixed with white varieties.

### **§51.1955 Well colored.**

“**Well colored**” means that the berries show the color characteristic of well ripened currants for the type or variety.

**§51.1956 Mold.**

“**Mold**” means any surface mold that is plainly visible to the naked eye.

**§51.1957 Damage.**

“**Damage**” means any injury or defect which materially affects the appearance or the processing quality of the currants. The following shall be considered as damage:

- (a) **Distinctly immature**, when the currants are of a light pink, whitish, or green color in the case of varieties which are characteristically red when well ripened, or when the currants are greenish color in the case of types or varieties which are characteristically white in color when well ripened.
- (b) **Overmature**, when the currants have advanced to the stage where the berries are soft, leaking and are dull in appearance.
- (c) **Dried and shriveled**, when the berries are appreciably lacking in juice and are “wrinkled” and have a “raisined” appearance.

**§51.1958 Seriously damaged by insects.**

“**Seriously damaged by insects**” means that there is present one or more insects on the bunch.