



February 16, 2004

Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch  
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Ciruli Brothers appreciates the opportunity to express our support for the establishment of U.S. standards for grades of mangos. We are an importer of fresh mangos from Mexico into the U.S.

Ciruli Brothers believes it is extremely important that mango grade standards include sizing definitions and that sizing definitions be specific to the different mango varieties. In addition, a mango grade standard should address physical condition defects and, if applicable, how certain physical condition defects may apply differently for different varieties.

My company supports the idea of establishing maturity standards as part of a grade standard. We understand the difficulty in establishing maturity standards that make sense for all shipping areas and varieties as mangos continue to ripen after harvest. However, we believe that finding a sensible way to measure maturity is worth exploring.

Mango grade standards will give my company to effectively and consistently provide retail and food service customers with mangos that have measurable quality standards. If I can be of further assistance during this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Ciruli'.

Charles Ciruli  
Ciruli Brothers