

Comment Info: =====

General Comment: March 26, 2008

Vincent J. Fusaro
Standardization Section
Fresh Products Branch-Fruit & Vegetable Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1661, South Building, Stop 0240
Washington, D.C. 20250-0240

Reference: February 26th, 2008; Federal Register Vol. 73, No. 38, pgs. 10185-10186
AMS Docket #FV-07-0140

Dear Mr. Fusaro:

I write to support the revision to U.S. Table Grape Standards to allow for an additional 5% shatter in bags and clamshells only. I believe the current standard should reflect industry, retail, and consumer realities.

As a result of modern packaging practices, table grapes maintain integrity and quality all the way from the field to the consumer. A change to allow the additional allowance is presently warranted given the reality and need to ensure both industry and standardization reflect mutual progression. While I do not support shatter allowance deemed negligent to the industry, I firmly believe loose and attached berries of a whole and sound nature maintain qualities of equal value.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Forry
DJ Forry Company