



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Agricultural
Marketing
Service**

**Fruit and
Vegetable
Division**

**Processed
Products
Branch**

United States Standards for Grades of Dried Peaches

Effective date May 24, 1967

This is the second issue, as amended, of the United States Standards for Grades of Dried Peaches.

Previous issues of these standards were:

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tentative (First Issue) Standards: | Effective June 1, 1942 |
| Amended: | Effective August 1, 1945 |
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| Amended: | Effective May 24, 1967 |

Voluntary U.S. grade standards are issued under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, which provides for the development of official U.S. grades to designate different levels of quality. These grade standards are available for use by producers, suppliers, buyers, and consumers. As in the case of other standards for grades of processed fruits and vegetables, these standards are designed to facilitate orderly marketing by providing a convenient basis for buying and selling, for establishing quality control programs, and for determining loan values.

The standards also serve as a basis for the inspection and grading of commodities by the Federal inspection service, the only activity authorized to approve the designation of U.S. grades as referenced in the standards, as provided under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. This service, available as on-line (in-plant) or lot inspection and grading of all processed fruit and vegetable products, is offered to interested parties, upon application, on a fee-for-service basis. The verification of some specific recommendations, requirements, or tolerances contained in the standards can be accomplished only by the use of on-line inspection procedures. In all instances, a grade can be assigned based on final product factors or characteristics.

In addition to the U.S. grade standards, grading manuals or instructions for inspection of several processed fruits and vegetables are available upon request for a nominal fee. These manuals or instructions contain detailed interpretations of the grade standards and provide step-by-step procedures for grading the product.

Grade standards are issued by the Department after careful consideration of all data and views submitted, and the Department welcomes suggestions which might aid in improving the standards in future revisions. Comments may be submitted to, and copies of standards and grading manuals obtained from:

Chief, Processed Products Branch
Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS
U.S. Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 96456, Rm. 0709, So. Bldg.
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United States Standards for Grades of Dried Peaches

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Authority: Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, Secs. 203, 205, 60 Stat. 1087, as amended, 1090, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1622, 1624).

Note: Compliance with the provisions of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, or with applicable State laws and regulations.

§52.5801 Product description.

Dried peaches are the halved and pitted fruit of the peach tree (*Prunus persica*) from which the greater portion of moisture has been removed. Before packing, the dried fruit is processed to cleanse the fruit and may be sulfured sufficiently to retain a characteristic color.

§52.5802 Moisture.

Federal inspection certificates shall indicate the moisture content of the finished product which shall be not more than 25 percent by weight.

§52.5803 Types and varieties of dried peaches.

(a) Freestone.

- (1)** Muir variety.
- (2)** Lovell variety.
- (3)** Elberta variety.
- (4)** Other freestone varieties or mixed freestone varieties.

(b) Clingstone.

- (1)** Midsummer variety.
- (2)** Phillips variety.

§52.5804 Size of dried peaches.

(a) Federal inspection certificates shall indicate the size or combination of sizes of halved peaches found upon examination.

(b) The various sizes of dried peaches are as follows:

- No. 1 Size (Jumbo Size)** - 2 inches or larger in diameter.
- No. 2 Size (Extra Fancy Size)** - 1-3/4 inches to 2 inches in diameter.
- No. 3 Size (Fancy Size)** - 1-1/2 inches to 1-3/4 inches diameter.
- No. 4 Size (Extra Choice)** - 1-3/8 inches to 1-1/2 inches in diameter.
- No. 5 Size (Choice Size)** - 1-1/8 inches to 1-3/8 inches diameter.
- No. 6 Size (Standard Size)** - Less than 1-1/8 inches in diameter.

(1) Diameter means the shortest measurement across the face of the peach half when restored to its normal shape.

- (2) **In determining compliance with size requirements listed above,** dried peaches will be considered as of one size if not more than 10 percent by weight of halves vary from the size range.

§52.5805 U.S. Grade A or U.S. Fancy.

- (a) **U.S. Grade A or U.S. Fancy** dried peaches possess similar varietal characteristics; and possess a practically uniform, bright typical color, characteristic of well-matured peaches. Not more than 5 percent by weight of the fruit may be of a color described in U.S. Grade B or U.S. Choice, and none of the fruit may be of a color described in U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard.
- (b) Not more than a total tolerance of 10 percent by weight may be slabs, immature, or may possess pits or pieces of pits; may be damaged by discoloration, sunburn, hail marks, scab, disease, insect injury, or other similar defects; or may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **Provided**, that not more than three-tenths of the total tolerance or 3 percent by weight, may possess pits, or pieces of pits, not more than two-fifths of the total tolerance, or 4 percent by weight, may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **And further provided**, that, not more than one-tenth of the total tolerance, or 1 percent by weight, may be affected by decay.

§52.5806 U.S. Grade B or U.S. Choice.

