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Jimmie Turner (202) 720-6179
jimmie.turner@usda.gov
Billy Cox (202) 720-8998
billy.cox@usda.gov

USDA REVISES THE U.S. STANDARDS FOR GRADES OF MANGOS

WASHINGTON, July 30, 2007 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture is revising the voluntary U.S. Standards for Grades of Mangos.

The revised grade standards will allow for longer -- up to an inch -- attached stem lengths. The revision would bring the standards for mangos in line with current marketing practices, thereby, improving the usefulness in serving the industry.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) works with industry representatives and others to establish or revise U.S. standards for nearly 240 agricultural products. Industry uses the standards in the marketplace to specify the quality of commodities. Standards facilitate commerce by providing a common language for trade and a means of measuring value in the marketing of agricultural products.

A description of the revision, which becomes effective Aug. 24, 2007, was published in the July 25, 2007, Federal Register.

For more information, contact Vincent J. Fusaro, AMS Fruit & Vegetable Programs, Room 1661-S, USDA Stop 0240, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0240. Copies of the notice also are available from the same address.

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