



## United States Department of Agriculture

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Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Specialty Crops Inspection Division

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### **PATCH # 034**

**DOCUMENT:** Shipping Point Inspection Instructions and Market Inspection Instructions, dated August 2004, for Strawberries and Other Berries.

#### **REMARKS:**

Defect description with new heading and visual aid reference for Late Leaf Rust (Q) and White Drupelet Disorder (Q) will be added.

#### **Late Leaf Rust (Q)**

On berries, small pustules develop on individual drupelets, producing yellow masses of spores. Pustules on the fruit do not usually develop until late in the season; infections in plantings of summer-bearing varieties may go unnoticed.

#### **Scoring Guide**

**Damage:** When affecting more than 2 individual drupelets.

**Serious damage:** When affecting more than 5 individual drupelets.

**Visual Aid:** Refer to USDA RSP-1 photo.

#### **White Drupelet Disorder (Q)**

Raspberries are susceptible to White Drupelet Disorder which can be recognized by tan or white discoloration of the drupelets. Several explanations of causal factors for this condition on raspberries include, sunscald and UV radiation, stinkbug damage and red berry mite feeding. The term "White Drupelet" will be used to describe this defect for both damage and serious damage.

#### **Scoring Guide**

**Damage:** When affecting 2 or more individual drupelets.

**Serious damage:** When affecting more than 5 individual drupelets.

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**Visual Aid:** Refer to USDA RSP-2 photo.

Defect description and visual aid reference for Red Drupelet Disorder in Blackberries (C) will be added.

### **Red Drupelet Disorder (C)**

This disorder is specific to blackberries. Red drupelet disorder causes the individual drupelets to be swollen and have a dark or light reddish blue to bright red coloring affecting some but not all of the drupelets in a mostly random pattern. The reasons for this disorder are not completely understood but may be related to transit or storage temperature. Blackberries harvested with a deep blue or black color can develop this defect after storage. Contributing factors may be due to loss of pigment from water contact or from cultivar-dependent red drupelet disorder. “Red Drupelet” will be used to describe this defect for both damage and serious damage.

### **Scoring Guide**

Slight discoloration affecting individual drupelets that are reddish black or reddish blue and blend in color are not considered a defect. Discoloration that is noticeably bluish red to bright red and do not blend in color will be scored as damage and serious damage. It is important to consider the color and number of affected drupelets. The brighter or more distinct the discoloration, the fewer affected drupelets are allowed.

**Damage:** When materially detracts from the appearance.

**Serious damage:** When seriously detracts from the appearance.

**Visual Aid:** Refer to USDA BLK-1 photo.

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