- (a) **U.S. Grade B or U.S. Choice** dried peaches possess similar varietal characteristics; and possess a reasonably uniform, bright typical color, characteristic of reasonably well-matured peaches. Not more than 10 percent by weight of the fruit may be of a color described in U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard.
- (b) Not more than a total tolerance of 15 percent by weight may be slabs, immature, or may possess pits or pieces of pits; may be damaged by discoloration, sunburn, hail marks, scab, disease, insect injury, or other similar defects; or may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **Provided**, that, not more than one-third of the total tolerance, or 5 percent by weight, may possess pits or pieces of pits; not more than one-third of the total tolerance, or 5 percent by weight, may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **and further provided**, that, not more than one-fifteenth of the total tolerance, or 1 percent by weight, may be affected by decay.

§52.5807 U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard.

- (a) U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard** dried peaches possess similar varietal characteristics; and possess a fairly uniform typical color, characteristic of fairly well-matured peaches.
- (b)** Not more than a total tolerance of 20 percent by weight of the fruit may be slabs, immature, or possess pits or pieces of pits; may be damaged by discoloration, sunburn, hail marks, scab, disease, insect injury, or other similar defects; or may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **Provided**, that, not more than one-half of the total tolerance, or 10 percent by weight, may possess pits or pieces of pits; not more than one-fourth of the total tolerance, or 5 percent by weight, may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **and further provided**, that, no more than one-tenth of the total tolerance, or 2 percent by weight, may be affected by decay.

§52.5808 U.S. Grade D or Substandard.

U.S. Grade D or Substandard dried peaches are wholesome and edible fruit that fails to meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard: **Provided**, that, not more than 5 percent by weight of the total fruit may be affected by mold, decay, insect infestation (no live insects are permitted), imbedded dirt, or other foreign material: **and further provided**, that, not more than 2 percent by weight of the total fruit may be affected by decay.

§52.5809 Explanation of terms.

- (a) Damage or other defects.**
 - (1) Damaged by discoloration** means that the peaches have become excessively darkened. Darkening of otherwise sound fruit characteristic of fruit held in storage, in keeping with good commercial practice, shall not be considered as damaged by discoloration unless excessively darkened.
 - (2) Damaged by sunburn** means any substantial damage to color or texture of skin caused by excessive heat from the sun.
 - (3) Damaged by hail marks, scab, or disease** means that the combined area of all such defects, or of any one such defect exceeds in the aggregate an area equivalent to the area of a circle three-eighths inch in diameter.

- (4) **Damaged by other similar defects** means any injury or defect or group of defects not mentioned herein which materially affect the appearance, edibility, or keeping quality of the fruit.
 - (5) **Damaged by insect injury** means healed or unhealed surface blemishes, and healed or unhealed blemishes in the flesh which materially affect the appearance, edibility, or keeping quality of the fruit but which do not possess evidence of insect infestation.
 - (6) **Affected by insect infestation** means that the dried peaches show the presence of insects, insect fragments, or excreta. No live insects are permitted.
 - (7) **Affected by imbedded dirt** means the units have sufficient quantities of adhering dirt to give the fruit a dirty, smudgy appearance and dirt which may not be removed readily in washing the fruit.
- (b) **Maturity.**
- (1) **Well-matured** means that the peaches are fully ripe.
 - (2) **Reasonably well-matured** means that the peaches are firm and may not have reached the fully ripe stage.
 - (3) **Fairly well-matured** means that the peaches may be hard but not immature.
 - (4) **Immature** means that the peaches are tough or possess green or other color indicative of immature fruit.
- (c) **Slabs. Slabs** are peaches that have been mashed, broken, or mutilated to the extent that they have lost their normal contour and have become definitely flattened at the edge or rim. A half that has a slightly torn edge is not considered a slab.

§52.5810 Work sheet and summary of requirements for dried peaches.

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------|------|------|-------|
| Size of case or package | | | | |
| Markings | | | | |
| Label or brand | | | | |
| Net weight | | | | |
| Size or sizes | | | | |
| Moisture content | | | | |
| | A | B | C | D |
| Color | Minimum requirements | | | |
| Grade A color | 95% | .... | .... | .... |
| Grade B color | 5% | 90% | .... | .... |
| Grade C color | .... | 10% | 100% | .... |
| Defects | Maximum tolerances | | | |
| Total defects | 10% | 15% | 20% | ..... |
| Slabs, and immature; damaged by discoloration, sunburn, hail marks, scab, disease, insect injury, or other similar defects; and | 10% | 15% | 20% | ..... |
| | But not more than | | | |
| Fruit possessing pits or pieces of pits; and | 3% | 5% | 10% | ..... |
| | But not more than | | | |
| Affected by mold, decay, insect infestation, imbedded dirt, or other foreign material | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| | But not more than | | | |
| Decay | 1% | 1% | 2% | 2% |
| Grade | | | | |

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