

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:

On behalf of Tri-Boro Fruit Co., I write to express support for the current proposal to add an additional 5 percent allowance for shattered berries in consumer bags and clamshells only.

Given an industry wide recognition of quality, natural process and uncontrollable factors, I believe an additional shatter allowance will solidify a level of acceptability reflective of factors affecting shatter. Standard grading should reflect berry quality throughout the handling process, from time of inspection to final destination. With an acceptable level of shatter, factors attributing to shatter occurrence are reasonably recognized.

I believe an additional 5 percent shatter allowance is overdue and I fully support the adoption of the current proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Tony Fazio
Tri-Boro Fruit Co., Inc.