



United States Department of Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Fruit and
Vegetable
Program

Specialty
Crops
Inspection
Division

United States Standards for Grades of Okra

Effective November 22, 2013

This is the second issue, as amended, of the United States Standards for Grades of Okra published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on October 23, 2013 (78 FR 63158) to become effective November 22, 2013. This issue supersedes the first issue, which has been in effect since December 18, 1928.

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 and vegetables, 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, grading manuals, handbooks or instructions for inspection of several fresh and processed fruits and vegetables are available on the internet and upon request at the address below. These manuals or instructions contain detailed interpretations of the grade standards and provide step-by-step procedures for grading the product.

Grade standards are issued by the Department after careful consideration of all data and views submitted, and the Department welcomes suggestions which might aid in improving the standards in future revisions. Comments may be submitted to, and copies of standards and grading manuals obtained from:

Director, Specialty Crops Inspection Division
Fruit and Vegetable Program, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0240
Washington, D.C. 20250
Phone: (202) 720-5870 Fax: (202) 720-0393

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 Okra

Section

Grade

§51.3945 U.S. No. 1.

Reserved

§51.3946 [Reserved and Removed].

Definitions

§51.3947 Damage.

§51.3948 Serious damage.

Grade

§51.3945 U.S. No. 1.

"U.S. No. 1" consists of pods of okra of similar varietal characteristics which are fresh, tender, not badly misshapen, free from decay, and from damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, disease, insects, mechanical or other means.

- (a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, the following tolerances, by weight, are provided as specified:
 - (1) Ten percent for pods in any lot which fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including therein not more than 5 percent for defects causing serious damage, and including in this latter amount not more than 1 percent for pods affected by decay.

Reserved

§51.3946 [Reserved and Removed].

Definitions

§51.3947 Damage.

"Damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the individual pod or of the lot as a whole.

§51.3948 Serious damage.

"Serious damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the individual pod or of the lot as a whole.